



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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WBD Senior Lender Jason Monnett Receives SBA Honor

Milwaukee - In front of nearly 500 small business supporters at the Annual Small Business Administration's (SBA) Awards Breakfast, Jason Monnett was honored as the 2017 SBA Financial Services Champion.

This award is given to those who have displayed a tireless commitment, above and beyond their normal duties, to help small business with access to capital, advocate for changes in the financial industry to assist small businesses and help direct resources to small firms.

Jason Monnett is the Senior Vice President & Senior Loan Officer for WBD (formerly Wisconsin Business Development). Jason works with commercial lenders in to provide access to the Small Business Administration's 504 loan program, which offers businesses long-term fixed rate financing for real estate and equipment projects.

Jason holds a Bachelor's of Science degree in Economics, Political Science and Secondary Education from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He is also graduate of the Wisconsin Bankers Association Commercial Lending School and the Graduate School of Banking at UW-Madison.

Jason's extensive professional experience, training and network have made him a valuable resource for small businesses and economic development well beyond his official duties. He has been a active in local, state and national efforts focused on economic development strategies and the vision for a healthy local business community including:

- Past President of the Oshkosh Area Economic Development Corporation
- Member of the Board of Directors of the Wisconsin Economic Development Association
- Oshkosh Chamber's Business Advisory Council
- Oshkosh Chamber's Revolving Loan Fund Committee, he works directly with many small businesses in the development and evaluation of their plans as they seek access to capital.
- A Credit Risk Institute Trainer for NADCO, the National 504 trade organization, where he helps establish best practices in the industry
- Respected presenter at the Wisconsin Lenders Conference where he educates and updates hundreds of Wisconsin lenders on the benefits of utilizing SBA and other programs targeted to assist small businesses

When it comes to helping get capital into the hands of deserving small businesses, Jason not only helps educate and promote this mindset, but has a long track record of delivering results. Since 2002, he has worked with over 50 different Wisconsin Lending Institutions to originate nearly 400 SBA 504 program loans. Each of these loans went to small business, that without this program, would have been unable to access financing through conventional means. These efforts have helped to create jobs for thousands of people working in a wide variety of industries.

Jason's talents have elevated him to Senior Loan Officer where he now oversees the WBD Business Development Team, who collectively originated more than \$100 Million in 504 financing on projects, leveraging nearly \$300 Million in investments in small business in Fiscal Year 2016. Under his guidance Wisconsin Business Development was the 8th most active Certified Development Company of the 238 in the United States.

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Attached: Photo of Jason with SBA Regional Director Eric Ness