



**July 7, 2009**

**Dear Small Business Owner,**

The 27th National Annual Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Week conference is fast approaching. MED Week is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Commerce, Minority Business Development Agency, in collaboration with the U.S. Small Business Administration. MED Week is a celebration of the contributions made by minority enterprises and a chance to recognize and honor accomplished minority business owners and advocates throughout the country. This year's theme, ***Energizing the American Economy with Minority Business Enterprises***, recognizes the important role minority businesses will play in jump-starting the economy.

The 2009 National MED Week Conference will be held Aug. 26-28, 2009 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel, 2500 Calvert St., N.W., Washington, D.C.

Training is a vital component of MED Week. I invite you to participate in SBA's two **free** small business training activities Aug. 26th and 27th focusing on how small businesses can take advantage of government contracting opportunities and the benefits of participating in Mentor-Protégé programs. You must register to participate at [www.medweek.gov](http://www.medweek.gov).

**Aug. 26, 2009: 1:00 p.m. – 5:30 p.m.**

**Win Government Contracts for Your Small Business**

John DeGiacomo and Jim Kleckner, authors of *Win Government Contracts for Your Small Business*, will explain how to succeed in government contracting.

**Aug. 27, 2009: 2:15 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

**Strategic Alliances for Winning Government Business**

**SBA Mentor-Protégé Forum**

Learn how to develop strategic alliances, develop a successful mentor-protégé relationship and participate in a networking session.

SBA will also be providing one-on-one counseling sessions with Small Business Development Center Counselors (SBDC) on Friday August 28, 2009.

Thank you in advance for your participation and I look forward to seeing you at MED Week.

Joseph Loddo  
Associate Administrator  
Office of Business Development