

**AHK**

German American  
Chambers of Commerce  
Deutsch-Amerikanische  
Handelskammern

**GACC SOUTH CONSULTING SERVICES**

# COLLECTION SERVICES

## **TAKE THE STRESS OUT OF DEBT COLLECTION**

The U.S. is one of the most important trade partners for many German companies. Unfortunately, it is not an uncommon occurrence that an American client is delayed in paying an invoice, or does not pay at all. As a facilitator and supporter of German business and trade in the U.S., the German American Chamber of Commerce of the Southern U.S. (GACC South), has consistently aided in the successful collection of due notices from defaulting debtors for many years.

There are numerous reasons why American companies default on payments. In many cases, misunderstandings, such as an incorrect contact person or language difficulties are the cause for non-payment. In other instances, the distance to Germany is to blame. Some debtors believe that they are not within the jurisdiction of German creditors and are therefore relieved of their financial obligations. Experience has shown that this is not the case.

The efforts of the GACC South are designed to achieve an out-of-court settlement of debt cases, presenting a cost-effective method for companies to collect payment. Litigation is quite costly in the United States and even with a successful verdict, the plaintiff is often held responsible for these costs. Generally, lawsuits are advisable only once the claim reaches a sum of \$40,000 or more.

## **ADVANTAGES OF WORKING WITH THE GACC SOUTH**

- As a Chamber of Commerce we assume a professional, unbiased mediation role to objectively resolve potential misunderstandings between the debtor and creditor
- We are located in the U.S., which allows us to create more pressure than collection letters and collection efforts from Germany
- Our professional staff utilizes its knowledge of German and American business culture to efficiently handle your case
- In the case of bankruptcy filings or other legal proceedings, we can provide assistance to the creditor by helping you find a German-speaking lawyer
- In addition to a low initial fee, commissions apply only in successful collection cases



The German Chamber Network 

**SAN FRANCISCO PHILADELPHIA NEW YORK HOUSTON CHICAGO ATLANTA**

## ABOUT US - GACC SOUTH

Our organization is part of an international network composed of 120 German foreign Chambers of Commerce and government offices in 80 countries. We offer our experiences, connections, and services to local and German companies. Our foreign chamber offices are under the direction of the central German Chamber of Industry and Trade in Berlin (DIHK). We have six foreign chamber offices in the U.S., including locations in the metro areas of Atlanta, Chicago, Houston, New York, Philadelphia and San Francisco. For more than 30 years, the GACC South has been fostering trans-Atlantic trade while creating a networking platform for German and American businesses via offices in Atlanta and Houston. We are a trusted partner for companies seeking to expand their market potential.



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