

## Tindall from outsider to a business pillar

BY ALEC JOHNSON

REPUBLICAN-AMERICAN

WATERBURY — Tavis O. Tindall has become a leader within the Waterbury Regional Chamber and in the community since he came to the Brass City about 20 years ago.

As a native of Colorado, Tindall had no roots to grow from as he joined the local legal and business communities, so he began spreading his own. First as an attorney for Timothy Moynahan and then on his own as he hung a shingle in 2006 and opened the Tindall Law Firm.

Tindall said he turned to the chamber when he came to Waterbury to learn about the community and its leaders.

“I came as an outsider to Waterbury and I didn’t know anybody,” he said. “I got to know a lot of good people and friends and business associates and formed relationships to grow business.”

He’s since become a pillar of the business community and among The Hispanic Coalition of Greater Waterbury where he started a program to help atrisk youths.

On Wednesday the chamber is honoring Tindall for his efforts with its 2016 Leadership Award.

Lynn G. Ward, chamber president and chief executive officer, said Tindall has been a committed member of the chamber for two decades. “He has takenSee **TINDALL** , Page **9C** 2016 **LEADERSHIP AWARD**



**Attorney Tavis Tindall of Waterbury, owner of the Tindall Law Firm, has been named the recipient of the Waterbury Regional Chamber’s 2016 Leadership Award.**

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## TINDALL:

Now a 2-time honoree

*Continued from 10C*

leadership positions in our business connection group, he has also taken leadership as a member of our board of directors and he has been a Chamber Ambassador, for quite a while.”

Tindall was previously honored by the chamber, receiving the Harold Webster Smith Entrepreneur of the Year Award in 2014 for his work as co-founder of the Home to

Home Foundation Inc., which provides nursing home residents and elder-care facilities in the region with volunteers who interact with and provide social activities for residents, and for sponsoring a mentoring program for at-risk youths with The Hispanic Coalition of Greater Waterbury.

Tindall's education led him first to Pennsylvania for college at Swarthmore College and then to the UConn School of Law where he earned his law degree as the beneficiary of a scholarship.

As a board member of the Hispanic Coalition, Tindall founded the LACE youth program, which stands for Leadership Athletics Community and Education, and mentors at-risk youth from sixth and seventh grade through high school teaching leadership skills.

"He is the most awesome guy I have ever actually come across," said Victor Lopez Jr. executive director of the Hispanic Coalition. "He is a bridge. He is the guy that you get input from, and the guy you answer to because he deserves it."

Lopez said Tindall has been a longtime board member and was the "brains" behind the LACE program and he continues to volunteer his time.

Lopez said Tindall's involvement is selfless. "I don't think there are any words that can describe his energy, his dedication, his support, his smile," he said. "He never says no."

Tindall said his Christian upbringing led him to his interest in giving back and improving the community.

"You can't just sit back and make tons of money and hoard it," he said. "You have to give it back and help the less fortunate. I have tried to impart that on my kids as well."

Tindall said he believes strongly in Waterbury and he sees tremendous talent, good leadership and reasons to invest in the city. "We need more people to invest in Waterbury," he said.