



NEWS RELEASE

PRESS OFFICE

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SBA ANNOUNCES MICHAEL PAPPAS AS REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR IN REGION II

WASHINGTON – The U.S. Small Business Administration announced today the appointment of Michael Pappas as a regional administrator for the SBA, overseeing Region II, which includes New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

SBA Administrator Hector V. Barreto welcomed Pappas to the agency, saying: “We are very fortunate to have Michael on our team. His background in working in a family-owned business and his experience as a congressman serving on the House Small Business Committee will be a great asset to the New York region.”

Pappas added: “I am looking forward to this new challenge and opportunity. I am particularly eager to assist New York and our region’s small business community in their economic recovery following the tragic events of September 11th.”

Region II encompasses the states of New York and New Jersey, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. In fiscal year 2001, SBA Region II provided 5,932 small businesses with guaranteed loans worth \$1.1 billion dollars. The New York regional office oversees district offices in New York City, Buffalo and Syracuse, N.Y.; Newark, N.J.; Hato Rey, P.R., and three branch offices located in Elmira, Rochester and Melville, N.Y.

Before joining SBA, Pappas was the director of development for Pillar of Fire International, an educational and charitable association. There he established and managed all development and public information functions for its six branch/campuses within the United States and seven nations of Europe, Asia, Africa, South America and the Caribbean.

From 1997-1999, Pappas was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, serving as a member of the Small Business, National Security and Government Reform committees, and as an Assistant Minority Whip. Previously, Pappas was a member of the Somerset County Board of Chosen Freeholders, where he served for two years as its director of the board. For thirteen years prior, Pappas worked with his father at Pappas Insurance Agency, a family-owned business.

Pappas resides in Branchburg, N.J., with his wife Sage.

For more information about all of the SBA’s programs for small businesses, call the SBA Answer Desk at 1-800-U-ASK-SBA or TDD 704-344-6640. Also, visit the SBA’s extensive Web site at www.sba.gov.

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