



NEWS RELEASE

PRESS OFFICE

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Informational Meeting on SBA's 2010 Emerging 200 Initiative Will be Held on Tuesday, February 9

SBA North Florida District Office To Recruit 15 Small Business Owners to Participate in the 2010 Program

The U.S. Small Business Administration will hold an informational meeting on the agency's Emerging 200 (e200) initiative on Tuesday, February 9th at the SBA North Florida District Office, 7825 Baymeadows Way; Suite 100-B from 9:00 am to 10:00 am.

"We are honored that Jacksonville was selected to host the e200 for a second year. 13 successful small business owners graduated from the e200 Program in November of 2009. They are living proof that the e200 program is a true success for Jacksonville's inner city and for the local small business community," says Wilfredo J. Gonzalez, SBA District Director.

The Emerging 200 Initiative is designed to provide several months of advanced business training and other resources to owners and executives of existing, inner-city businesses with high potential for accelerated future growth. The companies that will best benefit from participation in the initiative are those with minimum annual revenues of \$400,000 and have been in business at least three years.

Jacksonville's inner city is generally defined as the Enterprise Zone located in and slightly around downtown Jacksonville. The cost of the training is being underwritten by the SBA with no charge to participating firms. There is an opportunity for up to 15 companies to participate.

Registration for the February 9th program overview is not necessary. Anyone is welcome to participate!

The e200 Jacksonville initiative is being cosponsored with: The Jacksonville Regional Chamber of Commerce, Jacksonville Women's Business Center, SCORE, Small Business Development Center at the University of North Florida, Beaver Street Enterprise Center, and the Jacksonville Economic Development Commission.

Cosponsorship authorization is #10-0491-37. SBA's participation in this co-sponsorship is not an endorsement of the views, opinions, products, or services of any co-sponsor or other entity. All SBA programs, services and co-sponsored activities are extended to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. Reasonable arrangements for persons with disabilities will be made, if requested at least 2 weeks in advance. Contact [mailto: lola.kress@sba.gov](mailto:lola.kress@sba.gov).

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