

PPG CEO McGarry signs diversity pledge

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MICHAEL MCGARRY

Michael McGarry, CEO of PPG has announced that he is now among 150 CEOs from around the country who have signed the CEO Action Diversity Pledge.

“A diverse workforce is a prerequisite to success in global markets and economies,” McGarry said.

“Clearly, diversity provides PPG with a competitive advantage in serving the needs of increasingly diverse customers in virtually

every corner of the world. Diversity is all about bringing our best together to protect and beautify the world.”

By signing on to this commitment, CEOs pledge to cultivate a workplace where diverse perspectives and experiences are welcomed and respected, where employees feel encouraged to discuss diversity and inclusion, and where best known—and unsuccessful—actions can be shared across organizations via a unified hub, CEOAction.com, in an effort to advance diversity and inclusion in the workplace.

In his keynote address at the African American Chamber of Commerce Business Luncheon last month, McGarry said the company had recently hired a new global supply manager is specifically looking to create more opportunities for minority firms by diversifying its supply chain.

Chamber CEO Doris Carson Williams welcomed the news.

“I think it’s wonderful,” she said. “I’m pleased to see (PPG) stepping up. It will be good for our region and for our small business owners, who tend to hire from the community, so it’s a good thing.”

The announcement comes less than a week ahead of the Fifth Annual Corporate Equity and Inclusion Roundtable Conference at Duquesne University presented by the Black Political Empowerment Project.

“Excellent, we’re thrilled to see that kind of commitment,” said CEIR Founder Tim Stevens.

“We like to think we’ve planted deeper seeds. Sometimes we don’t know where they are falling, but it seems they are being watered. This announcement, coming from a major corporation certainly solidifies all we’re trying to do.”

In addition to McGarry, other CEOs who’ve signed the pledge include KeyBank CEO Beth Mooney, Huntington Bank Steve Steinour and First Energy CEO Chuck Jones.

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