

County Council of Howard County, Maryland

2011 Legislative Session

Legislative day # 10

RESOLUTION NO. 132 - 2011

Introduced by: Chairperson at the request of the County Executive

A RESOLUTION confirming the appointment of Jose Maldonado to the Equal Business Opportunity Commission.

Introduced and read first time on Sept. 6, 2011

By order Stephen LeGendre
Stephen LeGendre, Administrator to the County Council

Read for a second time and a public hearing held on Sept. 19, 2011

By order Stephen LeGendre
Stephen LeGendre, Administrator to the County Council

This Resolution was read the third time and was Adopted , Adopted with amendments ____, Failed ____, Withdrawn ____ by the County Council on October 3, 2011.

Certified by Stephen LeGendre
Stephen LeGendre, Administrator to the County Council

NOTE: [[text in brackets]] indicates deletions from existing language; TEXT IN SMALL CAPITALS indicates additions to existing language. Strike-out indicates material deleted by amendment; Underlining indicates material added by amendment.

**HOWARD COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
14th ANNUAL AWARDS PROGRAM
Nomination Form**

(Nomination Deadline: March 7, 2008)

BUSINESS ACHIEVEMENT

Outstanding Business Achievement by a Business Owned by a Minority, a Woman, or a Person with a Disability.

The purpose of this award is to recognize Howard County companies owned by minorities, women and/or individuals with a disability who have achieved exceptional success in their fields. Award winners are selected based upon business achievement as evidenced by growth in sales, profits and/or employees; new product introductions and/or markets entered; and customer relationships and/or strategic alliances formed.

INDIVIDUAL ACHIEVEMENT

Outstanding Accomplishment in the Business Community by an Individual Who is a Minority, a Woman or a Person with a Disability.

The purpose of this award is to recognize minorities, women and/or individuals with a disability who have achieved exceptional success in their fields and by their example have demonstrated that equal business opportunity succeeds in Howard County. Award winners are selected based upon business achievement as evidenced by the extent to which the individual has achieved success and attained authority within a company or other organization. Business achievement also may be demonstrated by successive promotions within an organization, receipt of company and/or industry honors and awards, or other similar measures.

BUSINESS DIVERSITY ACHIEVEMENT

The Demonstration by a Business Which Through its Actions Promotes the Values of Equal Business Opportunity.

The purpose of this award is to recognize companies doing business in Howard County which demonstrate an exceptional commitment to diversity. Award winners are selected based upon business opportunity practices as evidenced by the company, including, but not limited to, use of service suppliers and contractors; advancing diversity in employment and

promotion; mentoring relationships with firms owned by minorities, women and/or individuals with a disability. Consideration will also be given to the company's community support and involvement as evidenced by contributions by the company of time, money and/or goods and services to individuals and/or community activities, especially those which seek to improve business opportunities for the area's diverse population.

HOWARD COUNTY GENERAL HOSPITAL RISING BUSINESS STAR SCHOLARSHIP

A Howard County High School Senior Who is a Minority, a Female or a Person With a Disability Who Has Demonstrated an Entrepreneurial Spirit.

The purpose of this award is to recognize a Howard County public high school senior who is a minority, female, and/or an individual with a disability who has exhibited initiative in the business community. Award winners will be selected based upon an individual's business achievement as evidenced by starting a small business, assisting an existing business in a significant way, or developing a creation or invention targeted towards business. The winner in this category will be awarded a scholarship for post-secondary education.

EARL H. SAUNDERS ENTREPRENEURIAL SCHOLARSHIP

A Howard County Student Who is a Minority, a Female or a Person With a Disability Who Has Demonstrated an Entrepreneurial Spirit.

This award is to recognize a Howard County student who is either a minority, female, and/or individual with a disability who has exhibited initiative in the business community. Award winners will be selected based upon business achievement as evidenced by starting a small business, assisting an existing business in a significant way, or developing a creation or invention targeted towards business. The winner in this category will be awarded a scholarship towards post-secondary education or entrepreneurial courses/programs of study.

Awards are presented in 5 categories. Indicate the category for which the individual or company is being nominated.

Nominees will be contacted by the Committee for Business and Economic Diversity (CBED) for an Information Packet.

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| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Business Achievement | <input type="checkbox"/> Individual Achievement | <input type="checkbox"/> Earl H. Saunders Entrepreneurial Scholarship |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Business Diversity Achievement | <input type="checkbox"/> Howard County General Hospital Rising Business Star Scholarship | |

Nominee Information (please print or type)

Name: Jose Maldonado Company: Centretek.com Title: Vice Pres
 Address: 8318 Forrest Street
 City: Ellicott City State: MD Zip: 21043
 Phone: 443-364-5302 Fax: 410-465-5430 Email: Jose.Maldonado@Centretek.com

Nominator Information (please print or type)

Name: Joyce Lehnert Company: Howard County Title: AAAD.S. Service S. con
 Address: 6751 Columbia Gateway Drive
 City: COLUMBIA State: MD Zip: 21046
 Phone: 410-313-6431 Fax: 410-313-6424 Email: jlehner@howardcounty.md

Return To: The Center for Business and Technology Development / ATTN: CBED Committee
 9250 Bendix Road, North; Columbia, MD 21045; Tel: 410.313.6550 or Fax to: 410.313.7515
 *This form is available in alternative format. Please call 410.313.6177

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BIO: As CentreTEK founder and Vice President, Jose' Maldonado provides oversight and management of all projects in addition to focusing on developing new business. His strengths are strong Program Management, Organization skills, and a commitment to creating an exciting, innovative, work environment centered on the needs of the employee. He has developed a solid background in various project management methodologies that have allowed him to deliver large engineering and information technology projects on time and on budget while at the same time insuring high employee morale. Mr. Maldonado also has distinguished himself for his interpersonal, coaching and teambuilding skills.

