



NEWS RELEASE

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SBA ANNOUNCES 2010 EAGLE AWARDEES

HARTFORD, CT – The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) announced its 2010 Eagle Award recipients today at its Annual Lenders & Partners Meeting at the Holiday Inn in North Haven, CT. More than 125 lenders and resource partners attended this event which featured Banking Commissioner Howard Pitkin as the keynote speaker.

SBA lending totaled more than \$160 million in fiscal year 2010, a 25% increase over last year's lending level. At the lender's meeting today, the SBA recognized its valued lending partners and recognized several lenders for their contributions in designated loan areas. The 2010 top lenders and partners recognized today were the following:

- Top 7(a) Lender, Leading 504 Participant
 - Top Dollar Lender
 - Top 504 Lender, Top Microlender
 - Outstanding Contribution
 - Outstanding Contribution
 - Emerging Lender
 - Outstanding Resource
 - Outstanding Resource
- Webster Bank
 - People's United Bank
 - Connecticut Comm. Investment Corp
 - Union Savings Bank
 - Fairfield County Bank
 - Farmington Bank
 - Metropolitan District Commission
 - The Hartford Business Journal

“Fortunately most borrowers benefited from the provisions of the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act of 2009”, said Jeanne Hulit, SBA New England Regional Administrator “The Recovery Act provisions resulted in fee savings of more than \$4.8 million for Connecticut’s small businesses.”

“One purpose of our Annual Lenders & Partners meeting is to publicly thank our partners for their tremendous support of the SBA and the Connecticut business communities by helping us deliver small business loans to Main Street businesses” said Bernard Sweeney, Connecticut District Director for the SBA. “We look forward to continuing the growth in SBA activity and partnerships throughout 2011.”

In addition to loan programs, the SBA and its partners provided counseling and training at numerous locations throughout the state during fiscal year 2010, serving an additional 18,000 existing or potential business owners. The resource partners include SCORE, the Connecticut Small Business Development Center (CSBDC), and the Women’s Business Centers. In addition, SBA hosted a number of conferences in partnership with business, education and community groups. To find a counseling location near you, call (860) 240-4700 or visit our website www.sba.gov/ct.

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