



*Jackson Madison County*  
*African American Chamber of Commerce*

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## NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

### **JACKSON MADISON COUNTY AFRICAN AMERICAN CHAMBER TO RECOGNIZE STATE BOYS BASKETBALL CHAMPION SOUTHSIDE HIGH SCHOOL, AND LEADERS IN HIGHER EDUCATION**

JACKSON, Tenn. (August 5, 2014) – Next month, golf tournament chairs Jim Ferrell and Chester Sharp along with event sponsors will recognize Jackson's Southside High School, coached by Damon Fuller, as well as area leaders in higher education. The 2013-14 boys basketball state champion will be recognized during the opening ceremony of the **Fourth Annual Follow Me Celebrity Golf Classic** being presented by the **Jackson Madison County African American Chamber of Commerce (JMCAACC)**. The four-player scramble, which raises funds for the chamber's Follow Me Into Business® youth development program, will be held **Tuesday, September 9, 2014 at Bent Tree Golf Course**, 2993 Paul Coffman Drive in Jackson (38301). The opening ceremony will begin at 12:30 p.m. and the tournament at 1:00 p.m. Grand prize is \$10,000 for a hole in one. This year's event also will include a silent auction.

Sponsored by BancorpSouth, Jackson Energy Authority, West Tennessee Healthcare, University of Tennessee at Martin along with the Jackson Sun, Jonah Affordable Housing Org., News/Talk 101.5 FM, the West Tennessee Examiner, and WOJG-FM Bolivar, the golf classic will also highlight area colleges and universities. Talk Show host and radio personality Steve Bowers will serve as emcee for the opening ceremony.

"After deciding to recognize Southside High School for their outstanding statewide achievement, we thought the tournament would be a good time to recognize others in education such as the leadership at our four-year colleges," said JMCAACC President Clarence Boone himself a former educator and school principal. "So, we're taking this opportunity to recognize the ongoing support of Chancellor Thomas Rakes and the University of Tennessee at Martin and to welcome our newest college presidents including Dr. Logan Hampton of Lane College, Dr. Samuel Oliver of Union University, and Vice-Provost Dr. Niles Reddick of the University of Memphis Lambuth Campus as well as Dr. Joe Wiley of Freed-Hardeman University." The chamber began recognizing community participants in 2011 when the competition fell on the anniversary of the 9/11 tragedy, and First Responders were honored. Honorees receive an award and a profile with photo in the golf booklet. UT Martin has been a lunch sponsor for the tournament for several years.

Corporate Registration for a team of four (4) is \$350, covering lunch, cart, free range balls, goodie bag. Those teams already committed are City of Jackson, Hewitt Chatman and Friends, First Bank, MIG Construction Services, Morgan Stanley, Raymond James along with Bancorp South, Jackson Energy Authority, Jonah Affordable Housing and West Tennessee Healthcare. Individual registration is \$75.

The Follow Me program was founded in 2002 to provide young people, 12-18, with job training skills and business basics training as well as mentoring, employment and community involvement opportunities. The year-round program also includes an 8-week Summer Program held in conjunction with T.R. White Sportsplex and paid summer jobs for a limited number of 16-18 year olds. Job sites for this summer were

Family Healthcare, Food Rite, D & L Grocery, Jackson Madison County NAACP, Lane College, Missie's Campus Corner, RIFA, Walgreens South Highland and Week's Day Care.

JMCAACC is a 501(3)c nonprofit organization founded in 1999. The office is located at 351-C North Royal in Jackson, Tennessee. For more information, call 731-424-2030 or visit the website at [www.jmcaacc.org](http://www.jmcaacc.org). ###