



U.S. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
WASHINGTON, DC 20416

October 28, 2014

The Honorable Robert P. Casey, Jr.
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Casey:

Administrator Contreras-Sweet has asked me to respond to your recent letter on behalf of small businesses in several townships in Northeastern Pennsylvania, including Blooming Grove, Porter, Lehman, and Greene townships in Pike County and Barrett, Price and Paradise townships in Monroe County who are impacted by the ongoing fugitive manhunt needing counseling services from the Small Business Administration (SBA).

The Pennsylvania Small Business Development (SBDC) Program is administered by the University of Pennsylvania through a cooperative agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) Office of Small Business Development Centers and has points of service across the state including the aforementioned townships in Northeastern Pennsylvania.

The Pennsylvania SBDC has a center connected to the University of Scranton which is available to help small businesses in all of these townships that have been impacted by the ongoing manhunt. The University of Scranton is one of the SBDC's leading the effort to develop business continuity services. Their staff is well equipped and stands ready to assist impacted companies and other small businesses to help them become better prepared to survive business disruptions they are experiencing now and in the future.

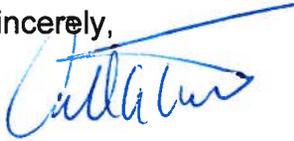
The Director of the SBDC at the University of Scranton is Lisa Hall Zielinski. She can be reached via email at lisa.hall@scranton.edu and or via telephone at (570) 941-7588 to assign a counselor to any small business that needs assistance.

The SBA Philadelphia District Office has reached out to your Northeast Pennsylvania local office to coordinate assistance to your constituents in seeking SBA program advice. For further information, your staff may contact Mr. Mark Quinn, Acting Philadelphia District Director, at (415) 850-8131 and Mr. Bob 'Max' Maximowicz, Wilkes-Barre Branch Manager, at (570) 826-6204. Please let our Philadelphia District know if SBA can provide your staff or the small business community of Pennsylvania with any assistance they might need.

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We appreciate your support of SBA and the Pennsylvania small business community. If you and your staff have any further questions, please contact the SBA Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs at (202) 205-6700.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Carroll A. Thomas". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Carroll A. Thomas
Associate Administrator
Office of Small Business Development Centers