



# News Release

San Francisco District Office

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## SBA Announces 2010 Small Business Week Gala in San Jose

**SAN JOSE** - The U.S. Small Business Administration, the San Jose Redevelopment Agency, and Wells Fargo will host a networking gala the evening of May 3 in the San Jose City Hall as a highlight of SBA's national Small Business Week and to celebrate the grand opening of the San Jose Innovation Center and Entrepreneur Center.

Attendance is free, but registration is requested. To sign up, visit <http://www.acteva.com/booking.cfm?bevalID=201979>

“This will be a great chance for businesses to get together and make contacts, discover new resources and introduce their company to the rest of the Silicon Valley entrepreneur community. Networking like this can result in business leads and connections that are really valuable,” said Mark Quinn, SBA's San Francisco District Director.

The event will also be highlighted by SBA presenting their **Minority Business Advocate of the Year** to Denise Coley, Director, Global Supplier Diversity Business Development, for Cisco Systems, Inc.

As director of Global Supplier Diversity Business Development, Coley drives the company's supplier diversity initiative by developing relationships with diverse suppliers and Cisco. The mission of the program is to increase customer satisfaction and enhance sourcing through global supplier diversification. Since Coley started the Cisco Supplier Diversity program nine years ago, the program has gone global successfully in Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom, China, India and South Africa. Denise initiated an executive mentoring program that allows CEO's of diverse businesses to partner with functional business units executives.

Coley serves as a member of the Board of Directors on the National Minority Supplier Development Council, the Rocky Mountain Minority Supplier Development Council, and the Supplier Diversity Council of the Conference Board. Coley also served on the Northern California Supplier Development Council as a member of the Board of Directors for more than 10 years.

Coley was also a major force in developing and presenting Collaboration with the SBA and corporate members to sponsor the UCLA MDE Academy at the San Jose SBA Entrepreneur Center. The Academy has been a joint effort since 2005 between Cisco, the UCLA MBA program, and SBA to help train executives to develop their management skills.

“Denise's support has made a lot of our work in the Bay Area more effective and allowed us to reach out to minority owned businesses in ways we wouldn't have been able to without her,” said Mark Quinn, SBA's San Francisco District Office District Director.

San Jose City Hall  
200 East Santa Clara Street, San Jose  
Monday, May 3  
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

Register at <http://www.acteva.com//booking.cfm?bevalID=201979>

For more information, please contact, Gary Marshall, SBA Business Development Specialist, (415) 744 6771, [gary.marshall@sba.gov](mailto:gary.marshall@sba.gov)

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