



NEWS ADVISORY

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NASHVILLE HEARING OFFERS SMALL BUSINESS OWNERS OPPORTUNITY TO ADDRESS EXCESSIVE FEDERAL REGULATORY ENFORCEMENT

WHO:	SBA National Ombudsman Nicholas Owens, members of the Regional Regulatory Fairness Board for Region IV, and representatives of federal regulatory agencies will hear concerns, comments and complaints about federal regulatory enforcement and compliance. Small business owners, representatives of community organizations and trade associations, and community and business leaders are invited to testify about compliance and enforcement of regulations by federal agencies.
WHAT:	To create a more cooperative regulatory environment among federal agencies and small businesses, Congress has directed the SBA and the National Ombudsman to hold Regulatory Fairness hearings. Concerns and complaints aired at this hearing will be directed to the appropriate federal regulatory agency. Testimonies gathered at these hearings are also reported to Congress.
WHEN:	Wednesday, January 17, 2007 9:45 a.m. to Noon
WHERE:	BellSouth Building Economic Development Theatre 333 Commerce Street Nashville, TN 37201
MEDIA	National Ombudsman Nicholas Owens will be available on January 17 at noon for media interviews.

Anyone desiring confidentiality may request that his or her name not be released and may submit written testimony in lieu of a public appearance at the hearing.

Any small business concerned about excessive enforcement of federal regulations can contact their local SBA district office or the National Ombudsman at 888-REG-FAIR (888-734-3247) or go to the National Ombudsman Web site at www.sba.gov/ombudsman. **For more information on the January 17 Regulatory Fairness Hearing, contact Jose Mendez the SBA office in Washington, DC at (202) 205-6178.**

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