



**Opening Statement**  
**Chairman Mike Coffman**  
**Committee on Small Business**  
**Subcommittee on Investigations, Oversight and Regulations**  
**“Small Business Lending: Perspectives from the Private Sector”**  
**June 21, 2012**

Good morning. On Wednesday June 6<sup>th</sup>, the Small Business Committee held an oversight hearing with SBA Administrator Karen Mills to question this administration about its procedures for setting policy for its financial assistance programs. The Committee also examined SBA’s procedures for lender oversight to make sure that SBA is protecting taxpayers by conducting proper oversight of its lending partners.

Today we are here to follow-up on that hearing. Testifying today are private sector lending partners themselves, to learn more about the effect of SBA policy on loan processing and how SBA can be a better partner.

In addition to reviewing SBA policy and procedures, we will also hear about how other federal financial regulators are impacting credit availability for small business. The Committee consistently hears from both bankers and small businesses that the regulatory environment is harming economic growth. This is an opportunity to hear more about the regulatory burdens on banks.

We all know that economic growth will be led by small businesses. To encourage this important sector, to grow and create jobs, we need an environment where small businesses can access capital and banks have the freedom to lend without consistent second-guessing by regulators.

I would like to thank our witnesses from taking time away from their businesses to testify here today and with that, I now yield to the Ranking Member for their opening statement.