



A Note from Thaddeus Hammond, SBA



We are thrilled to feature **Thaddeus Hammond, our District Office Technical Representative from the U.S. SBA North Florida District office.** The SBA's office of Women's Business Ownership oversees the WBC (Women's Business Center) network across the country.

Here, Thaddeus talks about the collaboration between JWBC and the SBA:

The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is undergoing a “**re-branding**” effort and is centered on, “The SBA Reimagined.” The connective design element in our logo communicates that the SBA connects customers with the appropriate resources to help them start, grow, expand and recover, while the centered “B” reflects our customer-centric focus and the upward arrow-A-is a strong symbol for progress, growth and forward motion. The JWBC embodies what the new SBA Logo represents.

In October of 2017, the North Florida District Office's (NFDO) District Director, Wilfredo “Willie” Gonzalez, tapped me to become the Jacksonville Women's Business Center's District Office Technical Representative (JWBC DOTR). **The goal was simple - be an advocate, a trusted partner and use imagination while collaborating with the JWBC.** Just prior to my transition from the government contracting division to the economic development division, Ellen Sullivan was stepping into her new role as JWBC Director.

I am humbled and honored to work with the JWBC team and its imaginative and forward-thinking Director, Ellen Sullivan. Her goal is to make the JWBC a world class model for wbc's and at the rate she is going, it will get there soon. The JWBC has introduced online curriculum using instructional design principles and now offers an Entrepreneurial Certificate for completing the Venture Leadership, Financial Matters, Marketing Matters and Customer Development programs. **Becoming a World Class WBC means using tools and technology as well as collaborating with resource partners, partner agencies and sponsors.**

Our collaborations have yielded positive results thus far - the NFDO and JWBC conduct a quarterly workshop series called the JWBC & SBA Business Roundtable, for women-owned small businesses. On May 8, we welcomed over 175 government and industry attendees to our 2nd Annual Small Business Summit where we focused on tools, trends and technologies currently being used to spur small business growth.

Albert Einstein once said, “The measure of intelligence is the ability to change, imagination is more important than knowledge. For knowledge is limited to all we know and understand, while imagination embraces the entire world, and all there ever will be to know and understand.”

Ellen Sullivan and the JWBC team reflect that limitless imagination with their new initiatives, while continuing to move forward within their ever-changing environment.



Thaddeus Hammond
Economic Development Specialist, WBC District Office Technical Representative



A Success Story

How often do we as entrepreneurs have the question, “I want to start my own business, but I don’t know where to start”? This was the case for **Printella Bankhead**, who was working two jobs and was not satisfied with barely making it. She found herself saying, “There has to be a better way to make a living.”

Printella is currently enrolled in the ATHENA Powerlink program. She attributes much of her success to JWBC and has won several awards including the Better Business Bureau 2017 Torch Award for Business Ethics, the Better Business Bureau Honorary Mention 2016, SBA’s Minority Business Person of the Year 2015 and the Best of Jacksonville Security Award 2014-2015. Printella’s company, EBS Security, opened in 2002 with limited resources and only one client. Today, it has grown to include a portfolio of public and private sector clients.

Continue reading her story [here](#)



JWBC & SBA 2nd Annual Small Business Summit, A Rousing Success!

The Jacksonville Women's Business Center and the U.S. SBA North Florida District Office's 2nd Annual Small Business Summit was a rousing success! Held at the SBA's office on May 8, government, industry and SBA staff collaborated for specialty training, panel discussions, networking and supplier diversity exchanges. Attendees made new connections, gained a plethora of knowledge and enjoyed lunch sponsored by Firehouse Subs.

To view photos from the event, kindly visit our Facebook page [here](#).

Upcoming Programs & Events



Marketing Matters

In Marketing Matters, the JWBC offers a variety of workshops and events aimed at enriching the education of the business owner with modern, implementable tools.

The topics of brand development, marketing strategy, public relations, website development, social media, and much more are covered as participants are guided through the development of an immediately executable marketing plan unique to their projected business goals.

This is a six-session program.

- Program dates: May 24 and June 7, 14, 21, 28 and July 11
- Time: 9 a.m. - noon
- Location: BBVA Compass Room, JAX Chamber
- Cost: \$200

To register and pay online, click [here](#).

To learn more, contact Kathy Bolesworth at 904-366-6633 or kathy.bolesworth@myjaxchamber.com



Encouraging Leadership, Community, Success

WBO News

The Women Business Owners of Northeast Florida's mission is to inspire women business owners to grow through networking, education, and support. With monthly lunch and dinner meetings, they are several ways to connect.

Visit their website at www.jaxwbo.org.



Sponsor Spotlight

We would like to take this opportunity to thank **Bank of America** for their ongoing support of JWBC's mission to expand entrepreneurial and economic development for women in Northeast Florida.

Be sure to follow us on [Facebook](#) and tag us on Twitter with the hashtag #jaxwbc



STAY CONNECTED



For more information, please contact the Jacksonville Women's Business Center at
(904) 366-6600 ext. 7795 or jwbc@myjaxchamber.com