



## Greater Aiken Chapter of SCORE Proclamation

2017 National Chapter of Year Award for Small Cities

**WHEREAS**, the Greater Aiken Chapter of SCORE has been awarded the 2017 National Chapter of Year Award for small cities; and

**WHEREAS**, this is a significant accomplishment since SCORE, the all-volunteer arm of the Small Business Administration (SBA), has nearly 340 chapters across the US; and

**WHEREAS**, SCORE provides mentors, coaching and training to local small businesses and entrepreneurs. In the Greater Aiken area SCORE volunteers provide one-on-one support, seminar training and presentations in local schools and universities. Currently 41 volunteers in the Greater Aiken SCORE Chapter support small businesses and entrepreneurs; and

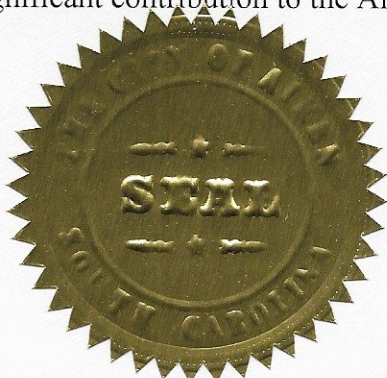
**WHEREAS**, Aiken's Chapter was encouraged to submit an application after a strong showing in the National Chapter of the Year Award review the previous year; and

**WHEREAS**, last year the Greater Aiken SCORE Chapter met with 367 clients in nearly 700 meetings. They conducted 48 seminars that were attended by 1,950 members of the small business community; and

**WHEREAS**, SCORE volunteers also provide instruction to students at Aiken High School. Presentations are made to graduating seniors on how to find a job, what to expect from your first boss and how to be successful in the job interview; and

**WHEREAS**, additionally, they teach classes in the Federal Correctional Institute (FCI) in Edgefield and graduated 76 people who completed the eight sessions of the SCORE Simple Steps Program on how to start a small business. This year that effort has been extended to a State Correctional Institute as well.

**NOW THEREFORE**, I, Rick Osbon, Mayor, and the Council of the City of Aiken, do hereby congratulate the entire SCORE team for this great recognition for the Aiken SCORE Chapter that is making a significant contribution to the Aiken community. We are extremely proud of you!



A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Rick N. Osbon".

Rick N. Osbon  
Mayor