

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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## Fairfield Chamber President & CEO to Retire

Kert Radel has served in role since 2008

The Fairfield Chamber of Commerce has announced that President & CEO Kert Radel will step-down from his position, effective September 16, 2022. Mr. Radel, a Fairfield resident and long-time advocate for the community, has led the organization for 14 years.

During Mr. Radel's tenure, the Fairfield Chamber has grown with new members and service offerings. Kert has been instrumental in establishing major Chamber events and programming, including the Fairfield Career Fest, the Corporate Challenge, Spring Fest, the Business Roundtable Series, and the Fairfield Chamber Leadership Program.

Kert has demonstrated strong cooperation with community partners, including the City of Fairfield, Fairfield Township, and Fairfield City Schools, as well as elected officials and offices at the county, state, and federal government levels. These relationships have enabled the Fairfield Chamber to be a stronger advocate for businesses in the community.

Prior to his tenure with the Fairfield Chamber, Mr. Radel spent 34 years in radio broadcasting. His departure from the Chamber will allow him to return to these roots as VP of Broadcast Operations for WNKN 105.9 The Oasis and WNKR 106.7 Classic Country. Kert plans to continue his involvement with the Fairfield Chamber and Fairfield community in his new role.

"It has been an honor to serve in this position. We were able to achieve a great number of things for the business community due to the dedication of the Fairfield Chamber staff and board. I thank the City of Fairfield and the business community for their tremendous support," Mr. Radel said.

Board President Jamie Bella, VP of Program Management for Telhio Credit Union, reflected on the board's sentiment following Mr. Radel's announcement: "The board is grateful for Kert's strong leadership of the Chamber over the past 14 years. While we are sad to see him go, we are excited for Kert's next opportunity and wish him the very best. Leaders like Kert, who are tireless advocates for Fairfield and its businesses, are hard to come by."

The Fairfield Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors has established a hiring committee to begin the process of finding a replacement for the President & CEO position. The Fairfield Chamber of Commerce supports its 500 members through marketing, promotion, advocacy, networking, and individualized assistance.