



## Richmond District Office

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### **SBA Announces Small Business Week Award Winners** *Fredericksburg Firm Named Virginia Small Business Person of the Year*

**Richmond, VA** – The U.S. Small Business Administration’s (SBA) Richmond District Office will honor Virginia’s outstanding small business owners and champions at the Virginia Small Business Week Awards Luncheon on Monday, June 24, 2013, at the Richmond Westin Hotel. The awards celebration is co-sponsored by the Richmond Score Chapter #12 and the Virginia Small Business Center.

Jason Cohen, president of ILM Corporation of Fredericksburg, Va., is being honored as Virginia’s Small Business Person of the Year. Established by his father and other partners in 1976, ILM Corporation provides document conversion and management services by taking large volumes of paper documents and converting them into digital formats for federal, state and commercial clients.

“Winning this accolade is one of the most significant milestones in my career especially when measured against the other remarkable and worthy nominees,” said Jason Cohen, president of ILM Corporation. “It’s not something that I could have done without the support and dedication of my incredible family and awesome employees. This award is a validation that my employees, clients and partners believe in our shared core values. The small business person of the year achievement is not a responsibility that I take lightly and I will do my best to represent the vibrant business community in Fredericksburg and throughout Virginia.”

The SBA is also honoring Work It, Richmond Editor Jacob Geiger with the first annual SBA Outstanding Advocacy of Small Business Award. The award recognizes his commitment to central Virginia’s small business community through his media coverage and active participation in small business events.

“We are truly humbled to present our Small Business Week awards to such an outstanding group of Virginia entrepreneurs and advocates,” said Jayne Armstrong, district director of the SBA’s Richmond District Office. “Small business is the heart and soul of the American economy. It always has been and always will be as far as we are concerned.”

The luncheon, “Stand Up for Small Business,” begins with a networking reception at 11:00 a.m., followed by the luncheon and program at noon. Paula Otto, executive director of the Virginia Lottery, will serve as mistress of ceremonies for the event. The SBA worked with Virginia artisan small businesses to commission glass and soapstone awards for the event. Registration will open in mid-May at a cost of \$40 per person.

SBA’s National Small Business Week will be held June 17th through June 21st. This year’s events will take place all across the country and feature forums discussing the small business landscape, business coaching services, matchmaking events as well as networking opportunities and award ceremonies. The week’s events culminate in Washington, D.C. where the 2013 National Small Business Person of the Year will be announced. Candidates from all 50 states and territories will be competing for the award.

The locations and dates for National Small Business Week are:

Seattle - June 17  
Dallas - June 18  
St. Louis - June 19  
Pittsburgh - June 20  
Washington, D.C. - June 21

In addition to the in-person events, National Small Business Week will also feature daily online forums that will focus on subjects such as exporting and access to capital. All events will be live-streamed on SBA’s

website, [www.sba.gov](http://www.sba.gov). SBA's 68 district offices across the country also recognize their local small business owners and advocates at Small Business Week events similar to the Virginia luncheon on June 24.

For more information, please contact the SBA at (804)771-2400.

**U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA)  
2013 Virginia Small Business Week Award Winners**

**Small Business Person of the Year**

Jason Cohen, President/CETO  
ILM Corporation  
600 Lafayette Boulevard  
Fredericksburg, VA 22401  
(540) 898-1406 x 190  
[jcohen@ilmcorp.com](mailto:jcohen@ilmcorp.com)

**Small Business Exporter of the Year**

Albert Diamonstein, Chairman  
James Diamonstein, President  
Richard Diamonstein, President of the Commercial Division  
Paramount Sleep  
1112 Kingwood Avenue  
Norfolk, VA 23502  
(757) 855-3321  
[rdiamonstein@paramountsleep.com](mailto:rdiamonstein@paramountsleep.com)  
[jamie@paramountsleep.com](mailto:jamie@paramountsleep.com)

**Veteran's Small Business Champion**

Amber Peebles, President  
Athena Construction Group, Inc.  
18031 Dumfries Shopping Plaza  
Dumfries, VA 22026  
(703) 221-7173 x5  
[amber@athenaconstructiongroup.com](mailto:amber@athenaconstructiongroup.com)

**Minority Small Business Champion**

Becky Merritt  
Vice President, Shared Services  
Dominion Resources Services, Inc.  
120 Tredegar Street  
Richmond, VA 23219  
(804) 819-2377  
[Becky.merritt@dom.com](mailto:Becky.merritt@dom.com)

**Family-Owned Small Business of the Year**

Kenneth Sturgis (Pete) Terry  
Chairman/CEO  
H.M Terry Company, Inc.  
5039 Willis Wharf Road  
Willis Wharf, VA 23486  
(757) 442 -7777  
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**Women in Business Champion**

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Accent Professional Recruiting  
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**Financial Services Champion**

Kathleen Mack  
Senior Vice President/Business Banking Market Manager  
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**SBA Outstanding Advocacy of Small Business Award**

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NOTE: SBA's Small Business Community of the Year Award and Lender Awards will be announced separately.

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