



NEWS RELEASE

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SBA Honors Nevada Small Business Award Winners

Las Vegas, NV – The Nevada District office of the U. S. Small Business Administration honored its 2009 small business award winners at the annual awards luncheon on May 7th.

46 Years of Celebrating Small Business Week

This year marks the 56th anniversary of the SBA, and the 46th annual proclamation of Small Business Week. Since 1963, every President has declared National Small Business Week to formally recognize the importance of America's small business community. SBA district offices throughout the nation join with the community to salute small businesses and recognize the crucial role they play in strengthening and supporting the economy.

"This has been an especially challenging year for small companies and for banks," said John Scott, SBA Nevada District Director. "All of our award recipients this year display a 'can-do' spirit and have the ability to see beyond the challenges to develop solutions," added Scott. "We are very pleased to recognize their achievements."

Nevada Banks Recognized for SBA Lending

In addition to celebrating small business success, the SBA recognized several banks for supporting SBA loan programs and providing SBA guaranteed loans to small Nevada companies.

U.S. Bank: Platinum Level Economic Independence Award for Highest Dollar Volume and Greatest Number of SBA Loans in Nevada, Fiscal Year 2008.

Wells Fargo Bank: Gold Level Economic Independence Award for Highest Dollar Volume and Greatest Number of SBA Loans in Nevada, Fiscal Year 2008.

Nevada State Bank: Economic Independence Award for Highest Dollar Volume and Greatest Number of SBA Loans by a Community Bank in Nevada, Fiscal Year 2008.

Capitol Bancorp Limited: Community Service Award for Most SBA Loans and Highest Dollar Volume by a Community Banking Consortium in Nevada, Fiscal Year 2008.

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Nevada Small Business Winners

Rob Dorinson, majority owner and President of Evergreen Recycling, Las Vegas, was chosen SBA's Small Business Person of the Year for the State of Nevada. Mary A. Kerner, Lending Administrator for the Rural Nevada Development Corporation, Ely, was named Nevada and SBA's Region 9 (Guam, Hawaii, California, Nevada and Arizona) Financial Services Champion of the Year. Mr. Dorinson will attend SBA's National Small Business Week activities in Washington, D. C. on May 17-19 to be recognized with all other state Small Business Persons of the Year. Honorees will have the opportunity to meet with the President at the White House.

Others honored at the awards luncheon in Las Vegas included:

- Small Business Exporter of the Year: **John C. Holliday, President, Aloha Medicinals, Inc., Carson City;**
- Microenterprise Business Person of the Year: **Lisa McQuerrey, Owner, Professional Writing Services, Henderson;**
- Small Business Journalist of the Year: **Connie Brennan, Publisher, Nevada Business, Henderson;**
- Minority Small Business Champion of the Year: **Janis Stevenson, Business Development Advisor, Nevada Small Business Development Center, Las Vegas;**
- Home-Based Business Champion of the Year: **Shawn D. Lane, Owner, Cheyenne Marketing, Las Vegas;**
- Women in Business Champion of the Year: **Carrie Michelle Henderson, President, BEST Agency, Las Vegas.**

Certified Development Companies Honorees

Nevada State Development Corporation: Platinum Level Economic Independence Award for Highest Dollar Volume and Greatest Number of SBA Loans by a Certified Development Corporation in Nevada, Fiscal Year 2008.

Mortgage Capital Development Corporation: Gold Level Economic Independence Award for Highest Dollar Volume and Greatest Number of SBA Loans by a Certified Development Corporation in Nevada, Fiscal Year 2008.

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For more information about all of the SBA's programs for small businesses in Nevada, visit the SBA Web site at <http://www.sba.gov/nv>.

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