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FEATURE

Chamber Member Wins SBA Award Gatewood Helps Veterans Succeed

The U.S. Chamber is proud to announce that member Wayne M. Gatewood Jr., president and CEO of Quality Support, Inc., was named Veterans Small Business Advocate of the Year for the Washington Metropolitan Area for 2003. The honor, given annually by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), was awarded during Small Business Week, May 5–11.

SBA's district director of its Washington Metropolitan Area District Office, Joseph P. Loddo, says of Gatewood: "If an issue arises that impacts veteran-owned small businesses, you can count on him being at the forefront of the issue. Wayne has expressed his views to the White House, Congress, chambers of commerce, and many other organizations. He has been diligent in his pursuit to expand opportunities for veteran-owned small businesses."

In addition to backing legislative proposals to assist veterans, Gatewood has personally helped a number of them transition from military service to owning a small business.

Gatewood's company, Quality Support, Inc., is a technical, management, and administrative support

services firm. With more than 100 employees, it provides services for a number of federal government agencies and offices, including the Departments of Defense, State, Commerce, Health and Human Services, and Housing and Urban Development. As a member of the Chamber's small business council, Gatewood has testified before the House Subcommittee on Small Business in support of the Veterans' Entrepreneurship and Small Business Act.

Gatewood's devotion to public service follows a 21-year career in the United States Marine Corps. Gatewood credits the principles he learned in the Corps with his success as a business owner.

"It is a true honor to receive recognition for helping others," comments Gatewood. "My commitment to assist U.S. military veterans will be a continuing personal mandate."

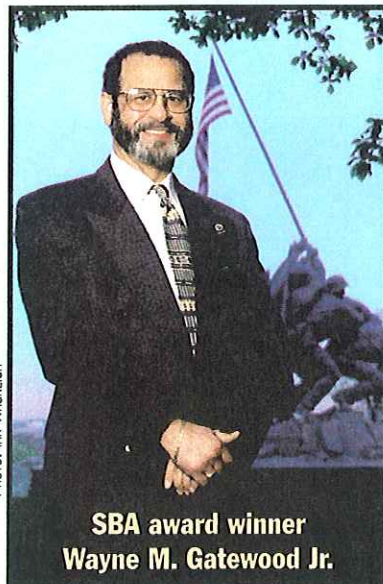


PHOTO: IAN WAERICH

SBA award winner
Wayne M. Gatewood Jr.