

Legislators, HR experts to hold Feb 15 panel discussion to help small businesses

Hinsdale, Ill., [January 6, 2010] – U.S. Representative Judy Biggert, other legislators and human resource experts will conduct a panel discussion: **Employee Relations Management: Protecting the Bottom Line within our Changing Labor Climate** to help small businesses better protect themselves against common employee relations risks and pitfalls.

The event taking place on Feb 15 from 4-7 p.m. at Ashton Place 341 W. 75th Street, Willowbrook, Ill., aims to educate participants on labor and employment challenges and provide knowledge and tools to protect business owners who face them. The networking and educational opportunity is sponsored by the Hinsdale Area Networking Group (HANG), *The Business Ledger* and the Hinsdale Chamber of Commerce.

The panel discussion will be moderated by Christopher Lyons, Labor and Employment Attorney at Peters & Lyons, Ltd. of Burr Ridge and will feature panelists including Biggert, Illinois State Senator Christine Radogno, Catherine McCormick, Senior Human Resources Manager, Pantheos Group and Giles Miller, Production Manager, Phoenix Closures, Inc.

“Small employers have been especially burdened with an ever-changing series of labor and unemployment rules and regulations. Efforts to administer and comply with these laws, and thus avert potential claims in an increasingly “sue-happy” society, divert time, energy and resources away from business goals,” explained attorney Lyons. “We hope to provide solutions and tools to help companies keep on track and avoid falling into the trap of common human resources mistakes.” Lyons continued.

The event is open to the public and admission is \$20 for affiliated chamber of commerce members and \$25 for non members. Networking will take place from 4-5 p.m. with the panel discussion following from 5-7 p.m. Light snacks and refreshments will be provided.

To RSVP or for more information, contact Jan Anderson, Hinsdale Chamber of Commerce, at (630) 323-3952 by January 20th.