



Bruce C. Thompson
Regional Administrator
U.S. Small Business Administration
Region IX

The White House appointed Bruce C. Thompson to the position of regional administrator for the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), Region IX, on October 5, 2001. Region IX includes California, Nevada, Arizona, Hawaii and Guam and is the largest geographical area among the ten federal regions in the United States. In Fiscal Year 2004, SBA Region IX led the nation with 17,456 guaranteed loans worth more than \$4.5 billion dollars. The regional office oversees district offices in San Francisco, Sacramento, Fresno, Santa Ana, Los Angeles and San Diego, CA; Las Vegas, NV; Phoenix, AZ; Honolulu, HI; and a branch office in Guam.

From 1994 to 2000, Thompson served in the California State Assembly and represented parts of Riverside and San Diego Counties. During his six years in the legislature, Thompson served in Republican caucus leadership positions, including caucus chair and assistant leader. Committee assignments included education, water, parks and wildlife, budget, appropriations, veterans affairs and the powerful rules committee. In late 1999, Thompson was asked to serve as a California state co-chairman for the 2000 Bush/Cheney presidential campaign where he developed and oversaw volunteer and grassroots efforts.

Thompson brings a wealth of business experience to his new position with SBA. He's a former national account executive with the Johnson Wax Co. Thompson has also owned and operated a successful janitorial supply company in Riverside; a trophy and awards firm that developed into a lucrative mail order business; and an import firm involved with Malaysian marble tiles and slabs. Thompson has also served as board chairman of Hercules Offshore Drilling for three years and is the former president/CEO of the Professional Beauty Federation of California, a trade organization representing beauty salon chains and schools.

Thompson earned a B.A. degree in business and economics in 1976 from the University of La Verne in Los Angeles County. He's been active in church and community affairs, serving as a bishop and Sunday School teacher; a chamber of commerce and Lions Club president; a YMCA vice president; and scoutmaster with the Boy Scouts of America. Thompson and his wife, Donna, have eight children and seven grandchildren. The family resides in Fallbrook, CA.

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