



CDFA SSBCI Webinar Series

A 5-part Series Focused on Access to Capital

April 4, June 20, August 29, October 31, December 19 • 2:00-4:30pm (Eastern)

Speaker Biographies

Eric Cromwell

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Eric Cromwell is an entrepreneur, public advocate for entrepreneurial growth and experienced executive in the field of innovation-based economic development. Eric led the restructuring and revitalization of the quasi-governmental Tennessee Technology Development Corporation as its president and CEO, and he developed unique expertise in this niche field as Tennessee's first-ever Director of Technology, as founding director of a technology business incubation and accelerator program, and as a senior member of the founding team that launched the FedEx Institute of Technology. He frequently serves as a speaker and consultant on economic development strategies related to venture capital formation, small business support systems, technology transfer, and broadband deployment.

Lisa Dargis

Senior Loan Officer
Minnesota Department of Employment and Economic Development
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Jeffrey Druce

Vice President, Finance & Administration
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Jeff Druce has served as Vice President of Finance and Administration for Community First Fund since August of 2009. Jeff has over 20 years of experience in commercial banking, management and operations. He has served in a variety of positions over the years, such as Branch Manager, Team Leader and Commercial Loan Manager. His commercial lending experience in government guarantees, business lending and commercial real estate.

In addition, Jeff has extensive knowledge of the non-profit sector, and has served as staff and on the boards of numerous organizations and has significant experience with mediation and conflict resolution organizations. Currently, Jeff is the Finance Committee Chair and a board member of the Attention Deficit Disorder Association.

Mr. Druce holds a bachelor's degree from Millersville University and an MBA from Shippensburg University.

Gene Eagle

Vice President
Arkansas Development Finance Authority
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As Vice President for the Development Finance Authority for I am responsible for the staffing, operation and management of the Authority's development finance programs. Tax exempt and taxable bonds issued under my direction involve a broad range of municipal finance projects for governmental entities, private enterprises and non profit organizations. I am also responsible for implementation and administration of two equity investment programs, the Arkansas Institution Fund, the Arkansas Risk Capital Matching Fund, the Seed and Angel Capital Network and the ADFA Co-Investment. I routinely represent ADFA's interests with respect to Diamond State Ventures and the Arkansas Capital Corporation. I am also responsible for the legislative affairs for the ADFA development finance programs both at the State and Federal level. My other work experience included a private mortgage broker firm in Little Rock, Plunkett, Boerner and Associates, the Arkansas Economic Development Commission and Mclroy Bank in Fayetteville. Other business interests include involvement in agriculture, aquaculture and real estate. Mr. Eagle attended the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville and graduated in 1977 with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Management with a minor in Economics; NDC Economic Development Finance Curriculum 1981 – 1982; NCSHA Executive



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Development Program – University of Notre Dame, 2001. Mr. Eagle is currently a Board Member of the National Council of Development Finance Agencies and has been since 1992, and was President from 1998-1999.

Bob Isaacson

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Bob Isaacson is director of DEED's Office of JOBZ and Business Finance. The office provides the financing and tax credits needed by expanding businesses and growing communities. The office administers 13 programs targeted at a variety of geographies and businesses.

Prior to this position, Bob directed the department's economic analysis activities. He also has held positions with the U.S. General Accounting Office in Chicago and the U.S. House Agriculture Committee in Washington, D.C.

Bob is a frequent speaker on business and economic topics, and is active in several organizations related to his work.

Cliff Kellogg

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Maureen Klovers is the Compliance Manager for the U.S. Department of Treasury's State Small Business Credit Initiative (SSBCI). Previously, she was a Senior Program Analyst at the Economic Development Administration, where she managed EDA's \$850 million Revolving Loan Fund portfolio and represented EDA on the White House Interagency Task Force on Regional Innovation Clusters. She has a Master's of Business Administration and Master's of Public Policy from Georgetown University.

Jason Rittenberg

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Jason Rittenberg manages CDFA's ongoing research and resource collection activities and is the editor for the Council's popular Development Finance Review Weekly e-newsletter. The newsletter is sent weekly to nearly 20,000 subscribers nationwide. Jason also manages CDFA's Original Research Focus and Online Resource Database efforts to collect, disseminate, catalogue, and evaluate research and resource material for the development finance industry. Jason has a strong background in research and statistical methods, having spent the previous five years as the lead or assistant investigator on a number of research projects. Jason holds a Master's Degree in Communication from the University of Illinois and a Bachelor's in Communication from Ohio University, both with an emphasis on politics and media.