

## 2010 Massachusetts Community/Rural Lender of the Year Award

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Massachusetts  
District Office  
10 Causeway St.  
Suite 265 Boston,  
MA 02222  
617-565-5590  
www.sba.gov/ma

Every year since 1963, the President has proclaimed National Small Business Week to recognize the contributions of small businesses to America's economy.

During Small Business Week, to be held May 24 thru May 28, 2010, the SBA will honor exceptional small business owners and advocates in Washington, D.C.

In Massachusetts, we will celebrate the achievements of our state award winners with an event next year.

### Who Qualifies?

This award will go to a Community/Rural lender (under \$1B) that has exhibited an ongoing commitment to supporting the growth and expansion of small businesses that are not able to obtain financing on reasonable terms elsewhere. The candidates should have a presence in their community and utilize several of the SBA loan products, including 7(a), SBA Express, ARC loans and Patriot and Community Express loans.

### Evaluation Criteria

A complete nomination package must contain all of the following:

1. A single cover page with —
  - Lender contact information including the name of the person who may accept the award, title, business address with telephone and fax numbers, email address and website;
  - award for which the nomination is being made;
  - nominator's name, title, place of business, business and e-mail addresses, telephone and fax numbers; and
  - a one-paragraph description of the nominee's business and/or organization
2. A nomination letter, not exceeding three pages.
3. A digital photograph of the nominee.
4. A brief description of the lending institution.
5. Any other support documentation deemed significant by the nominator, including news clips, letters of recommendation, and other evidence of the suitability of the nomination. Support documentation must not exceed ten pages. Videos will not be considered.
6. A completed *Award Nomination Consent Form* (SBA Form 2137).
7. A completed *Award Nomination Form* (SBA Form 3300).

In addition, the nomination package **must** address each of the following evaluation criteria separately with a narrative describing how the nominee meets or exceeds each of the elements.

8. Increase in SBA loan approvals over the past two fiscal years.
9. Use of different SBA loan programs.
10. Use of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act to assist area businesses.
11. A “Signature” loan that highlights the SBA program used and how it impacted the community.
12. Outreach and/or increased penetration in underserved constituencies.

**Note: The judges will score the nomination packages in this category by carefully reviewing elements 8-12.**

Contact Elizabeth Moisuk at 617-565-5569, or e-mail her at [elizabeth.moisuk@sba.gov](mailto:elizabeth.moisuk@sba.gov) with questions. All nominations must be postmarked or hand delivered no later than November 16, 2009.