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PRESS RELEASE

Release Date: July 2, 2002
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Congressman Allen Boyd Receives FSBDC Network's Small Business Dividend\$ Award



Pensacola, FL – Today, at the Florida Small Business Development Center Network's Second Annual Congressman Allen Boyd Small Business Conference, Assistant State Director Katherine Hoelscher, on behalf of State Director Jerry Cartwright, presented the Network's *Small Business Dividend\$ Award* to Congressman Boyd for his lifelong support of small business.

Currently, Boyd serves on the powerful Appropriations Committee where he continues to be an outspoken advocate for championing small business. As a farmer and business-owner, Boyd has first-hand knowledge of the problems that small businesses face in today's economy. He has earned endorsements through the years from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the fiscal watchdog group, the Concord Coalition, for standing behind the belief that government must provide the means for businesses to succeed in order to stimulate economic growth.

He represents Florida's Second Congressional District that spans 19 counties, from Panama City, through Tallahassee, almost reaching Jacksonville. He was first sworn into office as a Democratic member of the 105th Congress in January 1997. From 1989 until his election to Congress, Boyd served in the Florida House of Representatives.

Says State Director Jerry Cartwright, "Legislators who are responsive and take the initiative to support statewide business issues that make Florida an excellent place to start and grow a business deserve our recognition and support."

The conference was sponsored by the Gulf Coast Community College (GCCC) Small Business Development Center, a member of the FSBDC Network, and held at the GCCC's Life Long Learning Conference Center, in Panama City. More than 100 attendees participated in this all-day conference, which featured trade show booths, procurement-related workshops, women in business programs, IRS workshops and a keynote address from Scott Denniston, Director of the Center for Veterans Enterprise in Washington, D.C.

As the largest and most successful business assistance program in Florida, the FSBDC Network features 32 centers throughout the State of Florida. Additional outreach is provided at resource partner locations, including economic development councils, chambers of commerce and banks. The Network links the resources of federal, state and local governments, as well as the private sector to provide the highest quality business management and technical assistance to entrepreneurs in Florida.

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A statewide service network partially funded by the U.S. SBA, sponsored by the State University System of Florida, and administered by the University of West Florida