

## **WV Veteran-Owned Small Business of the Year**

Douglas Edward Tate – Alpha Technologies

Nominated by: Terry Cyfers, WV Small Business Development Center

The U.S. Small Business Administration's West Virginia District Director, Karen Friel is excited to announce Douglas Tate, President and CEO of Alpha Technologies, as the SBA West Virginia 2016 Veteran-Owned Small Business of the Year. Tate was nominated for the award by Terry Cyfers, Business Coach for the West Virginia Small Business Development Center.

Alpha Technologies, established in 2000, is a complete Information Technology solution provider based in Putnam County. They specialize in the design and integration of data, voice, and video systems. Alpha competes for data-storage contracts with businesses and the federal government by utilizing its' 80,000 sq. ft. data center.

Doug Tate started his success early, enlisting in the United States Army upon graduation from high school. He served with distinction for nine years and including time in a special infantry unit where he saw action on the front lines. During his tenure he obtained the rank of Sergeant First Class. Injuries sustained during service forced him into medical retirement.

As a civilian Doug's expertise in military electronics training presented him an opportunity to become an Information Technology Consultant in Texas, but the hills of West Virginia were calling him home. Upon his return he realized the need for services not being provided and Alpha Technologies was born.

Tate has relied on his education, he has a bachelor's degree in computer science and masters degree in applied computer science and business administration, but he has also depended heavily on his SBDC Business Coach Terry Cyfers' expertise.

"The SBA – Barbara Weaver and Melissa Loder, and the SBDC – Terry Cyfers, have been tremendous assets to me in growing my business," states Tate.

SBA's West Virginia District Office celebrates Tate's award during an invite only luncheon at the Robert H. Mollohan Research Center in Fairmont, Wednesday, May 4 at 12:00 p.m. The awards luncheon is emceed by WBOY reporter Nick Farrell; attendance includes Senator Capito, Congressman McKinley, and Secretary Burdette. [Click here](#) for a list of the 2016 West Virginia District Small Business Week winners.