



NEWS RELEASE

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SBA Expands Service in Alaska With Offices in Fairbanks, Juneau

ANCHORAGE -- The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) today announced the opening of two new SBA offices in the state of Alaska, one in the city of Fairbanks, the other in Juneau.

The Fairbanks office will be led by Scott Swingle, who for the last five years has served as director of the University of Alaska Fairbanks Small Business Development Center. Swingle is a former business owner and has taught several business courses at UAF, his own alma mater.

Directing the Juneau office will be Todd Saunders, the former executive director of the Juneau Chamber of Commerce. Saunders is also a former business owner and has worked as a management consultant for new entrepreneurs.

“The SBA and Senators Murkowski and Stevens have been working closely together to expand the range and breadth of our services in the state of Alaska,” SBA Administrator Hector V. Barreto said. “Thanks to their tremendous hard work and dedication, I can now proudly announce that the SBA will be opening new offices in Fairbanks and Juneau. I am equally proud to announce that Scott Swingle and Todd Saunders will be leading these important offices. These men are each widely respected and experienced members of the Alaska small business community. I have great faith that under their leadership, these new offices will help bring the SBA’s wide range of services even more directly to our customers: entrepreneurs across the state of Alaska.”

“This SBA expansion represents a visible commitment by this agency to increase economic opportunities in both the Interior and the Southeast. I anticipate that with a new local SBA presence in both Fairbanks and Juneau the agency will be better able to serve Alaskan communities. The new SBA offices will provide improved customer service, speed processing, and make it easier for local small businesses to get up-to-date information on the many services that the agency offers,” Senator Lisa Murkowski said.

“We are pleased that small business owners in Fairbanks and Southeast will have better access to the SBA’s loan programs and facilities; particularly because small business is the cornerstone of the Alaskan economy,” Senator Ted Stevens said.

The opening of the new offices is the culmination of a joint effort by the SBA and Senators Murkowski and Stevens. The offices will provide convenient local facilities in which area small business owners can get help applying for SBA-backed loans, inquire about federal and other contracting opportunities, and avail themselves of a wide range of other SBA services.

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*For more information about all of the SBA’s programs for small businesses,
visit the SBA’s extensive Web site at www.sba.gov.*