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## Press Release

For Immediate Release (Jan. 17, 2006)

### **Assemblyman Corodemus Recognized For Commitment To Small Business Services**

#### **NJSBDC awards Corodemus the 2005 NJSBDC Legislative Advocate Award**

Every year at its annual Success Awards Luncheon, the NJ Small Business Development Centers (NJSBDC) network honors State legislators who support its mission to assist aspiring entrepreneurs and established small business owners. NJSBDC also recognizes exceptional small business clients from its eleven regional offices around the state, E-business, Procurement, Technology and Emerging Markets for their successful contributions to the New Jersey economy.

Monmouth/Ocean SBDC Regional Director, Bill Nunnally, Assistant Director Paul Rinaldi, and Deborah Smarth, Associate State Director of NJSBDC, presented Assemblyman Steve Corodemus (District-11) with NJSBDC's 2005 Advocate Award at his office in Atlantic Highlands, today.

“Assemblyman Corodemus was engaged with our community outreach efforts in Long Branch and has been extremely supportive of the activities undertaken by our regional center located at Brookdale Community College,” Nunnally said. “Our center offers counseling, training and technical assistance to small business owners in the Monmouth/Ocean region and has been proactive in working with N.J. Labor Department referrals for the Self-Employment Assistance (SEA) Program.”

“In light of the various trends in the national and State economy, including corporate restructuring and downsizing, and outsourcing practices, individuals who are laid off and want to start businesses and not return to industry are beneficiaries of NJSBDC programs and services,” said Assemblyman Steve Corodemus of the 11<sup>th</sup> Legislative District. Assemblyman Corodemus during the last legislative session served on the Assembly Appropriations Committee and served as Deputy Minority Leader and Policy Chair.

“We’re very happy to recognize Assemblyman Corodemus’ efforts on behalf of the small business sector and our entire network,” stated Brenda B. Hopper, State Director of NJSBDC. “He fully understands the impact of NJSBDC services to the small business community and to the State economy. We look forward to our continued collaboration.”

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The NJSBDC network, a provider of comprehensive services to small business, has 11 regional service centers across the State. Its headquarters is located at the Rutgers Business School in Newark NJ. Since inception more than 27 years ago, it has served more than 270,000 entrepreneurs and small business owners statewide by providing one-to-one customized counseling and affordable training. On average, it serves about 25,000 entrepreneurs and small business owners annually.