



# *News Release*

## **PRESS OFFICE**

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## ***Disaster Manager James Ryan Named One of Year's Top Executives by Federal Computer Week Magazine***

**WASHINGTON** – For his overall leadership and contributions to the development of SBA's Disaster Assistance electronic loan application, James M. Ryan has been honored as one of this year's top federal information technology professionals by Federal Computer Week magazine.

"The Federal 100" program recognizes 100 leaders in government and industry who have played pivotal roles in the federal information technology community. A panel of judges selected Ryan because of the difference he made in the way information technology was developed, acquired, managed and used to improve aspects of SBA's disaster assistance program. According to Federal Computer Week, 400 nominees were submitted this year.

As deputy director of SBA's Disaster Credit Management System (DCMS) operations center in Herndon, Va., Ryan was directly involved in creating a secure, user-friendly online disaster loan application. Since going live in August 2008, more than 62,000 homeowners, renters and businesses have registered for disaster assistance on the Web site. During the last six months, more than 42,000 disaster loan applications have been submitted, representing 29 percent of all applicants seeking disaster assistance during that time period.

"The SBA is proud of James Ryan's outstanding work on the development of SBA's electronic loan application," said Herbert Mitchell, associate administrator for SBA's Office of Disaster Assistance. "His ability to look at the big picture while focusing on details has provided disaster victims another option when applying for assistance. The electronic loan application would not have succeeded without Jim's extraordinary commitment."

Before becoming the DCMS deputy director in 2003, Ryan served for six years as the deputy director for field operations for SBA's disaster area office in Niagara Falls, N.Y. He was hired by the SBA's Niagara Falls disaster office as a loan officer in 1991. A former banker, Ryan has a master's degree in Economics from the University of Buffalo, and a bachelor's degree in Economics from St. Bonaventure University.

Ryan will receive the award during a black-tie gala March 25 at the Ritz-Carlton in McLean, Va. A background piece on his accomplishments will appear in the March 23 issue of Federal Computer Week.

The SBA makes low-interest loans to homeowners, renters and non-farm businesses and non-profit organizations of all sizes. For more information, visit the Web site at [www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance](http://www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance).

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