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### BIOGRAPHY

Upon selling his mortgage company, Mark joined the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) in 1991 as a Loan Officer. Over the last 33 years, Mr. Ferguson has held a variety of supervisory and special technical assistance positions.

As the Deputy District Director, Mr. Ferguson is responsible for carrying out agency programs, services, and initiatives to ensure that SBA's mission, vision, and strategies are executed on behalf of small businesses throughout the State of Illinois. Mark also supports district office goals by planning special events, producing success stories, and providing other pertinent marketing/public relations materials and services that benefit the small business community.

Despite the many awards Mr. Ferguson has received throughout his career, he is most delighted when he receives the greatest reward of all, helping others launch and/or expand their business.

Mr. Ferguson is an Adjunct Professor with City Colleges (1987) and the Joseph Business School (2008)/Living Word Christian Center where he teaches a variety of business courses ranging from Finance to Business Communications. Mark is a minister and graduate of the Living Word Bible Center. Mr. Ferguson sits on several boards for not-for-profit organizations and also holds several project management and leadership certifications.

In summary, Mark enjoys serving others. By teaching and demonstrating the fundamentals of leadership and entrepreneurship, Mark takes great pleasure helping others reach their highest potential to transform their dreams into a reality: starting and growing their very own small business.