



News Release

PRESS OFFICE

Release Date: July 11, 2005
Release Number: 05-44

Contact: Tiffani Clements (202) 401-0035
Internet Address: <http://www.sba.gov/news>

SBA General Counsel Selected to Serve on Critical Acquisition Advisory Panel

WASHINGTON – U.S. Small Business Administration General Counsel David Javdan has been appointed to replace former Deputy Administrator Melanie Sabelhaus as a member of the Acquisition Advisory Panel, authorized under Section 1423 of the Services Acquisition Reform Act. The panel's statutory charter is to review and recommend any necessary changes to federal acquisition laws, regulations and policies, including among other topics commercial practices, performance-based contracting, and interagency contracting.

David Safavian, Administrator of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP) in the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) appointed 14 recognized experts in federal acquisition law and policy to serve as members of the nonpartisan panel. The panel members, which OMB formally announced on February 1, 2005, represent a wide variety of backgrounds from academia, government, and the private sector. In accordance with its statutory mandate, the panel will submit a report to OFPP and both houses of Congress by the end of the year.

"I am thrilled that OFPP Administrator Safavian has asked Mr. Javdan to serve on this critical panel of distinguished experts," said Administrator Barreto. "The panel is consistent with President Bush's strong support for government-wide management reform. Melanie Sabelhaus, who recently resigned from her position at SBA, remains a passionate advocate for small business interests. I am confident that Mr. Javdan will ensure that small business concerns are represented as the panel develops its recommendations and report."

The panel currently has six working groups consisting of Commercial Practices/Commercial Items; Performance-Based Contracting; Government-Wide Contracts and Interagency Contract Vehicles; Inherently Governmental Functions; and Cross-Cutting Issues – Federal Workforce and Small Business. The Small Business Working Group was established to consider small business issues that cut across the panel's statutory charter, such as access to fair competition. Panel Chair, Marcia Madsen, a partner at Mayer, Brown, Rowe, and Maw has asked Javdan to chair the Small Business Working Group.

For additional information concerning the panel, visit its official Web site located at <http://www.acqnet.gov/aap/>.

###