



Office of the National Ombudsman

Regulatory Fairness Hearing Thursday, July 31, 2014 | Cupertino, CA

A forum for members of the small business community to present testimony on federal regulations impacting small businesses.

National Ombudsman Brian Castro will convene a regional hearing to hear testimony from small business owners, representatives of trade associations, and other members of the small business community regarding federal regulations and enforcement and compliance actions impacting America's small businesses.

SBA Office of Advocacy Region IX Advocate Yvonne Lee will participate.

The National Ombudsman convenes regulatory fairness hearings and roundtables across the country to give small business owners a means to comment on unfair enforcement actions, government audits, and excessive fines or regulations. It is anticipated that during this hearing small business stakeholders will testify on a number of wide-ranging issues. For example, small food and grocery manufacturers, food importers and customs brokers are expected to testify on compliance issues related to recent regulations issued by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration under the Food Safety and Modernization Act. Issues reported by participants undergo a high-level fairness review at the appropriate federal agency, and the Office of the National Ombudsman works with its federal agency partners to address those concerns, reduce regulatory burdens, and help small businesses grow.

**WHERE: Cupertino Community Hall
 10350 Torre Avenue
 Cupertino, CA 95014**

**WHEN: Thursday, July 31, 2014
 8:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. – Registration
 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. – Hearing**

Members of the small business community, trade organizations and media are encouraged to attend. RSVPs should be made to Yvonne Lee, SBA Regional Advocate at (415) 744-8493 or by email at yvonne.lee@sba.gov by July 24, 2014. Those wishing to testify must register and provide written statements in advance. Anyone desiring confidentiality may request that his or her name not be released and may submit written testimony in lieu of a public appearance at the hearing. Those wishing to put testimony on the record on a confidential basis may do so by offering it in writing in advance.

For additional information about the Office of the National Ombudsman, visit our website at www.sba.gov/ombudsman.

The SBA's programs and services are provided to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. Reasonable arrangements for persons with disabilities will be made when requested 1 week in advance. Contact: jose.mendez@sba.gov or call (202) 205-6178.