

## Caroline McRae Dausat

Co-Owner  
Rex Lumber

Caroline Dausat is a fourth-generation owner and manager of Rex Lumber. Rex owns and operates four state of the art southern yellow pine sawmills with locations in Graceville and Bristol, Florida, Brookhaven, Mississippi, as well as our newest mill in Troy, Alabama. As the co-owner for these operations, Caroline oversees all finances, risk management, succession planning, human resources, safety and sales. She has been involved in the 90+ year old family owned and operated business since 1998. In that time, she has also assisted with the acquisition and startup of three sawmill locations, the transition of ownership from one generation to the next, and focused all locations on safety.

Caroline is a 1993 graduate of the University of Florida and a 1998 graduate of Loyola University in New Orleans with an M.B.A. focus on Finance and Taxation.

She is the current Chair of the Softwood Lumber Board and has been a board member since 2018. She is also a newly appointed board member for the U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities. She has served as past President of the Mississippi Lumber Manufacturers Association. An organization she has been involved with since 2010 that represents 20+ sawmills located throughout the state of Mississippi. Caroline has also held the role of Secretary of the Northwest Florida Manufacturers Council. This organization started in 2013 with a mission to address manufacturers concerns and increase the competitiveness of this Council's 12-county region. Additionally, Caroline has been an active member of the Southeast Lumber Manufacturers Association since 1998. She served as a board member from 2013 to 2016. Other organizations in which she is involved include the Florida Forestry Association, Federal Forest Resource Coalition, and Mississippi Forestry Association.

In 2015, in honor of her grandparents, Caroline, her father and her siblings established the Robert and Kathryn McRae/Rex Lumber Scholarships for the Engineering Technology Program at Chipola College in Marianna, Florida. The scholarships are awarded to up to 10 recipients each year from local area high schools. In addition, she serves on the Chipola College, Engineering Technology Advisory Committee, a two-year degree program designed to provide students with manufacturing employer-ready skills. The Rex Lumber Mississippi management team initiated a program of outreach to local high schools with the "Get the Job" competition. In 2015, Caroline and her HR Managers adopted this same program, with great success, at the Florida mill locations. This program teaches high school seniors entering the workforce about soft skills such as filling out applications, resumes, professional appearance and interview techniques. Caroline has been a supporter of Habitat for Humanity in Walton County and the Destin Charity Wine Auction since 2013. And, in 2016, the Rex Graceville facility sponsored a Habitat for Humanity home in Graceville, Florida. She is an ongoing supporter of Florida Forestry Teacher's Tour, Florida Project Learning Tree, as well as other local schools and community organizations.

Caroline has shown a strong commitment to the softwood lumber industry.