

## Press Releases

### **Governor Rendell Honors Best 50 Women in Business; Says Recipients Play Vital Role in Pennsylvania's Economic Growth**

May 22, 2007

HARRISBURG – Governor Edward G. Rendell today recognized 50 of Pennsylvania’s finest women business leaders who, he said, are dedicated to making Pennsylvania a better place to live, work and play.

The 12th annual Best 50 Women in Business awards event recognizes the vital impact women business owners and leaders have in creating jobs and building strong communities in every region of the state.

“The Best 50 Women in Business recipients are among the millions of hard-working Pennsylvanians who have dedicated themselves to improving their companies and our state’s economy,” Governor Rendell said. “Their hard work is not only benefiting the commonwealth now, but it is also helping to lay the foundation to keep our state growing for many generations to come.

“As key leaders and decision makers in our communities, these women have built thriving businesses and they have created jobs for our hardworking men and women,” he said. “They are to be applauded for helping put Pennsylvania on the road to enduring progress.”

Since Governor Rendell took office in 2003, the state has successfully increased opportunities for Pennsylvania businesses, creating programs to provide the resources they need to grow and be competitive in the ever-changing economy. The Department of Community and Economic Development has allocated more than \$2 billion dollars for nearly 2,000 projects that, eventually, will bring more than 219,000 jobs to the commonwealth.

“We’ve made enormous leaps in our economy and have accomplished record-setting marks in job creation over the past four years,” Governor Rendell said. “Nearly 124,000 new companies have been formed statewide and the number of people working is up 199,000 from 2003.”

During the annual ceremony at Whitaker Center in Harrisburg, awards were presented by DCED Deputy Secretary Rebecca Bagley, who spoke about the Governor’s initiatives that continue to provide capital and resources to women- and minority-owned businesses.

“Though we’ve seen a nearly five-fold increase in the amount of state contracts awarded to minority and women business enterprises and we’ve significantly increased the funding to minority businesses since 2003, we’re not going to stop there,” Bagley said. “Over the next four years, we intend to expand our aggressive outreach to link minority- and women-owned businesses to state contracting opportunities. And, in addition to the many types of assistance offered through DCED, we are looking for alternative sources of funding for our minority and women business owners.”

Award recipients were chosen by an independent panel of judges based on their dedication to business growth, professional and personal accomplishments, community involvement and advocacy for women in business.

For more information on ways to fund business and community development in Pennsylvania, visit [www.newpa.com](http://www.newpa.com), or call 1-866-GoNewPA (1-866-466-3972).

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The Rendell administration is committed to creating a first-rate public education system, protecting our most vulnerable citizens and continuing economic investment to support our communities and businesses. To find out more about Governor Rendell's initiatives and to sign up for his weekly newsletter, visit his Web site at: [www.governor.state.pa.us](http://www.governor.state.pa.us).

EDITOR'S NOTE: A list of the 2007 award winners follows.

#### Allegheny County

Nancy L. Bromall, shareholder  
Schneider Downs & Co. Inc.  
Pittsburgh

Oditza Carasco, founder, president/CEO  
1st Vanguard Mortgage Company  
Pittsburgh

Joan Ellenbogen, managing partner  
Crawford Ellenbogen LLC  
Pittsburgh

Sheri L. Stoltenberg, president and owner  
Stoltenberg Consulting Inc.  
Bethel Park

#### Berks County

Paula K. Barrett, partner  
Reinsel Kuntz Leshner  
Wyomissing

#### Bucks County

Regina A. Danko, president and owner  
Tri-Ark Industries Inc.  
Warminster

Karen J. Lauro, president and owner  
The Philadelphia Business Works  
Bensalem

Cynthia Matossian, comprehensive ophthalmologist  
Matossian Eye Associates  
Doylestown

Chester County

Barbara H. Deptula, executive vice president  
Shire Pharmaceuticals  
Wayne

Clearfield County

Aerial Fullington-Weisman, president and CEO  
Fullington Trailways Auto Bus Co.  
Clearfield

