

Second Quarter 2021 | Volume 10, Number 2

Hawai'i Small Business Development Center O'ahu Center Newsletter



SWEET THOUGHTS FROM A CHOCOLATIER

Erin Kanno Uehara thought it was the end of her business when COVID-19 forced her to temporarily shut down Choco le'a, her artisanal chocolate shop in Manoa.

With most of her energy exhausted as a full-time mom and teacher to two youngsters, Uehara still found a way to re-open as an online business and started journaling every week about how her Christian faith fueled her to meet each challenge.

Aloha Andra,

Welcome to the new look HISBDC O'ahu Center newsletter. The O'ahu SBDC is hiring to fill the open Center Director position. Ideal candidates will have experience in small business, financial management, team management, business funding and client-facing skills. The application period closes May 11, 2021. Scroll down to the full position requirements and application process here:



<http://go.hawaii.edu/LoP>

We hope you find this issue valuable and as always, please contact me with your thoughts.

Joseph Burns
Associate State Director

[COVID-19 Federal Resources](#)

Free Seminar

Commercial Lease Tenant Issues and COVID-19

In the face of the worldwide pandemic and resultant loss of business revenue, standard commercial lease practices and principles have fundamentally shifted in ways that rarely favor tenants. The Commercial Lease Tenant



It's all chronicled in her self-published book, "Bringing Peace to Our World, One Chocolate Story at a Time," which includes 20 heartfelt reflections on living her best life in the middle of a crisis. The "lessons learned" in each entry are meant for moms as well as small-business owners.

The 540-page paperback was released March 16, 2021 to mark the one-year anniversary of the COVID-19 shutdown and can be ordered for \$20.99 at www.chocolea.com.

Limited shopping is also available online, with curbside pickup on Saturdays and walk-up pick up on Fridays for those ordering chocolates from the shop, located at 2909 Lowrey Ave. Call (808) 371-2234.



Contact Us

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[Business Events Calendar](#)

info@hisbdc.org

(808) 945-1430

"Drive the Economic

Issues and COVID-19 seminar will focus on common issues faced by Hawai'i commercial tenants and offer suggestions and solutions. What steps may a commercial tenant take when faced with an uncompromising landlord and one-sided, often draconian lease terms in the time of COVID-19 and beyond? What tools and/or defenses may a commercial tenant use to negotiate more favorable terms or a release?

Presented by Stephanie E.W. Thompson, Esq. Ms. Thompson has helped numerous commercial tenants thoroughly understand their lease agreements, identifying opportunities to improve their position when disputes arise. Ms. Thompson is a Director at Starn O'Toole Marcus & Fisher LP, a Hawai'i based real estate and business law and commercial litigation firm.

Join us on May 20th, 2021 at 10:00 AM-11:30 AM via Zoom

[Register](#)

Grow Your Business With Government Contracting

Register your business on the HUD Business Registry for contracts receiving U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD) funding. The HUD Business Registry is a searchable online database of self-certified Section 3 businesses. It is used by agencies, developers, contractors, and others that receive HUD funds to locate Section 3 Businesses for certain HUD-funded projects.



A Section 3 Business meets at least **one** of the following criteria (documented within the last 6-month period):

- 51% or more owned or controlled by low- or very low-income individuals
- 75% of labor hours performed for the business over the prior 3-month period are performed by low- and very low-income persons
- 51% or more owned and controlled by current public housing or residents who currently live in Section 8-assisted housing

To self-certify as a Section 3 Business register at HUD's Business Registry:

[Info and Registration](#)

Calendar

[May 11, 2021: How to Start a Business in](#)

Sustainability of Hawai'i by
Assisting Businesses to Form,
Grow and Thrive"



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[May 13, 2021: SBA Informational Meeting on Restaurant Revitalization Fund \(RRF\) Grant](#)

[May 17, 2021: HIPTAC Increasing Competitiveness in the Government Marketplace](#)

In the News

[8 Truths About Securing Business Financing](#)

[SBA Export Loans Help Bring Jobs Back Home](#)

[How to Professionally Fire a Problem Client](#)

IN THE
NEWS

Quote of the Quarter

"It takes 20 years to build a reputation and five minutes to ruin it. If you think about that, you'll do things differently."

-Warren Buffet



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