



News Release

PRESS OFFICE

Release Date: September 24, 2008

Release Number: 08-98

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Internet Address: <http://www.sba.gov/news>

Peter Schalestock Named SBA's General Counsel

WASHINGTON – U.S. Small Business Administration Acting Administrator Sandy K. Baruah has chosen Peter Schalestock to be SBA's general counsel. Schalestock, who has extensive transactional and policy experience, now serves as the chief legal adviser to Baruah and the agency's senior staff on the development and implementation of SBA policies and programs.

"Peter Schalestock has an exemplary legal background, sound judgment and strong leadership abilities, which make him well-suited for the role of general counsel," said Baruah. "As acting general counsel, he has already proved to be a strong asset to SBA leadership team. I am greatly pleased to name him as the head of our legal department."

"I am honored to take on this position and will work hard to ensure that SBA's legal team provides thoughtful counsel on matters that affect our nation's small businesses," said Schalestock. "I look forward to working with our leadership team and the agency's excellent career legal staff to carry out SBA's mission to help entrepreneurs succeed and disaster survivors to rebuild."

Schalestock joined SBA as deputy general counsel in March 2008 and has been acting general counsel for the last three months. Prior to SBA, Schalestock coordinated multi-state election programs and major election litigation, and was deputy counsel to a presidential campaign. Previously, he practiced law in Seattle, serving public and private companies in corporate transactions and intellectual property and trade matters. Schalestock was also counsel to a member of Congress and played a key role in negotiating provisions of the Digital Millennium Copyright Act. He is the author of three law review articles on intellectual property and election law issues and has taught legislation and the legal process as an adjunct professor of law.

Schalestock is a graduate of the University of Washington and Seattle University School of Law. Before attending law school he worked for several years in banking and securities.

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