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Small Business California
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LOCAL EXECUTIVE RECEIVES SMALL BUSINESS HONORS

July 29, 2008 - Walnut Creek, CA Small Business California, an advocacy organization that promotes the well being of California small businesses, has named Jim Baird, CEO of Bay Area Development Company, one of just eight “Small Business Heroes”. Other awardees included Steve Poizner, California Insurance Commissioner; John Duncan, California Department of Industrial Relations; Christine Baker and Lach Taylor, Commission on Health Safety and Workers’ Compensation; Lynn Jimenez, KGO Radio; John Wilcox and Jim Pimental, of the San Francisco Examiner.

Bay Area Development, headquartered in Walnut Creek, is an SBA licensed lender that works with banks and the SBA’s 504 program to provide small and mid-sized companies with long-term commercial real estate financing. The loans have fixed, below-market interest rates and low down payments which allow businesses to purchase land and buildings, renovate existing facilities and acquire equipment. Baird says, “There’s really nothing “small” about small businesses because they are a tremendous force in our state and nation’s economy. SBA loans give them access to the financial resources they need to grow, which helps them create jobs and strengthen our community. I’m so pleased to play a small part in our clients’ success because it truly benefits all of us.”

Small Business California’s President, Scott Hague, says Baird was named among its heroes for “taking extraordinary steps to help nurture small businesses so they can succeed.” To date, Bay Area Development has provided over 1,450 Northern California companies with over \$2.5 billion in project financing, which has helped created more than 14,000 new jobs. Baird’s work on behalf of small businesses extends beyond the state, as he serves as Director and Vice-Chair of Legislative Affairs for NADCO, the national 504 trade association. He is also involved with numerous local community organizations, including Bay Area Leadership Foundation, Children’s Hospital of Oakland, and East Bay Small Business Development Center.

About Bay Area Development Company

Founded in 1981, Bay Area Development Company is a California corporation licensed by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) as a Certified Development Company (CDC) and 504 lender. With offices in Walnut Creek, San Jose and Fresno, Bay Area Development Company ranks in the top 15 of over 260 SBA 504 lenders nationwide.
www.bayarea504.com

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