

BIOGRAPHICAL STATEMENT

Sid Smith

Sid Smith is Executive Director of the Charlotte Area Hotel Association. The association represents the business interests of its member hotels, all of which are involved in the conventions, meetings and tourism business. Previously, he served as the president and chief executive officer of the Hosiery Association, formerly known as the National Association of Hosiery Manufacturers. Under Sid's leadership, this organization was transformed into an international group that is recognized worldwide in its product sector. Mr. Smith has also served as an advisor to the U.S. government on international trade matters and was deeply involved in monitoring and shaping foreign trade agreements in textiles and apparel. He is considered an expert in international trade issues and globalization, having visited more than 35 countries in his career. Mr. Smith has held numerous other leadership positions with association, educational, and nonprofit organizations. Prior to joining The Hosiery Association, Mr. Smith served four years active duty as an infantry officer in the United States Marine Corps, attaining the rank of Captain. He is a decorated Vietnam veteran, receiving the Purple Heart, Bronze Star and Vietnamese Cross of Gallantry.