



News Release

WEST VIRGINIA DISTRICT

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Nominations Sought for Small Business Awards

CLARKSBURG, W.Va. – Judy K. McCauley, director of the U.S. Small Business Administration’s West Virginia District Office recently announced that nominations are being accepted for West Virginia’s “*Small Business Person of the Year*” for 2013. The award recipient will compete for the national title during National Small Business Week in Washington, D.C. in May 2013. Nominees are also being sought for various other SBA Champion and Special Award categories. The deadline for nomination submissions is **Friday, Dec. 7, 2012**.

This is an excellent opportunity to promote your small business, a client or even an employee. It’s time to be recognized for your entrepreneurial spirit and hard work. The nominee and nominator will both receive recognition through the awards program.

Small Business Person of the Year nominees will be judged on a variety of criteria, including staying power, growth in employment and sales, innovation of product or service and evidence of contributions to the community.

Small Business Champion awards are presented to persons who have used their professional or personal talents to further the public’s understanding and awareness of small business. Candidates must have taken an active role in creating opportunities to promote the interests of small business.

Champion award categories include: *Financial Services, Home-Based Business, Minority, Veteran and Women*. Special awards include: *Family-Owned Small Business, Entrepreneurial Success, Small Business Exporter, and Young Entrepreneur*.

Nominations can be made by individuals or organizations. All nominations must be received by the SBA West Virginia District Office no later than **Friday, Dec. 7, 2012**.

Guidelines and nomination forms can be found on the SBA’s West Virginia District Office web page at www.sba.gov/wv or by contacting Rick Haney at (304) 623-7449 or by email at richard.haney@sba.gov.

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The mission of the SBA is to aid, counsel, assist and promote the interests of small businesses by providing financial, and advocating on their behalf within the government. All SBA programs are extended to the public on a non-discriminatory basis.