



Office of the National Ombudsman

Regulatory Fairness Hearing

Thursday, May 7, 2015 | Spokane, Washington

A forum for members of the small business community to present testimony on federal regulations impacting small businesses.

National Ombudsman Brian Castro will convene a regional hearing to hear testimony from small business owners, representatives of trade associations, and other members of the small business community regarding federal regulations and enforcement and compliance actions impacting America's small businesses.

SBA Region 10 Regulatory Fairness Board Members are: Anthony Welcher, James Howard Houser, Jr., Michael J. Ballantyne and Wilfred Ryan.

The National Ombudsman convenes regulatory fairness hearings and roundtables across the country to give small business owners a means to comment on unfair enforcement actions, government audits, and excessive fines or regulations. It is anticipated that during this hearing small business stakeholders will testify on a number of wide-ranging issues. Issues reported by participants undergo a high-level fairness review at the appropriate federal agency, and the Office of the National Ombudsman works with its federal agency partners to address those concerns, reduce regulatory burdens, and help small businesses grow.

**WHERE: The Historic Davenport Hotel
10 South Post Street
Elizabethan Room
Spokane, WA 99201**

**WHEN: Thursday, May 7, 2015
1:00 p.m. – 1:15 p.m. PDT – Registration
1:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. PDT – Hearing**

Members of the small business community, trade organizations and media are encouraged to attend. RSVPs should be made to José Méndez, SBA, Case Management Specialist at (202) 205-6178 or by email at jose.mendez@sba.gov by May 1, 2015. Those wishing to testify must register and provide written statements in advance. Anyone desiring confidentiality may request that his or her name not be released and may submit written testimony in lieu of a public appearance at the hearing. Those wishing to put testimony on the record on a confidential basis may do so by offering it in writing in advance.

Self-parking is available at the hotel and costs \$5.00 for the first (4) hours, plus \$1.00 thereafter. However, your parking will be complimentary if you spend \$10.00 in the hotel and show your purchase receipt. If you prefer, valet parking will be \$17.00 for the entire day and complimentary if you spend \$10.00.

For additional information about the Office of the National Ombudsman, visit our website at www.sba.gov/ombudsman.

The SBA's programs and services are provided to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. Reasonable arrangements for persons with disabilities will be made when requested 1 week in advance. Contact: jose.mendez@sba.gov or call (202) 205-6178.