



NEW MEXICO DISTRICT OFFICE

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The 2024 SBA New Mexico National Small Business Week Award Winners Are Announced

NEW MEXICO—Today, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) New Mexico District Office announces the 2024 SBA New Mexico Small Business Week award winners.

"We are incredibly proud to announce this year's New Mexico small business award winners. These exceptional individuals and businesses have demonstrated unparalleled dedication, innovation, and resilience, particularly in challenging times. Their contributions have significantly bolstered our local economy and their communities. This recognition is well-deserved, and we look forward to seeing their continued growth and success," states John Garcia, SBA New Mexico District Director.

National Small Business Week is **April 28–May 4, 2024**. The SBA encourages everyone to support their local small businesses during this time and throughout the year. For more information about Nation Small Business Week, visit www.sba.gov/nsbw.

New Mexico Award Winners

2024 New Mexico Small Business Person of the Year

Christopher J. Sweetin, Co-founder/CEO
Triskelion Group of New Mexico, Inc.
5643 Paradise Blvd NW, Albuquerque, NM 87114
505-322-2957
www.tgonm.com

Mr. Sweetin will represent New Mexico at the **SBA National Small Business Week Award Ceremony** in Washington, D.C. along with other U.S. state and territory Small Business Person of the Year winners. The **2024 SBA “National” Small Business Person of the Year** will be announced at the ceremony!

March 7, 2024, News Release 24-16: [Administrator Guzman Announces 2024 State Small Business Persons of the Year \(sba.gov\)](#)

2024 New Mexico Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Excellence and Innovation

Donald Bustos, Director
Briana Montano-Baca, Associate Director

[SBDC-Luna Community College \(Las Vegas, NM\)](#)

366 Luna Drive
Las Vegas, NM 87701
(505) 454-2582
www.nmsbdc.org/locations/las-vegas

2024 New Mexico Minority-Owned Small Business of the Year

Dr. Ndidiama Okpareke, PharmD RPh, Owner/President

[Olive Tree Compounding Pharmacy](#)

1920 Westside Blvd., Suite B
Rio Rancho, NM 87124
505-738-3328
olivetreecompounding.com

2024 New Mexico Veteran-Owned Small Business of the Year

William "Paul" Farless, President/CEO

[SDV Construction, Inc.](#)

8912 Adams St. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87113
505-883-3176
www.sdvconstruction.com

2024 New Mexico Women-Owned Small Business of the Year

Silvia Terrazas, Owner/President

[Paleteria La Reyna Michoacana, Inc. \(DBA La Reyna Michoacana\)](#)

870 E. Madrid Ave.
Las Cruces, NM 88001
575-524-7888
larenamichoacanam.com

2023 New Mexico Legacy Award

Ernie C' de Baca, President/CEO

[Albuquerque Hispano Chamber of Commerce \(AHCC\)](#)

1309 4th St SW, Albuquerque, NM 87102
505-842-9003
www.ahcnm.org

2024 New Mexico Community Lender

Jason Wyatt, President

[Western Commerce Bank](#)

P.O. Drawer 1358
Carlsbad, NM 88221
www.wcb.net

2024 New Mexico 7(a) Lender the Year

Jason Wyatt, President

[Western Commerce Bank](#)

P.O. Drawer 1358
Carlsbad, NM 88221
www.wcb.net

2024 New Mexico 504 Lender of the Year

Greg Leyendecker, President & CEO

[New Mexico Bank and Trust](#)

320 Gold Ave SW, Suite 100
Albuquerque, NM 87102
www.nmb-t.com

2024 New Mexico 504 Certified Development Company Lender of the Year

Thomas Braasch, Executive Director

[Capital Certified Development Corporation \(CDC\)](#)

1250 S. Capital of Texas Highway
Building 1, Suite 600
Austin, TX 78746
www.capitalcdc.com

2024 New Mexico 504 3rd-Party Lender of the Year

[Main Bank](#)

7300 Menaul Blvd. NE
Albuquerque, NM 87110
www.main.bank

Alan Shettlesworth, President & Chief Executive Officer

2024 New Mexico Microlender of the Year

Agnes Noonan, President

[WESST](#)

SBA New Mexico Small Business Awards Breakfast

New Mexico winners will be recognized on **Wednesday, May 1, 2024**, at the **SBA New Mexico Small Business Awards Breakfast** in-person event. Registration is open to the public. For details and to register, go to [2024 SBA NM Small Business Awards Breakfast Registration Page](#).

SBA Virtual Small Business Week Summit

The [U.S. Small Business Administration](#) (SBA) and [SCORE](#), mentors to America's small businesses and a resource partner of the SBA invite all small business owners and entrepreneurs to attend the free *National Small Business Week Virtual Summit* from April 30-May 1. Attendance is free of charge, but registration is required. To register, visit [National Small Business Week Virtual Summit registration](#).

This year's NSBW Virtual Summit will feature educational workshops presented by event cosponsors, access to federal resources, and networking opportunities. A detailed agenda and list of cosponsor speakers will be published at a later date.

"SCORE is proud to co-host the National Small Business Week virtual summit with the SBA," said [SCORE](#) CEO Bridget Weston. "At SCORE, we believe that anyone can succeed in their business journey, given the right tools and support. Every year, we look forward to this event and the opportunity to connect entrepreneurs with helpful, educational tools and resources from the experts themselves."

For more information about National Small Business Week, visit www.sba.gov/NSBW.

Co-sponsorship Authorization # 24-1-C. SBA's participation in this Cosponsored Activity is not an endorsement of the views, opinions, products or services of any Cosponsor or other person or entity. All SBA programs and services are extended to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis.

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About National Small Business Week

For 60 years, the President of the United States has issued a proclamation announcing National Small Business Week, which recognizes the critical contributions of America's entrepreneurs and small business owners. More than half of Americans either own or work for a small business, and they create about two out of every three new jobs in the U.S. each year. As part of National Small Business Week, the U.S. Small Business Administration takes the opportunity to highlight the impact of outstanding entrepreneurs, small business owners, and others from all 50 states and U.S. territories. Every day, they're working to grow small businesses, create 21st-century jobs, drive innovation, and increase America's global competitiveness. To learn more, visit www.sba.gov/nsbw.

About the U.S. Small Business Administration

The U.S. Small Business Administration makes the American dream of business ownership a reality. As the only go-to resource and voice for small businesses backed by the strength of the federal government, the SBA empowers entrepreneurs and small business owners with the resources and

support they need to start, grow or expand their businesses, or recover from a declared disaster. It delivers services through an extensive network of SBA field offices and partnerships with public and private organizations. To learn more, visit www.sba.gov.