Prior to founding CentreTEK Solutions, he held the position of Delivery Director within the Government Business Solutions Group at Impact Innovations for two and half years. He was responsible for all aspects of managing the delivery of large technology based projects for government agencies.

During this time, some of his key clients included: Department of Justice Anti-Trust and Criminal Divisions, Federal Aviation Administration, Departments of the Army and Navy, and the Department of Education. For these agencies he provided tailored IT solutions dedicated to modernizing and streamlining their internal technical infrastructures.

His responsibilities included: overall profit and loss responsibility for his group, people management, project management, and client management. Applying various teambuilding strategies, he was able to reduce employee turnover and grew his to approximately 30 employees.

Prior to joining Impact Innovations, he worked at Northrop Grumman Corporation where he acted as Chief Engineer on a variety of large US and International air defense and air traffic control systems ranging in size from \$50M to \$180M. Over a twenty-year period, starting as a circuit designer, he rose quickly through the engineering ranks. He quickly became comfortable working with all levels of management and across different market segments. He accumulated a wealth of experience in Program Management, Finance, and Contract Administration with strong emphasis on engineering and subcontract management, new business development and international business. Some of the key projects he worked on were in countries such as Morocco, Venezuela, Thailand, Australia and Algeria. His responsibilities included preparing and managing engineering costs and schedule, day-to-day coordination of engineering activities, and technical direction of subcontracts.

As Chief Engineer on proposal generation teams, he developed win strategies and capture plans for projects totaling more than \$500M. His worked included: a) overall system design, b) generation of technical proposal response, c) development of engineering/manpower costs and schedule, d) preparing and conducting high level briefings to foreign ministries, e) proposal process guidance to proposal teams, and f) competitive assessments and strategy development to counter competition.

My Story: This is a story of success over a physical tragedy and about a very special and successful company called CentreTEK.

In January of 2001, José Maldonado, along with his best friend Jay Miller, founded CentreTEK Solutions, an innovative IT solutions company. In the beginning the two were the only employees. Today, they have a successful firm located in historical Ellicott City with 55 employees.

Their clients include the Federal Aviation Administration, the Pentagon, and several commercial companies throughout Baltimore and Columbia. CentreTEK has also done a number of the web sites for organizations like Howard Community College and others.

In the beginning "Things were going pretty much according to plan," recalls Maldonado, who, by the end the first year, had developed a staff of about two-dozen IT consultants working on several federal and commercial contracts. "Every month was better than the previous one."

One thing José Maldonado could never have planned for, however, was the life-altering event that occurred in December 6, 2002. He suffered a devastating stroke. The stroke caused paralysis of his right arm, his right leg and aphasia which limited his ability to produce and/or comprehend language.

Doctors at Johns Hopkins informed Maldonado's family that the stroke had been caused by an inoperable brain aneurism.

So began a new phase of Maldonado's life - a time of indescribable physical and emotional hardship and struggle, not only for himself, but also for his family and friends.

"Its times like this that you really learn the true meaning of love and friendship" says Jose. He realized that, as tough as the stroke was on him, it was just as hard on his friends and family. He realized that when you have something as terrible as a "stroke", everyone around you, that loves you, suffers the same "stroke" right along with you.

After the stroke, Jose made a decision to retire and told his partner, Jay Miller, that he probably would not return to CentreTEK.

Jay came to the hospital every day, without fail. Jose smiles as he recalls one of the first questions he asked Miller once he was able to talk again, "If you're here, who's running CentreTEK?"

CentreTEK, where the emphasis had always been on individual training, team development and empowerment, had created a team of highly-skilled, customer

service driven consultants who were able to maintain the business through this difficult period.

And Jay Miller, his best friend and business partner, had other plans for Jose. He told Jose that his duties would be waiting for him WHEN he returned, NOT IF he returned, to CentreTEK.

Jay and Jose' family would not let him just sit in a wheel chair in front of a television for the rest of his life. They demanded that Jose slowly start to work out to try to get better. Jose decided to try [to get well], not only for himself, but for them. He decided that this would be his way of saying, "Thanks for being there for me."

Maldonado committed himself to a grueling 4-6 hour regiment of therapy each day, 5-6 days a week.

Then something unexpected happened, he started walking. He started going up and down stairs without difficulty, his right arm started moving and he even learned how to drive again.

And so, he returned to CentreTEK not knowing what to expect. Over time he noticed that returning to work had a "therapeutic effect" on him. His speech improved, as did his reading and writing. Gradually he learned how to use a computer again.

Soon he was driving off to meet clients in Baltimore and Washington DC again. He found he could actually contribute at work, not as much as before, but certainly more than he had expected.

Today, Maldonado is back at CentreTEK, ready for yet another phase of life. This time it is a phase of hope. While he jokes that his team at CentreTEK will never let him retire, he now splits his time between his responsibilities at CentreTEK and counseling other stroke sufferers through local stroke survivor groups. "I tell them that there is life after a stroke and it can be a rich and fulfilling life. It's not the end, only a new beginning."

In addition to being at CentreTEK, he has dedicated himself to counseling several "Stroke Survivor Groups" and whoever else will have him. His message is "There's Life after Stroke" and that it can be a rich and fulfilling life. And it's not the end, only the beginning.

Jose knows he has had a fortunate recovery and doesn't deliver a message of false hope for stroke victims. He knows not everyone can recover as well. But, stroke victims can get better as long as they have encouragement from family and friends and try.