



NEWS RELEASE

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National Small Business Ombudsman Reviews Excessive Federal Regulatory Enforcement

On Thursday, May 24, 2007, National Ombudsman, Nicholas Owens will be available to discuss concerns about enforcement of excessive and burdensome federal regulations at a Regulatory Fairness Board Roundtable at New Visions, New Ventures, Wytestone Building, 801 East Main Street, Second Floor Conference Room, Richmond, Virginia from 9:30 am to 11:00 am.

The informal forum offers small business owners and representatives from business and trade associations a chance to discuss openly, without fear of retaliation, their concerns about federal compliance practices in Region III.

The Office of the National Ombudsman was created by the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (SBREFA). The act established 10 Regulatory Fairness Boards and each board is comprised of five members, small business owners or operators from the region who volunteer their time to help small businesses cope with regulatory problems.

Information gathered from roundtables and hearings across the country will be shared with government officials in the ombudsman's annual report to Congress and with directors and managers of federal regulatory agencies to help them with their enforcement actions.

The Richmond roundtable is open to the public. However, those wishing to participate in the discussion should contact Peggy FaJohn, Public Information Officer at (804) 771-2400, ext. 126, or by email at margaret.fajohn@sba.gov or contact Ron Bew, District Director at (804) 771-2400, ext. 149 or by e-mail at ronald.bew@sba.gov prior to the meeting.

Comments and concerns about federal agency enforcement actions can be addressed directly to the Office of the National Ombudsman at 1-888-REGFAIR. For more information on the national ombudsman and this roundtable, visit the National Ombudsman's Web site at www.sba.gov/ombudsman.

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