



Press Release

SAN FRANCISCO REGIONAL OFFICE

Release Date: May 14, 2004

Contact: Bob Borden, (415) 744-1961

Release Number: 04-12 FRESNO

Internet Address: <http://www.sba.gov/opc>

Governor Schwarzenegger Proclaims May 16-22 as “Small Business Week”

State Economy Dependent on Small Businesses and the Jobs They Generate

SACRAMENTO – Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger today proclaimed the period May 16-22 as “Small Business Week” in California, a state where 96 percent of all businesses are small and generate two out of every three jobs.

“California is committed to the success of its small companies by reducing the high cost of business, providing employers with a qualified workforce and creating every opportunity for small businesses to grow and create more jobs,” said the governor. “Small Business Week provides an opportunity to acknowledge the critical role that small businesses play in our state’s economic recovery. We celebrate the successes of small business owners and their tremendous contributions to our communities, our economy and our nation.”

Nationally, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) will host a gathering of America’s top entrepreneurs to celebrate the strength and vitality of the country’s small business sector and honor the National Small Business Person of the Year for 2004 in ceremonies set for May 19-21 in Orlando, FL (www.sba.gov/50). Vying for such honors is Jeff Reynolds, California’s Small Business Person of the Year. Reynolds is president of VAS Entertainment in San Luis Obispo, a firm that started in 1988 as a sports marketing company and today is the world’s largest distributor for action sports DVDs and videos.

SBA Regional Administrator Bruce Thompson, who’s responsible for the delivery of agency programs and services in California, Nevada, Arizona, Hawaii and Guam, was in the governor’s office when the proclamation was issued. He was accompanied by Scott Hague, vice chairman of the National Small Business Association; Stephen Cornell, a past president of the San Francisco Small Business Commission; and SBA’s Sacramento district director, Jim O’Neal.



“California’s small business owners embody the vision, innovation and hard work that make our country great. These inventors, risk-takers and job creators are the backbone of our economy.”

-- From the proclamation issued by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger’s declaring May 16-22, 2004, as “Small Business Week” in California.