

U.S. Small Business Administration



NEWS RELEASE

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SBA'S SYRACUSE DISTRICT OFFICE LAUNCHES ITS FIRST-EVER SMALL BUSINESS HOTLINE

SYRACUSE – The U.S. Small Business Administration's Syracuse District Office has launched its first-ever **Small Business Hotline** to address the Upstate New York small business community's concerns during the current economic climate and credit crunch. The SBA Syracuse District Office has heard from small businesses that are concerned about the ongoing effects of rising energy, fuel and food costs to their bottom line, in addition to the recent credit tightening and drop in consumer spending.

The purpose of **Small Business Hotline** is to give small business owners a single phone number they can call with business related questions. **The phone number is 315-471-9393 ext 233.** Expert business advisors are standing by to expedite these calls and provide confidential counseling, free of charge.

"Many small business owners are worried about the rising costs of doing business, decreasing consumer confidence and tightening credit markets," comments Bernard J. Paprocki, SBA's Syracuse district director. "This hotline is dedicated to providing expedited business counseling from SBA and our Resource Partner experts, including the Small Business Development Centers, SCORE, and Women's Business Centers. Small business owners can get advice on ways to enhance their marketing plans, re-evaluate their business plans, and look for new sources of financing. Business counseling services are confidential, free of charge and are available across our 34-county district."

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