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2014 Corporations for Communities

Public asked to nominate a company that gives back to the community

We all know of a corporation or business that steps up and does good things in your community, whether it's donating money or supplies, or providing volunteer help. Here is your chance to help give that company some much-deserved recognition and praise. Nominate that business for Washington's highest civics award.



The Office of Secretary of State is accepting nominations for a 2014 Corporations for Communities Award, and the deadline to nominate a company is Aug. 31.

Nomination forms can be found at <http://www.sos.wa.gov/corps/corpsforcommunities/> on the Secretary of State's website.

Secretary of State Kim Wyman thinks CFC is a great program.

"We are lucky to have many companies in Washington that are so committed to giving back in some way," Wyman said. "Corporations for Communities is a great way for people to help recognize these companies that contribute to local causes. I'm proud that we can honor those businesses that make a real difference."

For more information about the Corporations for Communities program, contact program coordinator Patrick Reed at (360) 725-0358 or patrick.reed@sos.wa.gov.

The Corporations for Communities program began in 2009 as a way to recognize exceptional Washington businesses that demonstrate a commitment to giving in order to improve local or regional social and environmental conditions. The award program is run by the Corporations & Charities Division, which is part of the Office of Secretary of State.

the BUZZ

2014 quarterly statistics:

April 1—
June 30, 2014

New formations/
registrations:

14,831

Total active
businesses:

439,394

Annual reports filed:

93,493

Received mail:

19,333

Scanned
documents:

290,460

Phone calls:

40,787

Average time to
answer calls:

**2 minutes 30
seconds**

HAPPENINGS

Scam artists are targeting you and the people you care about

Learn how to fight back and spot the cons before they spot you

Whether it's over the phone, through the mail, online or even at your doorstep, con-artists are coming up with new and devious ways to scam you and your loved ones. Millions are lost each day to cons like foreign lottery fraud, bogus investment schemes, and online scams designed to steal your identity and your savings. But that's just the tip of the iceberg – new scams are popping up around each and every corner.

But you can learn how to fight back to protect yourself, your family and your friends. Join us for a free SCAM JAM event on Tuesday, September 9 from 9:30 – Noon at CenterPlace Regional Event Center (2426 N. Discovery Place, Spokane, WA 99216).

Find out about today's leading scams that are tearing through the nation and bilking consumers out of millions. Plus hear some tips learned straight from the con-artists themselves about who they target and why.

The event is free, but pre-registration is required. Register [online](#) or call toll-free 1-877-926-8300. <http://states.aarp.org/sign-up-for-scam-jam-2013/>

Entity conversions started June 12, 2014



Here you will find the final bill report from the Legislature: [SB5999 – 2013-2014](#), and the [Session Law](#) as displayed by the Washington State Legislature.

The Articles of Conversion need to be drawn up according to pages 4 and 11 of the session law, plus the new entity

“Origination” filing. The filing fee is \$190 (\$10 Articles of Conversion filing fee, plus \$180 new entity origination fee), if expedite service is requested, the additional \$50 expedite fee is due in addition to all fees. Forms are not provided for the Articles of Conversion, these are typically prepared by legal staff, trusted advisors, or the converting entity.

Here you will find the Office of the Secretary of State, [Corporations and Charities Division Cover Sheet](#) that could be included with the articles of conversion and other documents related to conversion.

If you have questions about the process please contact us at: corps@sos.wa.gov or by calling (360)725-0377.

Note:

The Office of the Secretary of State, Corporations and Charities Division does not provide legal advice. Businesses are encouraged to seek legal advice to answer questions about conversions because it involves several topics like business liability, personal liability, business licensing, taxation and others. The Corporations and Charities Division will help you with the appropriate filing once you have made your decision.

HIGHLIGHTS

FREE - 2014 Washington Small Business Fair

Please join us on September 27, 2014, for the [18th annual Biz Fair](#) and learn from the experts how to form and run a successful business.

In the meantime, please look through this web site to get an idea of the seminars and exhibitors we offered at the 2013 fair. Also be sure to look at our Seminar and Resources sections. More than 475 people attended the fair last year.

Why attend? It's priceless and free.

Sharpen your skills - Attend seminars that cover important, up-to-date topics for all stages of business ownership. Savvy business experts share their knowledge and real-life experiences with you.

Save valuable time - Visit the [Exhibitor Resource Center](#) to get the information and help you need from federal, state and local government agencies, and business and trade associations. Get the information you need.

Saturday, September 27, 2014

8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Renton Technical College

Free event, free parking!

No advance registration – just show up.



New system update

The Corporations and Charities Division continues progress toward its new filing system. It is our desire to deliver a live and publicly available system by the first quarter of 2016.

Here are the recent events in the development of this system:

- The new system user interface (UI) is in the final phase of review
- **Big Thank You** to our professional users who have made themselves available for design reviews and input
- A vendor has been selected for the system design and architecture, which will begin soon

Tips & Tidbits

My entity was administratively dissolved. How do I reinstate it to active status?

Administrative dissolutions occur for a number of reasons. The most common reason is failure to file an initial or annual report. If your Washington business was administratively dissolved, you may contact our office at corps@sos.wa.gov or by calling (360) 725-0377.

You will be provided the appropriate forms with instructions, and the fees required. Reinstatement fees for Washington profit corporations, LLCs, and LPs are \$140 plus all delinquent fees.

Washington nonprofit corporations follow the same process. The Washington nonprofit reinstatement fees are \$35 plus all delinquent fees.

Note: Administrative dissolutions for Washington profit businesses have 5 years from the date of dissolution to file the reinstatement. Washington nonprofit corporations have 3 years to file a reinstatement.

