

Long Beach At Work

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Around Town

longbeachadvocacy.biz

>> Chamber Website Features Public Policy Information, Support.

Want to stay abreast of legislative and other public policy matters that affect your business, but just can't find the time?

Log on to the Long Beach Area Chamber of Commerce's new, interactive website devoted exclusively to local, statewide and federal public policy issues that directly impact Long Beach business owners. This user-friendly website is updated daily, to keep you well-informed.

Here are a few examples of the help you can get with a few clicks:

- Download letters of support or opposition on legislative bills that impact Long Beach businesses, modify the letters, and then fax them to the Chamber, which will forward them to multiple recipients;
- Sign up for weekly e-ALERTS that inform you about the issues impacting the business community each week;
- Track priority state and federal legislation and obtain daily activity alerts;
- Obtain elected officials' voting records; see how legislators voted on recently passed or defeated bills;
- Learn how to write an effective lobbying letter;
- Obtain city council agendas;
- Learn about upcoming lobbying trips to Sacramento;
- Reserve seats for California Visionaries luncheons or National Leaders luncheons;
- Obtain Long Beach budget information;
- Determine your assembly or councilmatic district;
- Download a complete list of government and media contacts.

You need to fully explore this website to find all that it offers. Shaun Lumachi, The Chamber's Vice President of Government Affairs, developed the site

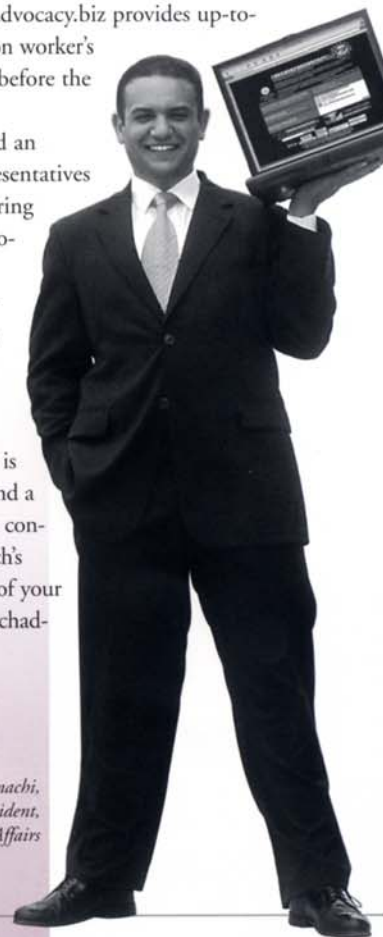
last February as an effective means of communicating Chamber priorities and advocating for reform. The website quickly became popular. By June, more than 10,000 viewers had logged on.

"Our vision is to revolutionize grassroots lobbying by being the necessary business advocacy service center in the greater Long Beach area," Lumachi said.

Skyrocketing worker's compensation insurance premiums are a case in point. The Chamber advocates for returning the system to its original intent, where injured workers receive appropriate benefits and employers are able to purchase coverage at a fair price.

To that end, longbeachadvocacy.biz provides up-to-the-minute status reports on worker's comp legislation pending before the state assembly, including summaries of the bills, and an itemization of which representatives introduced and are sponsoring them. The website also provides links to city council members' and state representatives' email addresses so you can voice your opinions.

A well-informed, proactive business community is a powerful political force and a catalyst for change. For the continued health of Long Beach's economy and the viability of your own business, visit longbeachadvocacy.biz today.



*Shaun Lumachi,
Chamber Vice President,
Government Affairs*