



Regulatory Fairness Forum for Small Business

February 5, 2008
San Francisco, CA

Small business owners will have an opportunity to discuss issues regarding Federal regulatory compliance and enforcement during this Forum.

Have you or a small business owner you know been unfairly fined or penalized by a Federal government agency, or is a Federal agency enforcement action imminent?

WHO: **SBA National Ombudsman Nicholas Owens**, members of the Region IX Regulatory Fairness Board and representatives of Federal regulatory agencies will hear issues and comments about Federal regulatory enforcement and compliance actions. Small business owners, representatives of trade associations and community and business leaders are invited to participate, comment about compliance and enforcement of regulations by Federal agencies and to learn more about the impact of federal regulations on small businesses.

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 forums across the nation. Issues addressed at this forum will be directed to the appropriate Federal regulatory agency for a higher-level review of fairness than that in the enforcement action. In many instances, the National Ombudsman's action has resulted in Federal agencies reducing or waiving penalties and/or compliance actions in cases of unfair or excessive regulatory enforcement.

WHERE: San Francisco Chamber of Commerce Board Room
235 Montgomery St., 12th Floor, San Francisco, CA 94104

WHEN: February 5, 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Small business owners may testify regarding federal regulatory actions taken against them during the forum by registering in advance. Please call Gary Marshall at (415) 744-6771 at the SBA's San Francisco District Office or send an e-mail to gary.marshall@sba.gov.

Testimony may be submitted in writing in advance or at the forum. 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 forum.

For additional information, visit the Office of the National Ombudsman's website at www.sba.gov/ombudsman, or call José Méndez at (202) 205-6178.



Make Your Voice Heard!

