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Local News

August 25, 2012

Famous awards made at Grove, Oklahoma

Staff Writer
Ted King

Grove, Oklahoma — There's a white aluminum building on a new road in Grove's industrial park that houses glamour. It is Society Awards.

While unassuming on the outside, the inside is impressive, with a gold hallway complete with modern chandeliers and a modern meeting room just to the right of the front entrance. In the back of the building there is an open area for assembly and material storage with an elevated office space. A side room is used for engraving, etching, sandblasting and printing of awards.

Society Awards makes the Emmy Awards, Golden Globes, MTV Movie and Video Music Awards, Academy of Country Music Awards, American Music Awards, Billboard Music Awards, Spike TV, TV Land, and others.

Society Awards was formed in 2007 by David Moritz, a 1999 graduate of Grove High School. His parents moved from New Jersey to Grove in the mid-1990s. His uncle owns a construction company in Joplin, Mo., and told his father, Rudy, Grove would be a good place for retirement. Moritz started high school in Grove when his parents moved.

After graduation, Moritz attended New York University in New York City where he received his undergraduate degree. He received a law degree from Cardozo Law School in New York City.

After Moritz graduated from law school, he went to work for a law firm where he specialized in entertainment law. Rudy Moritz said his son was working all the time in the law firm and had little time for himself. He didn't want to work for someone else; he wanted his own business.

Moritz starting approaching organizations and businesses that conduct annual awards ceremonies with his own award creations. This started what has become one of the fastest growing companies in the country (according to a forthcoming business magazine article) with facilities in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles and now Grove. Larry Maloney, who is the Chief Operating Officer from the Chicago office, said the reason Society Awards has gone from a small start up in 2007 to where it is today is it provides a product that is better than what other companies provide. Maloney said part of the success can be attributed to the quality of workmanship in the awards and good customer service. "This business is dynamic," Maloney said.

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The Golden Hall at Society Awards in Grove.



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Location

The Grove facility covers about 8,000 square feet, which Katherine McPherson, Director of Public Relations out of the New York office, says will give it much-needed space. The company is making some of the awards in New York, where space is limited. The Grove facility will employ four local people. Society Awards has 20 employees. When Moritz was looking for a larger space for assembling awards, his father told him Grove had opened an addition to the industrial park and he should consider having the operation there. Moritz met with the Bank of Grove who were happy to help him expand his business.

Some of the more famous awards, such as Emmys and Golden Globes, will still be assembled in their New York facilities located in the borough of Queens. The Chicago and Los Angeles offices handle sales.

Awards for The Boston Business Journal were being completed in the Grove facility last week.

Society Awards gets parts for awards from around the world, including the United States. Some of the materials used for awards are acrylic, Lucite, crystal, metal and stone.

Moritz has several businesses, including Mode Design Group, which handles business branding and packaging as well as product design. The Grove facility may be involved in some of that work.

"We are pleased with the reception Society Awards has received in Grove, and we're looking for opportunities to enhance the local community as well. I attended high school here. The town could not have been more welcoming, and we are looking forward to bringing some New York City glamour to Grove," Moritz.

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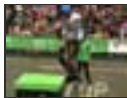


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Immigrations and Customs Enforcement agents filed a lawsuit stating that federal rules have prohibited from doing their job of deporting illegal immigrants. Feds say there isn't enough manpower and money to deport them all right now. Whose side are you on?

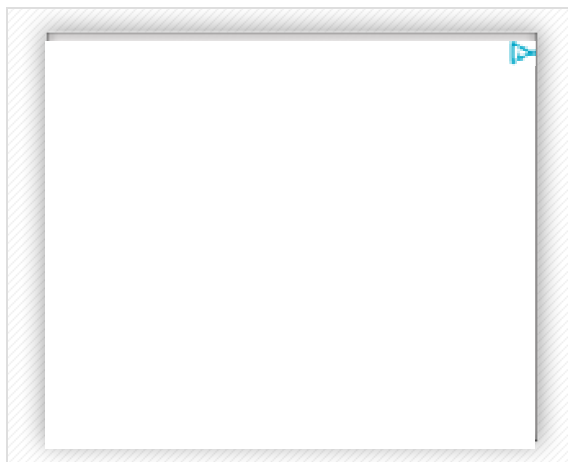
ICE should deport all illegals — no matter the cost to our government.

ICE should follow the current rules — deporting only those who are criminals.

The federal government needs to back off, at least for a while, because illegals help this economy.

No opinion.

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