



OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS

CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO
MARK FARRELL, MAYOR

OFFICE OF SMALL BUSINESS
REGINA DICK-ENDRIZZI, DIRECTOR

For Immediate Release: Monday, May 21, 2018

Press Contact: Marianne Mazzucco Thompson, marianne.thompson@sfgov.org

***** PRESS RELEASE *****

KNIGHT’S CATERING, MARINE CHARTERING AND MISSION GRADUATES APPROVED BY SF SMALL BUSINESS COMMISSION FOR LEGACY BUSINESS REGISTRY

San Francisco, CA — On May 21 and April 23, two businesses and one nonprofit were unanimously approved by the San Francisco Small Business Commission for the Legacy Business Registry –**Marine Chartering Company, Inc. Knight’s Catering**, and **Mission Graduates**. The Registry recognizes longstanding, community-serving businesses as valuable cultural assets to the city. There are currently 133 small businesses on the Legacy Business Registry.

Marine Chartering: 781 Beach Street, Suite 400

Nominated by Mayor Mark Farrell on September 5, 2017

Placed on the Legacy Business Registry on April 23, 2018

Marine Chartering Company is a worldwide, multi-service ocean transportation brokerage firm rooted in San Francisco. The company was founded in 1955 by George Kiskaddon, a long-time sailor with experience in all aspects of marine operations, chartering and brokering. Kiskaddon later created the Oceanic Society, a nonprofit dedicated to conserving marine wildlife habitats. Marine Chartering pioneered the brokerage of ships and cargoes from the Pacific Coast and rapidly expanded into all aspects of ocean transportation, including logistics operations from origin to destination. The business is a key component of the City’s maritime history as one of the few privately owned and independent shipping companies that has made the conscientious effort to remain in San Francisco. The business is located at 781 Beach Street overlooking Aquatic Park and neighbors the San Francisco Maritime Museum.

“As the oldest shipping company in San Francisco, we are excited about being added to the Legacy Business Registry,” said Karl Tede, Vice President of Marine Chartering Company. “Our focus on service and nurturing of relationships has been the core of our success and longevity. As the company nears its 65th anniversary, it is a great honor to be recognized as a Legacy Business.”

Knights Catering: 255 Mendell Street

Nominated by Supervisor Malia Cohen on March 27, 2018

Placed on the Legacy Business Registry on May 21, 2018

Knights Catering is a family-owned catering business founded in 1963 and run by native San Franciscans. Ed and Maggie McGovern and their neighbor Ozzie Smith originally opened Knight’s Catering as a restaurant in Civic Center, but following multiple moves and rent increases, they shifted to focus solely on catering. After a brief period in South San Francisco during the early 2000’s, the business returned to San Francisco at 255 Mendell Street, where it continues to operate today. The business has proudly served generations of San Franciscans celebrating special events, from weddings to graduations and baptisms. The business has served presidents, civil rights activists, mayors and even the Pope. Since 1996, Knight’s Catering was run by Brian and Maureen, the second-generation of McGoverns at the helm, and is currently owned and operated by Maureen and her husband Adrian Kelly.



“For the past 55 years we have been welcomed into San Francisco homes and businesses to cater many special occasions, and as a result have had the great pleasure of developing long-standing relationships, some which span generations,” said Maureen McGovern Kelly, President of Knight’s Catering. “We have been honored to serve the ever-changing San Francisco communities and are proud to have Knight’s Catering be named to the San Francisco Legacy Business Registry. It allows our business the opportunity to maintain a permanent place in the hearts and fabric of the people we serve and in this glorious city we call home.”

Mission Graduates: 3040 16th Street

Nominated by Supervisor Hillary Ronen on March 5, 2018

Placed on the Legacy Business Registry on April 23, 2018

Started in 1970 as part of St. John’s Episcopal Church, Mission Graduates incorporated in 1972 as a nonprofit organization that brings college into focus for Latino and immigrant youth in the Mission District. Mission Graduates works to boost college enrollment through programming that helps prepare youth for university and encourages them to attend. Notable programs by Mission Graduates include The Mission Community Beacon, College Connect and Parent Partner, which all emphasize community and parent engagement. What’s more, the organization works as a catalyst for change in the public education system through advocacy. In the spirit of San Francisco, Mission Graduates’ annual graduations start with a youth-led march through the Mission called March to College and end with a college resource fair for Mission families. Mission Graduates has operated at its current location at 3040 16th Street since 1990.

“We are excited that the City and County of San Francisco has recognized the important contributions Mission Graduates has made to the Latino and immigrant communities of San Francisco,” said executive director Eddie Kaufman. “By making college an expectation for the youth and families we work with, we ensure youth have a career path that will allow them to continue living in San Francisco.”

A Legacy Business is a for-profit or nonprofit that has operated in San Francisco for 30 or more years. The business must contribute to the neighborhood's history and/or the identity of a particular neighborhood or community, and it must commit to maintaining the physical features or traditions that define the business, including craft, culinary or art forms.

The registration process for the Legacy Business Program includes nomination by the Mayor or a member of the Board of Supervisors, a written application, an advisory recommendation from the Historical Preservation Commission and approval of the Small Business Commission. Inclusion in the Registry provides Legacy Businesses with recognition and support as an incentive for them to stay in the community. The program also provides educational and promotional assistance to encourage their continued viability and success in San Francisco.

For more information about the Legacy Business Program, including a list and map of businesses on the Legacy Business Registry, visit <http://sfosb.org/legacy-business>.

###

