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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**The Washington Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Hires New Business Advisor to Serve the Renton Area.**

The Washington SBDC is pleased to announce that Asbury Lockett will be joining its statewide network to provide small business advising services in the Renton service area. Asbury began work in the position February 9, 2011. He will replace former advisor Steve Burke who accepted a similar position elsewhere in the SBDC network. This position is funded through 2012 by the Small Business Jobs Act.

A resident of Renton, Asbury brings an impressive skill set to the SBDC, with experience in manufacturing, executive coaching, and process improvement. Asbury earned a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Engineering at Stanford and a Master of Business Administration from the University of California—Berkeley. He was a Washington State Quality Award (Baldrige Criteria) Examiner earlier this decade.

“Asbury promises to fit in well with the SBDC network,” says Brett Rogers, SBDC State Director. “The breadth of his experience will enable him to have an immediate impact with a wide range of SBDC clients. The additional expertise available to him through our collaborative statewide network of business advisors ought to nicely augment the service he will provide. We’re excited to have Asbury join the WSBDC, and believe that he will be a great addition to our knowledgeable and committed team of expert business advisors.”

“The Renton Small Business Development Center builds on Renton’s successful economic development efforts and continues to foster the community’s entrepreneurial spirit,” said Renton Mayor Denis Law.

The Renton SBDC is located on the campus of Renton Technical College, 3000 NE 4<sup>th</sup> Street, DeMoss Bldg J Suite 214, and is supported with in-kind administrative and marketing contributions from the City of Renton, Renton Technical College and the Renton Chamber of Commerce. Asbury may be reached at 425-235-7819 or via e-mail at [asbury.lockett@wsbdc.org](mailto:asbury.lockett@wsbdc.org). Advising services are available by appointment.

*The Washington SBDC provides no-charge confidential advising and low-cost training to current and prospective business owners. It is a cooperative effort between Washington State University, community colleges, economic development organizations and the U.S. Small Business Administration. For more information on the mission and services of the SBDC, visit the network website at: <http://www.wsbdc.org>.*