

Gov. Pence Honors Small Business Leaders for Job Creation at Master Your Card, Minority Business RoundTable Luncheon

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Gov. Mike Pence today joined executives from MasterCard and the Minority Business RoundTable to honor Indiana small business leaders for creating jobs throughout the state. The luncheon is part of the Master Your Card nationwide "Recognizing America's Job Creators" tour, conducted in partnership with the Minority Business RoundTable, and took place at the Crowne Plaza Indianapolis Downtown Union Station.

"Indiana's small businesses are an economic powerhouse to the state," said Shawn Miles, MasterCard's senior vice president, global public policy. "It was great to have Gov. Pence, a longtime champion for small businesses, join us and share his thoughts on the important impact these businesses have on their local communities."

There are nearly 500,000 small businesses in Indiana that employ more than 1.2 million people throughout the state, according to the U.S. Small Business Administration.

The luncheon also included remarks by Gail Gesell, the U.S. Small Business Administration district director for Indiana, and Roger Campos, Minority Business RoundTable president and CEO.

"We are proud to work with the Minority Business RoundTable to inform merchants on the ways in which electronic payment systems can help them grow their businesses, and the security, protections and conveniences that the technology provides to both businesses and their customers," said Miles.

Attendees at the event included small business leaders and advocates, local officials, and others interested in improving and supporting small businesses.

Since the launch of the Master Your Card education campaign in 2010, the program has worked with small business owners from across the country to share information on how they can use electronic payment systems to grow their businesses, tips to help them understand the variables to consider when selecting a payment processor, and insight into how they can negotiate fees, how services are priced and ways to avoid chargebacks and other fees.

The Nilson Report, the leading source of statistics and analysis on the payment industry, recently reported that in 2013, small businesses not accepting card payments lost out on more than \$4 trillion of consumer spending. Additionally, the 2013 Federal Reserve Payments Study discovered that customers spent an average of \$39 per debit card transaction, \$94 per credit card transaction and only \$17 per cash payment.

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About Master Your Card

Master Your Card is a public education campaign by MasterCard® that helps consumers, small businesses and governments get more from their money by using prepaid, debit and credit cards to their advantage. For more information, visit <http://www.masteryourcardusa.org>.

About the Minority Business RoundTable

The Minority Business RoundTable is the only national non-profit organization for CEOs of the nation's leading African-American, Asian-American, Hispanic-American and Native-American-owned businesses, including small and large businesses, veteran, HUBZone and women entrepreneurs. Its members analyze and help formulate effective public policies that impact minority-owned business, and work to create sustainable communities and national economic viability through successful public and corporate partnerships. For more information visit: <http://www.mbrt.net>.



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