



NEWS RELEASE

PRESS OFFICE

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SBA Expands Service in North Carolina With Offices In Raleigh, Asheville and Wilmington

CHARLOTTE – The U.S. Small Business Administration today announced the opening of three new SBA offices in the state of North Carolina, serving Raleigh, Asheville, and Wilmington. The new offices – called Alternative Work Sites – are a result of the SBA’s continuing efforts to modernize how it offers services to America’s small business owners. The offices, staffed by full time specialists, will offer a wide range of SBA services to North Carolina customers who previously would have had to travel long distances to reach an SBA field office.

The Raleigh office will be led by Ivan Hankins, former SBA assistant district director for Entrepreneurial Development in San Diego. Hankins has been with SBA for 31 years. He previously was in charge of SBA loan processing and servicing in Hawaii and Arizona and has worked in SBA offices in West Virginia and Florida. The office will be located in Cary at Wake Tech Community College (Cary Branch), 600 New Waverly Place, #200. It can be reached by phone at (919) 851-1891.

Leading the Asheville office will be Mike Arriola. Arriola worked in commercial lending for Chase Manhattan Bank, Bank of Hawaii and London-based HSBC in Guam prior to joining the SBA’s branch operations in the island territory in 1998. He is a 1984 graduate of the University of California at Berkeley and an alumnus of the Asian Institute of Management. The Asheville office will be located at 29 Haywood Street in Asheville, and can be reached by phone at (828) 225-1844

The Wilmington office will be opening in the near future at 509 Cornelius Harnett Drive in Wilmington. When open, that office will be reachable by phone at (910) 815-0065.

“These three new offices will allow the SBA to dramatically expand the range and breadth of our services in the state of North Carolina,” SBA Administrator Hector V. Barreto said. “I am also pleased to announce that Ivan Hankins and Mike Arriola will be leading two of these important offices. These individuals have a long record of service to the 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, all of the entrepreneurs across the state of North Carolina.”

AWS offices are opening across the country as a result of the SBA’s continuing efforts to modernize services for all of America’s small business owners. The offices provide convenient local facilities in which area small business owners can apply 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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