



#### BIOGRAPHY OF

### **Richard K. Studley**

President & CEO  
Michigan Chamber of  
Commerce

Rich Studley became President & Chief Executive Officer of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce in July of 2008. Before being appointed President & CEO, Rich served as the Chamber's Executive Vice President from 2005 through June 2008. From 1997 through 2004, Rich was the Chamber's chief lobbyist. He joined the Chamber's Business Advocacy Team in

May of 1981 as Manager of Taxation and Labor Relations.

In June 2017, Rich was re-elected to the Board of Directors of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce. He also serves as Chairman of the U.S. Chamber's Committee of 100, representing the top 100 state and local chambers of commerce in the country; and as Chairman of the U.S. Chamber's Accreditation Committee for state and local chambers. In June 2012, the Michigan Chamber of Commerce was re-accredited by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce in recognition of sound operations and an effective legislative and political agenda. The Michigan Chamber received a rating of Accredited with Distinction, putting it among the top three percent of chambers nationwide. Michigan is one of only six state chambers accredited by the U.S. Chamber. With approximately 6,000 members and 36 full-time employees, the Michigan Chamber is one of the largest and most effective state chambers in the country. The Michigan Chamber represents companies of every size and type in all 83 of Michigan's counties and Chamber members employ over 1 million Michigan residents.

For the 7th legislative session in a row, the 2017 *MIRS* News survey of lawmakers, legislative staff members, administration officials, the Capitol press corps, trade & professional associations and other lobbyists ranked the Michigan Chamber as Lansing's most effective membership lobbying organization.

Rich also serves on the Board of Directors of the Council of State Chambers and as a member of the U.S. Chamber's Public Affairs Committee to provide input on congressional campaign endorsements. He is also a member of the Michigan Society of Association Executives. Rich is a graduate of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce Institute for Organizational Management and the American Chamber of Commerce Executives' Leadership Development Program at the Center for Creative Leadership in Greensboro, North Carolina.

In December 2014, Rich delivered the winter commencement address and received an honorary Doctor of Laws from Northwood University in Midland, MI. In January 2015, Rich was appointed by Governor Snyder to serve an 8-year term as a member of the Board of Trustees for Central Michigan University.

Prior to joining the Chamber, Rich was program director for the Michigan Senate Republican Office from 1979 to 1981. Earlier, he was City Manager for the City of Clare, Michigan. Born in Pontiac, Illinois, Rich grew up in Kalamazoo and graduated from Portage Central High School in 1970. He received a Bachelor of Arts degree from Alma College in 1974. In May 1993, he received a Master of Science in Administration degree from Central Michigan University.