

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Nevada GOED Department Director Honored with the 2019 Small Business Administration Statewide Entrepreneurial Spirit Team Award

LAS VEGAS – A Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED) department director was honored with the 2019 statewide Entrepreneurial Spirit Team Award from the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA).

Joan C. Rueben, director of GOED's Nevada Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC), was recognized by the SBA's Nevada District office for her and the staff's ongoing assistance to small businesses throughout the state.

"I am proud of all of GOED's hardworking men and women whose daily goal is to help small businesses thrive and grow in Nevada," Gov. Steve Sisolak said. "The work of PTAC makes sure that our small businesses are competitive when applying for federal, state and local government contracts, which helps Nevada's economy grow. Congratulations to Joan and to everyone at GOED."

Nevada PTAC simplifies the process of competing for government contracts for small businesses by cutting through the red tape and connecting businesses with lucrative opportunities through events, education, proposal review and other document-related assistance. So far in the current fiscal year, 1,353 PTAC clients have been awarded more than \$127 million in government contracts.

"I see how much Joan and her staff at GOED's PTAC care about Nevada's small businesses. The work they do every day turns into government contracts awarded to Nevada small businesses," said GOED Interim Executive Director Kris Sanchez. "Small businesses are the backbone of Nevada's economy and GOED's PTAC will continue to provide assistance, so they will flourish."

SBA officials said Rueben and her staff continue to assist small businesses through seminars, workshops and webinars, designed to give small business owners the information they need to compete for federal, state and local government contracts.

"We are proud of our partners at the Nevada Governor's Office of Economic Development for all they do to make sure small businesses have the chance to succeed," said Joseph Amato, District Director for

the SBA's Nevada District Office. "Joan and the PTAC staff truly are advocates for Nevada's small businesses."

Rueben and the other winners will be recognized at the Westgate Resort on May 10 in Las Vegas during National Small Business Week, SBA's annual celebration of entrepreneurship and innovation.

For more information or to attend the 2019 SBA Small Business Awards Gala, visit [SBA.gov](https://www.sba.gov).

For more information about GOED's Nevada PTAC, visit [diversifynevada.com](https://www.diversifynevada.com).

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About the Governor's Office of Economic Development

Created during the 2011 session of the Nevada Legislature, the [Governor's Office of Economic Development](https://www.governor.gov/economic-development) is the result of a collaborative effort between the Nevada Legislature and the Governor's Office to restructure economic development in the state. GOED's role is to promote a robust, diversified and prosperous economy in Nevada, to stimulate business expansion and retention, encourage entrepreneurial enterprise, attract new businesses and facilitate community development. More information on the Governor's Office of Economic Development can be viewed at [diversifynevada.com](https://www.diversifynevada.com).