

# Louisiana Small Business Owner Honored

By SBA Press Office

WASHINGTON—Administrator Isabel Casillas Guzman, head of the United States Small Business Administration (SBA) and the voice in President Biden's cabinet for America's more than thirty-three million small businesses, named Iam C. Tucker of Integrated Logistical Support, Inc. (ILSI) in Louisiana as the National Small Business Person of the Year for 2024 at the National Small Business Week (NSBW) awards ceremony in Washington, DC.

This prestigious award, which recognizes entrepreneurs who demonstrate exceptional leadership and create sustainable, thriving businesses in their communities, has been a cornerstone of SBA's annual NSBW celebrations for more than sixty years. During NSBW 2024, the SBA honored business owners, lending partners, and advocates who power our nation's economy as we build on the Small Business Boom the country is experiencing under the Biden-Harris Administration.

"The SBA is proud to recognize 2024 National Small Business Person of the Year Iam C. Tucker, who exemplifies grit, ingenuity, and determination that define our nation's entrepreneurs," said Administrator Guzman. "As a second-generation owner of ILSI, Iam has overseen tremendous business growth over the last fifteen years in the engineering field while demonstrating the value of hard work and resourcefulness in ensuring continued resilience. I am honored that the SBA has been part of her successful and ongoing journey."

At the awards ceremony, Administrator Guzman also announced the National Runner-Up for Small Business Person of the Year: Heather McDowell of Seattle Green Earth Cleaning, an eco-friendly, socially responsible company created to improve the lives of clients, employees, and the community.

"Since starting her home-based business over ten years ago, Heather has experienced remarkable growth in sales and number of employees—a testament to her success in leveraging vital resources to scale and fill market needs," said Administrator Guzman. "I am honored to recognize Heather's



Iam Christian Tucker

impact on the economy, her employees, and her community as she delivers sustainable solutions to help protect the environment."

At the awards ceremony, Administrator Guzman also recognized all state and territory

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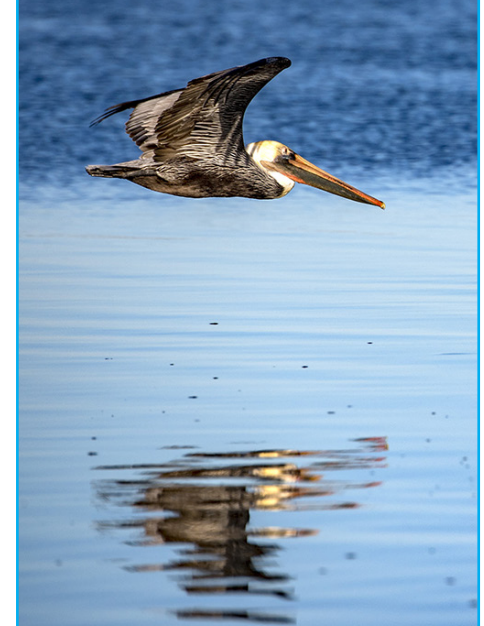
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**SOUTHEAST EVENTS FOR YOUR BUSINESS**

**2024**

**8(a) Orientation and SAM Registration Webinar**  
Wednesday, May 15, 2024, 9:30 am–10:30 am CDT Online  
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration  
Contact: SBA Illinois District Office, 312-353-4528, [illinois.do@sba.gov](mailto:illinois.do@sba.gov)  
Fee: Free; registration required  
Join the Small Business Administration (SBA) Illinois District Office for a virtual workshop providing an overview of the 8(a) Business Development program, eligibility requirements, and program benefits. Also learn how to increase your potential for federal contract opportunities through System for Award Management (SAM) registration, including information that you need for the registration process. SBA presenters will offer additional tips, address FAQs, give directions on where to get further assistance, and answer your other questions. To register for this free webinar, visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/8a-orientation-sam-registration-tickets-518989961947>

**Federal Contracting: Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) Program Webinar**  
Thursday, May 16, 2024, 9:00 am–10:00 am CDT Online  
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration  
Contact: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/welcome-to-wosb-webinar-tickets-482397041537>  
Fee: Free; registration required  
Welcome to the WOSB webinar series! Are you a woman owner of a small business? The federal government's goal is to award at least five percent of all federal contracting dollars to woman-owned small businesses each year. Join us for training on how to register for SBA's Woman-Owned Small Business (WOSB) program, which helps eligible small businesses to qualify for federal contracting opportunities. The monthly sessions will include an overview of the self-certification process, as well as a discussion of the NAICS codes that qualify as WOSB or EDWOSB. Register for this free webinar at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/welcome-to-wosb-webinar-tickets-482397041537>

**Selling to the Federal Government Webinar**  
Thursday, May 23, 2024, 12:00 pm–3:00 pm CDT Online  
Main Sponsor(s): US Small Business Administration  
Contact: George Tapia, 610-382-3086, [george.tapia@sba.gov](mailto:george.tapia@sba.gov)  
Fee: Free; registration required  
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