

VALDOSTA - LOWNDES COUNTY  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Leading Businesses.  
Leading Communities.™



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**For Immediate Release**

### **Valdosta-Lowndes Chamber Becomes Georgia Certified**

The Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber received certification for completing the Georgia Certified Chamber Program at a Leadership Conference on Monday in Chatsworth, Ga. This prestigious program, which sets standards of excellence for chambers across Georgia, is offered through the Georgia Association of Chamber of Commerce Executives (GACCE).

Chamber President Myrna Ballard, 2011-2012 GACCE Chair, was instrumental in the development and implementation of this program which serves as a way to recognize chambers in the state that have focused internally on their operations to assess their strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities to create efficient, effective organizations positioned to deliver value.

Modeled after the U.S. Chamber's accreditation program, chambers must meet standards in organization, service intent and capacity, professional administration, financial management, communications, and advocacy to become Georgia Certified.

With more than 150 chambers in the State of Georgia, the Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber was one of 25 chambers to receive the Georgia Certified Chamber Accreditation. Through this certification, chambers are able to better focus their commitment to improvement within the organization and are given more tools for serving their communities as a not for profit organization.

The Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber has also been Five-Star Accredited by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce since 2008. For more information, visit [www.ValdostaChamber.com](http://www.ValdostaChamber.com).

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Valdosta-Lowndes County Chamber President Myrna Ballard receives the Georgia Certified Chamber Award from GACCE Board Member Yulonda Beauford at the 2011 Leadership Conference.

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