

HOUSTON DISTRICT OFFICE NEWS

April 2009

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Recovery Act Information:

www.sba.gov/recovery.

www.recovery.gov

Helping small businesses
start, grow and **succeed.**



2009 SMALL BUSINESS AWARDS LUNCHEON

This year's Small Business Awards Luncheon sponsored by the Houston SCORE chapter was held on June 10th at the Power Center and drew over 300 bankers, small businesses, entrepreneurs, & community leaders and supporters. This year's Keynote Speaker was John Beddow, Houston Business Journal Publisher.

Houston District Winners

Small Business Person: Tom Jordan,
U.S. Flag & Flagpole Supply, LP

Financial Services Champion:
James Walsh, HGAC

Minority Small Business Champion:
Doreen Hughes, Mainland Testing
Center

Women in Business Champion: Dr.
Anastasia Gentles, Zawadi Bryant, &
Connie Cazares, Nightlight Pediatric

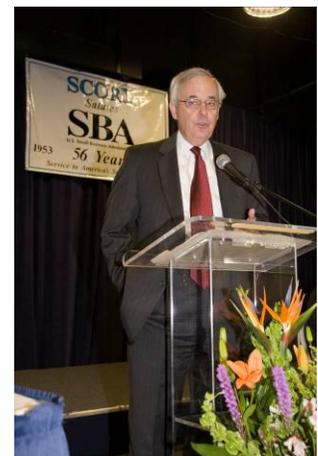
Veteran Small Business Champion:
Donna Caldwell, DKC Enterprises

Small Business Journalist: Alvaro
Ortiz

Jeffrey Butland Family-Owned Business: Earl & Jean Stout, Lanstar Company

SBA Young Entrepreneur: Alexander Restrepo, House of Sound Car Audio

Small Business Exporter: Donald &
Kimberly Kitchen, Subsea & Offshore
Systems, LLC



John Beddow, Houston Business Journal Publisher



2009 Small Business Award Winners



ARC Loan Program

America's Recovery Capital (ARC) Loan Program, a new temporary guaranteed-loan program became effective June 15, 2009. ARC loans are deferred-payment loans of up to \$35,000 for short-term relief to viable for-profit small businesses to make their payments on existing qualifying loans. Arc loans are interest-free to the borrower, 100% guaranteed by the SBA to the lender, and have no fees associated with them. Each small business is limited to one ARC loan. ARC loans are available funds run out or until September 30, 2010, which ever comes first.

Changes to 504 Program

The American Recovery & Reinvestment Act changes the Small Business Investment Act to permit debt refinancing under certain circumstances as part of the 504 Certified Development Company (CDC) Loan Program.

The changes will allow small businesses to restructure eligible debt to help improve their cash flow which, in turn, will enhance their viability and support growth and job creation. For more information on the 504 loan program and eligibility requirements, go to www.recovery.gov or www.sba.gov/recovery.

SAVE THE DATE

MID-AMERICA LENDER'S CONFERENCE 2009

MACL 2009 is scheduled for August 10-11 at the Sugar Land Marriott Town Square. Registration will begin Monday, August 10th at 8:00am and the official kick-off will begin at 1:30pm with a **HOT TOPICS** session. Pre-registration is required. Payments will not be accepted at the door. This year's conference will highlight the Recovery Act. Key speakers will be represented by SBA, lending industry, & government officials. The Conference will be an excellent educational opportunity for all lenders, sponsors, exhibitors and any one else involved in small business lending. For more information visit www.malc-conference.com.

WORKSHOPS & SEMINARS

Free 8(a) BD & Hubzone Workshop

Date: August 5, 2009

Time: 9:00am -11:00am

Place: UH SBDC, 2302 Fannin St, #200 Houston, TX 77002

Register: www.sbdc.uh.edu

SCORE Seminar & Workshops: visit www.scorehouston.org

HDO WISHES NEAL BLANTON A HAPPY RETIREMENT



DD Manuel Gonzalez presents Neal with Special Recognition Award



Neal & Family at Retirement Luncheon

Neal was born in Houston, Texas and graduated from the University of Texas with a BA from the Business School. He played on the UT Tennis Team, was Foreman of The Texas Cowboys and was the Outstanding Intramural Athlete of the Year when he was a freshman. He received a commission from the UT-ROTC and served in the Quartermaster Corps of the U. S. Army. Neal was Assistant Manager of the Lake Charles, Louisiana Association of Commerce for two years and for four years, he was General Manager of the Hillsboro, Texas Chamber of Commerce working closely with the business community and city government in implementing a planned Program of Work. Neal served as Chief of Technical Assistance for the Southwest Region of the Economic Development Administration in the Department of Commerce for eight years. Neal moved to New England in 1980 where he and his wife, Susan, owned and operated a small business for eight years in Lynn, Massachusetts.

Neal moved back to Texas in 1990 where he began 19 years of service with the U. S. Small Business Administration. For four years he was the One Stop Capital Shop (OSCS) Facilitator for the SBA Houston District. The OSCS was a unique community partnership designed to provide financial, technical and other supportive resources for small businesses in the inner city of Houston. Neal became Chief of Business Development in the SBA Houston District where he had responsibility for the planning and execution of marketing and business development programs in the 32 county Houston District. He also coordinated activities with our SBA Resource partners, SCORE and the University of Houston Small Business Development Center with its fourteen centers. Neal also coordinated the Community Express TA Providers, Small Business Weeks Awards, Small Business Resource Guide, Faith-based activities, DD Weekly Activities Report, Regional Monthly Calendar and represented SBA at numerous events throughout the year. Neal has two daughters, Catherine and Kate, one son, John, and two grandchildren. He and his wife, Susan live in Houston.

IN THE NEWS



BDS Cheryl Kraft mans SBA booth at Government Procurement Conference



BDS Sonia Maldonado attend Hispanic Magazine, Women of the Year Event



DD Manuel Gonzalez addresses the audience at the 2009 Small Business Awards Luncheon

Houston District Office Ten Most Active Lenders/CDCs For month ending June 30, 2009

<u>Bank Name</u>	Gross Approvals \$	Loan Volume
Wells Fargo	\$25,704,600	72
Amegy Bank	\$6,696,800	48
BBVA Compass	\$6,287,600	46
JP Morgan Chase Bank	\$6,320,000	41
Houston Galveson CDC	\$21,628,000	29
Capital CDC	\$16,893,000	19
Westbound Bank	\$8,321,000	19
Spirit of Texas Bank	\$6,172,500	18
Superior Financial Group	\$175,000	17
First Bank (MO)	\$4,467,000	16