

From the Office of Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz

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SBA SALUTES HARLAND HENRY **2003 Minority Small Business Advocate of the Year**

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Connecticut District Office announced Harland Henry of Middletown as the recipient of one of the SBA's most prestigious awards. Henry, Director of Community Outreach for Secretary of the State Susan Bysiewicz, has been named 2003 Minority Small Business Advocate of the Year.

“The SBA Minority Small Business Advocate Award honors the best small business has to offer and Harland Henry is an outstanding choice,” said SBA District Director Marie Record. “This is a testimonial, not only to his accomplishments, but to his commitment and dedication to small business success and community service.”

Upon joining the Secretary of the State's office in 1999 Henry created and designed the Small & Minority Business Showcase concept. This program gives small businesses in Connecticut the opportunity to network with lenders and government agencies as well as exhibit their products and services to a wide audience. Prior to working for the Secretary of the State, Henry had a career in business banking on Wall Street and with the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation

“The small business showcases, seminars, forums and workshops would not have been possible without Harland's commitment,” said Secretary Bysiewicz. “His tireless enthusiasm to assist and support the small business community has helped make the Secretary of the State's office an important resource for sustaining economic growth in Connecticut.”

The SBA will hold a celebration in the Spring honoring local recipients, and celebrating SBA's 50th anniversary culminating in a White House conference on Small Business in 2004.