



News Release

U.S. Small Business Administration

RICHMOND DISTRICT OFFICE

Release Date: November 9, 2015

Release Number: 16-2

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SBA Seeks 2016 Small Business Week Award Nominees

RICHMOND, Va. – The U.S. Small Business Administration’s Richmond District Office is accepting nominations for the successful small business person who might become Virginia’s 2016 Small Business Person of the Year and compete for the national title during National Small Business Week, May 2-6, 2016. Nominees are also sought for Exporter of the Year. The submission deadline is Monday, January 11, 2016

“In addition to Small Business Person of the Year we have added Exporter of the Year to recognize excellence in small business and those who export to other countries as well,” said SBA’s Richmond District Director Carl Knoblock. “Once again, I expect a strong field of applicants to enter in both categories.”

Small Business Person of the Year is a highly competitive award where criteria are based on staying power, employee growth, sales increase, innovativeness of product or service offered, response to adversity, community contributions and if applicable products exported and markets served. Unlike year’s past, full financial statements are not required, but some financial information is needed for judging.

Small Business Exporter of the Year recognizes a small business that exports products and services outside of the United States. Criteria are based on increased sales due to exporting, creative overseas marketing strategies, solutions to export-related problems, encouragement of other small businesses to enter exporting, and cooperation with other businesses in the creation of export trading companies.

In addition, businesses may enter in other categories listed on the nomination portal to compete in national categories.

Any individual or organization dedicated to the support of the small business community may nominate a business for this award. Self-nominations are also accepted. Submission guidelines and additional information and can be downloaded on the dedicated web portal at <http://awards.sba.gov>.

Nominations can be submitted online, postmarked or hand delivered to the SBA no later than 3 p.m. EST, Monday, Jan. 11, 2016. Postmarked and hand-delivered packages should be sent to SBA’s Richmond District Office at 400 N. 8th Street, Suite 1150, Richmond, Va. 23219. For contact information and other District Office information visit online at www.sba.gov/va or call Matthew Nowak at 804-253-9088.

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