

Gov't Assistance to Small Business

Nineteen federal agencies will co-sponsor Alaska "Government Assistance to Small Business Conferences" September 28 and 29 at the Anchorage Westward Hotel, Anchorage, Alaska, and October 1 and 2 at the Sitka Centennial Building, Sitka, Alaska, Daniel B. Ward, Regional Director, U.S. Small Business Administration, today announced.

According to Ward, the day conferences are designed to stimulate straight, open and candid discussion of many of the small business community's most pressing problems. "The purpose of these working conference is to bring the resources and services of the Federal Government together under one roof to deal directly with the small business community to help solve any problems that sector now faces, and to provide the expertise needed to deal with new Federal regulations," Ward said.

The Regional Director stated the conferences will attract from 600 to 1,000 small businessmen and women from Alaska.

The conferences will feature exhibits, luncheon addresses by major Washington officials, and dozens of "how-to-do-it" seminars conducted by

knowledgeable federal representatives of the participating agencies. It will concern such issues as tax problems, how to sell to the Federal Government, financial assistance, management assistance, how to get into the export business, how to cut soaring fuel costs, and many other vital topics.

In addition to SBA, the other agencies involved in the conferences include the Census Bureau, Coast Guard, Corps of Engineers, Department of Commerce, Energy, Research and Development Administration, Farmers Home Administration, General Services Administration, Department of Health, Education, and Welfare, Internal Revenue Service, Department of Labor, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, National Marine Fisheries Service, Office of Minority Business Enterprise, and the Veterans Administration.

"This is the first time a Conference of this dimension has been offered in Alaska. I am hopeful small businessmen and women will take advantage of this unique opportunity to get a better understanding of Federal assistance programs and how they are administered," Ward said.

There is a \$30.00 registration

fee in Anchorage and a \$20.00 fee in Sitka, which includes admission to all activities and luncheon meetings. Persons wanting more information should contact Mae Garoutte at the Anchorage District SBA office, Suite 200, Anchorage Legal Center, 1016 West Sixth Avenue, (907) 265-4379.

Ward stated that many civic organizations, local government offices, and banks throughout the state also have Conference information and registration forms available.