

CHARLES W. AKERLOW
68 SOUTH MAIN STREET, SUITE 300
SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH 84101

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Dear Duane:


I appreciate your letter of November 19. I, too, have my questions about the service of Messrs. Kobelinski and Powell in the Reagan Administration. I have high regard for these individuals personally but I think Governor Reagan would be better served with new faces in the Administration. I have made my views known to Bill Casey as well as Orrin Hatch. I will be meeting with Orrin Hatch personally this week to discuss small business matters in general, and specifically, the appointment of the SBA Administrator. I have already advised him that I think it would be a mistake to reappoint Mitch Kobelinski and to appoint Reed Powell. In fact, I recommended that you be considered as the SBA Administrator, since I think you would do an exceptional job. I also suggested that Milt Stewart be retained as the Counsel for Advocacy. I like Milt and would like to see him stay, although he is a holdover from the Carter Administration and may, because of that, have to go.

When I meet with Orrin Hatch this week, I will also mention to him the subject of the Regional SBA Director. Mr. Douglas Graves sounds like a very well-qualified person and I will pass along your recommendation to Senator Hatch concerning Mr. Graves.

Again, I am most grateful to you for your help in the election of Ronald Reagan. I look forward to working with you in small business matters as we work down the road together in a new administration.

Kind personal regards,

Yours truly,



Mr. Duane D. Pearsall
President
Small Business Development Corporation
24758 Foothills Drive North
Golden, Colorado 80401

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