

[PRINT THIS](#) · [CLOSE WINDOW](#)

8/18/10



## UPS senior vice president speaks to Buckhead Business Association

By **Everett Catts**[ecatts@neighbornewspapers.com](mailto:ecatts@neighbornewspapers.com)

Staff / Nathan Self

Teri McClure, senior vice president of legal, compliance and public affairs, general counsel and corporate secretary of United Parcel Service, addresses the Buckhead Business Association.

at its headquarters.

Ms. McClure said the company also handles warehousing and distributing, banking and even repairs Toshiba computers at its Louisville, Ky., facility.

UPS was founded by Jim Casey, 17, in 1907 as American Message Co. in Seattle. The company started as a foot- and bicycle-delivery message service and evolved into a package delivery business as technology improved. It moved its headquarters to several sites in north metro Atlanta in 1991 and relocated to Sandy Springs in 1994, when its corporate office was built.

"Our company has been able to survive for two important reasons," Ms. McClure said. "One is UPS is a company that transformed itself over time. ... Two is because the company has intentionally created a culture of honesty, integrity and fairness. Jim Casey is still very prevalent in the UPS culture. ... People have to trust us to deliver their packages."

The Tyrone resident touched on the government regulation of issues such as privacy, healthcare and lithium batteries

"People say there's too much governmental regulation today with the Obama administration," she said. "Others may say there's not enough government regulation with issues like the BP oil spill, bank failures, bailouts and Toyota and other product recalls."

During a question-and-answer session, association member Nancy Sobin asked about what UPS is doing in response to Obama's push for more American businesses to export services and products.

"We are a large proponent of exporting," Ms. McClure said. "There's a lot of apprehension from government on importing and exporting. We haven't done a good job of educating the public on it. Obama can talk about it [exporting] all he wants, but until Congress acts on it, nothing will happen. Congress is stagnant on the issue because the general public thinks this will send more jobs overseas, but there's a disconnect there. I encourage you to really educate yourself on this."

After the meeting, she was asked about UPS' recent business in Asian countries. Earlier this month the company announced an expanded alliance with Indonesian courier PT Tiki Jaiur Nugraha Eka Kurir to extend its network of service throughout that country. UPS also has been in talks with Chinese companies on similar business ventures.

Teri McClure urges everyone to pay attention to government regulation, even if one believes it doesn't affect him or her.

"It's important to be proactive and get involved at the regulatory level on the state and federal level," Ms. McClure, senior vice president of legal, compliance and public affairs, general counsel and corporate secretary of United Parcel Service, told members and guests at the Buckhead Business Association's weekly breakfast meeting Thursday at City Club of Buckhead.

"When regulation is getting proposed, respond," she added. "Don't wait to find out what the impact is going to be. I think it's important to become politically active, as a company. At UPS, we [work with legislators] on both sides of the aisle on issues we need to address."

The Sandy Springs-based company, which had \$45.7 billion in revenue last year, is the second largest private employer in the U.S. It has about 409,000 employees, 50,000 vehicles and 200 aircraft worldwide, serving 215 countries and territories. UPS has 21,000 employees and 5,000 vehicles in Georgia, with about 3,000 of them

"We continue to grow in Asia," Ms. McClure said. "We are planning to grow our import-export [business]. We have been growing in China with over 4,000 employees [there]. We're also looking at Vietnam."

---

Copyright ©2010 NeighborNewspapers.com. All rights reserved.