Cumberland County

Anne Deeter Gallaher, owner and president  
Anne Deeter Gallaher Marketing  
Camp Hill

Holly O'Connor, owner  
One Good Woman Gifts & Gourmet  
Camp Hill

Dawn Shugart, broker/owner  
Dawn and Associates Realty  
Carlisle

Judith A. Walter, co-owner and CFO  
Zimmerman's Automotive Service Inc.  
Mechanicsburg

Debra Lynne Yates, owner and administrator  
Skin Rejuvenation & Laser Center  
Camp Hill

Dauphin County

Patricia A. Husic, president and CEO  
Centric Bank  
Harrisburg

Cynthia A. Sudor, president and owner  
Cynthia A. Sudor Enterprises  
Grantville

Karen Young, president  
HR Resolutions LLC  
Linglestown

Delaware County

Gerianne DiPiano, founder, president and CEO  
FemmePharma Global Healthcare  
Wayne

Pamela Godwin, president  
Change Partners Inc.  
Havertown

Erie County

Diana L. Schaney, partner  
McGill Power Bell and Associates LLP  
Erie

Indiana County

Elizabeth M. Gregg, president and CEO  
Environmental Service Laboratories  
Indiana

Gladys Wright-Knox, president and CEO  
Wright-Knox Motor Lines Inc.  
Armagh

Lancaster County

Aimee Urban, general manager  
Adecco, The Employment People  
Lancaster

Lackawanna County

Amy Clegg, president and owner  
Early Staffing Service Inc.  
Scranton

Luzerne County

Mary Erwine, president  
Erwine Home Health & Hospice Inc.  
Luzerne

Montgomery County

Donna M. Fluehr, owner, president and CEO  
Tot-Time Child Development Centers Inc.  
Plymouth

Valerie K. Ginyard, president and CEO  
VKG Associates Inc.  
Glenside

Catherine T. Hunt, leader  
Rohm and Haas Company  
Spring House

Ellen E. Thompson, founder and CEO  
4 Walls LLC  
Narberth

Claudia Timbo, president  
Corporate Call Center LLC  
Blue Bell

Elaine P. Whelan, president  
Mainstreet Systems & Software Inc.  
Souderton

Northampton County

Sally M. Handlon, president  
Handlon Business Resources LLC  
Bethlehem

Gale Schmidt Hodavance, principal  
Jangle Advertising and Marketing  
Nazareth

Andrea Wittchen, controller and partner  
Enterprise Systems Partners Inc.  
Bethlehem

Philadelphia County

Janet Binswanger, executive vice president  
Culinary Concepts Inc.  
Philadelphia

Colleen Costello, principal  
Langan Engineering & Environmental  
Philadelphia

Kelly P. Finch, executive vice president  
The PNC Financial Services Group  
Philadelphia

Judith A. McFadden, owner and CEO  
The Dental Health Center  
Philadelphia

Norma Romero-Mitchell, president and CEO  
Benefits Plus Consulting Group Inc.  
Philadelphia

Melonease Shaw, president and CEO  
Maven, Inc.  
Philadelphia

Dana Spain-Smith, CEO  
DLG Media Holdings LLC  
Philadelphia

Judith M. Von Seldeneck, chairwoman and CEO  
Diversified Search Ray & Berndtson  
Philadelphia

Snyder County

Cynthia Romig, owner and president  
C. Gee Inc.  
Shamokin Dam

Westmoreland County

Michele G. Bononi, founding partner  
Bononi & Bononi Inc.  
Greensburg

Caroline O'Connor, owner and founder  
Superior Learning Center  
Irwin

York County

Susan Bailey Heinle, president and owner  
Visiting Angels

York

Sharon A. Dorn, president  
Clear Creek Consulting LLC  
Felton

Jennifer Geesey, president  
Central Penn Benefits Inc.  
York

Ann M. Stacey, director  
Buchart Horn Inc. / BASCO Assoc.  
York

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