

# Phoenix Awards

Phoenix Awards are given to those individuals (business owners, volunteers and public officials) whose efforts and contributions have enabled their businesses or communities to recover successfully from a disaster. SBA will make Phoenix Awards at the National level.

## Phoenix Award for Outstanding Contributions to Disaster Recovery

### **Who is eligible to be nominated for this award?**

Any private-citizen volunteer or public official may be nominated for his/her outstanding contribution to a community's recovery following a natural disaster which occurred during the previous fiscal year. For purposes of this award, a public official is a person who has been elected to carry out some portion of a government's powers, whether Federal, state, or local, or a person who has been appointed to a position at the Federal, state, or local level of government. In some cities, mayors or city council members are appointed, not elected, yet those non-elected officials are also eligible. For purposes of this award, a private citizen volunteer is an individual who uses available resources to support the recovery efforts of the community. Corporate citizens are not eligible for this award.

### **Who may submit nominations for this award?**

Any individual or organization dedicated to the support of the small business community in the United States, including, but not limited to, trade and professional associations and business organizations, may submit nominations for this award. Individuals may not be nominated for more than one SBW 2014 award category. Individuals may self-nominate for this award.

### **Where are the nominations to be sent?**

Nominations must be submitted in one of two ways:

1. Nominations may be submitted to the SBA Disaster Field Operations Centers in the state or territory where the business is located; or

2. **Nominations may be submitted via the online nominations portal on <http://nationalsmallbusinessweek.sba.gov>.**

### **What are the selection procedures for this award?**

Phoenix Award nominees in the Outstanding Contribution to Disaster Recovery by a Public Official and Private-Citizen Volunteer categories are judged on the substantive, selfless and far-reaching nature of their contribution to the post-disaster recovery of their respective communities. Following determination of eligibility by the appropriate SBA Disaster Field Operations Center, nomination packages will be forwarded to the Office of Communications and Public Liaison, Washington, D.C., for review and recommendation of national award winners. Winners will be selected by the SBA Administrator, based on the recommendations of a panel of judges comprised of federal employees.

### **What are the evaluation/selection criteria for this award?**

Public official:

- 1) Recent disaster — Communities that suffered a physical disaster during fiscal years 2012 or 2013 are eligible for nomination.
- 2) Took quick, proactive steps to establish calm in the aftermath of the disaster
- 3) Functioned as an organized and focused leader, communicating effectively with local and federal emergency responders while coordinating rescue and recovery efforts
- 4) Gave selflessly of his/her time, energy, and skills to protect and reassure the public
- 5) Deeply involved in the long-term recovery and future disaster preparedness of the community.

Volunteer:

- 1) Recent disaster — Communities that suffered a physical disaster during fiscal years 2012 or 2013 are eligible for nomination.
- 2) Took the initiative, in the face of their own losses and/or risk, to coordinate the gathering and distribution of food, water, clothing, cleaning supplies, and other survival essentials to disaster victims
- 3) Creatively used their own resources toward providing assistance to those in need.
- 4) Reached out to local media, elected officials, and those not affected by the disaster to expand the circle of recovery support
- 5) Selflessly, consistently and tirelessly worked to help as many disaster victims as possible to take the first steps toward rebuilding their lives