

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>Emerging 200</i>	1
<i>Save the Date!</i>	1
<i>Public Hearing</i>	2
<i>Patriot Express</i>	2
<i>Calendar of Events</i>	2

**It's Your Business**  
**Volume IX**  
**Number 1**

*A publication by  
the U.S. Small Business  
Administration  
Massachusetts District  
Office*

*District Director:  
Robert H. Nelson*

*Editor:  
Elizabeth R. Moisuk*

Helping small businesses  
**start, grow and succeed.**



Your Small Business Resource

## Boston Announces Participation in Emerging 200, a Jobs and Growth Initiative for Inner City Businesses

**BOSTON** - The U.S. Small Business Administration announced that Boston has been selected as one of 11 cities to participate in the Emerging 200 initiative, a jobs and growth stimulation effort targeting promising inner-city small businesses. The other selected cities are: Philadelphia, Baltimore, Memphis, Atlanta, Chicago, Milwaukee, Albuquerque, New Orleans, Des Moines and Oakland.

The SBA initiative will focus on small, poised-for-growth inner-city companies with potential for job creation. Entrepreneurs from 20 local companies will participate in an intensive and comprehensive curriculum focused on developing winning local strategies and attracting capital to fuel growth. Participants also will have the opportunity to work with experienced mentors, attend workshops and develop connections with banks and the private equity community.



In the photo from left to right: Sandy Blitz, SBA New England Regional Administrator; Steve Preston, Administrator; Carol Bliss-Furr, Assistant Dean of Corporate & Continuing Education, Roxbury Community College; Darnell Williams, President and CEO, Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts; Robert Nelson, SBA Massachusetts District Director; and Jack Bienko, Deputy Director Office of Business and Community Initiatives, SBA

Engaging the local network of business resources that is already in place in each city is a critical component of Emerging 200. Consequently, the local SBA District Offices will be deeply involved in assembling community partners, including state or local government, technical assistance partners, and capital providers.



The Massachusetts District Office celebrates the E200 Roll-out.

Locally, the City of Boston, The Hispanic American Chamber of Commerce of Greater Boston, Massachusetts Small Business Development Center (MSBDC) State Office and MSBDC Boston Regional Office/Minority Business Center will be assisting the SBA in this initiative.

SBA Administrator Steve Preston was in Boston on March 27, 2008 at the SBA Emerging 200 kickoff at Roxbury Community College to announce Boston's participation in this program.

For more information on E200 go to: <http://www.sba.gov/e200/>. For information about participating contact Christine Carter at 617-565-5560.

## SBA CELEBRATE SUCCESS AWARDS LUNCHEON

Save the date! The Small Business Week 2008 awards will be presented at a luncheon at the Cape Codder Resort in Hyannis, in cooperation with Cape Business Publishing, on May 22, 2008. The day's events will include workshops for small businesses as well as an SBA resource partners' meeting. For more information go to: [http://www.capebusiness.net/events.php?a=view&event\\_id=24](http://www.capebusiness.net/events.php?a=view&event_id=24).

## SBA HOSTS PUBLIC HEARING ON LENDER OVERSIGHT AND SOP TRAINING IN BOSTON



Bryan Hooper, Director of Lender Oversight, SBA addressing lenders at hearing.

On April 8, 2008 the Massachusetts District Office of the SBA hosted a public comment meeting on the SBA's proposed Lender Oversight/Credit Risk Management rule affecting SBA's oversight of 7(a), 504 and Micro lending participants. Commentary was provided by New England area lenders. This was one of eight public meetings being held in selected cities across the country.

Training was also held on SBA's new SOP 50/10(5) that will become effective on May 1st. James Hammersley, SBA Director of Loan Programs and Kandace Zelaya, Attorney, Office of Financial Law and Lender Oversight conducted the session to familiarize lenders with the new updates, changes and revisions in SBA's lending policies and procedures. The revised SOP may be found at:

<http://www.sba.gov/tools/resourcelibrary/sops>.

If you were unable to attend the SOP training and you would like to see the presentation go to: <https://cc.readytalk.com/play?id=Ogotngvd>.



James Hammersley addressing over 120 lenders at the SOP training held 4/8/2008.

For additional instructions on playback, go to: <https://www.callinfo.com/help/ArchivePlaybackInfo.html>.



Regulatory Hearing held 4/8/2008.

## PATRIOT EXPRESS—STILL GOING STRONG

In the nine months since its launch, the U.S. Small Business Administration's Patriot Express Loan Initiative has produced 25 SBA guaranteed loans locally amounting to more than \$2 million.

Patriot Express is available to military community members including veterans, service-disabled veterans, service members leaving active duty, Reservists and National Guard members, current spouses of any of the above, spouses of active duty members, and the widowed spouse of a service member who died during service, or of a service-connected disability.

The Patriot Express Pilot Loan Initiative can be used for most business purposes. Details on the initiative can be found at [www.sba.gov/patriotexpress](http://www.sba.gov/patriotexpress).

Lenders who have approved loans in Massachusetts under the Patriot Express Loan Initiative are: Bank of America; BankFive; Florence Savings Bank; Greylock Federal Credit Union; Middlesex Savings Bank; Pentucket Bank; Rockland Trust Company; Sovereign Bank; TD Banknorth; and Webster Bank. For a complete list of SBA Patriot Express Lenders in Massachusetts go to: [www.sba.gov/ma](http://www.sba.gov/ma) and click on SBA Lenders under the Resources section.



## WE WOULD LOVE TO HEAR OF YOUR SUCCESS

Do you know an SBA client that meets the following criteria: in business for at least two years, has shown an increase in the number of employees or growth in revenue and is an active member of their community? We would like to pass your stories on to local and national media, use them on our website, include them in our "It's Your Business" Massachusetts SBA newsletter, and highlight them while doing radio and TV interviews. For more information please call Elizabeth Moisuk at (617) 565-5569 or email her at [elizabeth.moisuk@sba.gov](mailto:elizabeth.moisuk@sba.gov).

SBA's Ready—SET—GO  
Community Workshops

Learn about SBA's programs & services.

4/17/2008  
Plymouth Career Center, 36  
Cordage Park Circle, Ste. 200,  
Plymouth  
10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.  
Call 508-732-5399 to regis-  
ter. Also on: 5/15/2008

4/24/2008  
Jump Start Your Business  
Greater Lowell Chamber  
131 Merrimack St.  
10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m. Call  
617-565-5588 to register.  
Also on: 5/22/2008

4/29/2008  
SBA, 10 Causeway Street,  
Room 265, Boston  
10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.  
Call 617-565-5590 to regis-  
ter. Also on: 5/27/2008

5/1/2008  
Haverhill Career Center, 80  
Merrimack Street, Haverhill  
10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.  
Call 617-565-5588 to regis-  
ter.

5/21/2008  
Brightwood Library Branch,  
359 Plainfield St., Springfield  
6:00—8:00 p.m. Call 413-  
785-0268 to register. In  
Spanish.

5/28/2008  
Financing Workshop (in Span-  
ish) Brightwood Library  
Branch, 359 Plainfield St.,  
Springfield, 6:00—8:00 p.m.  
Call 413-785-0268 to regis-  
ter.