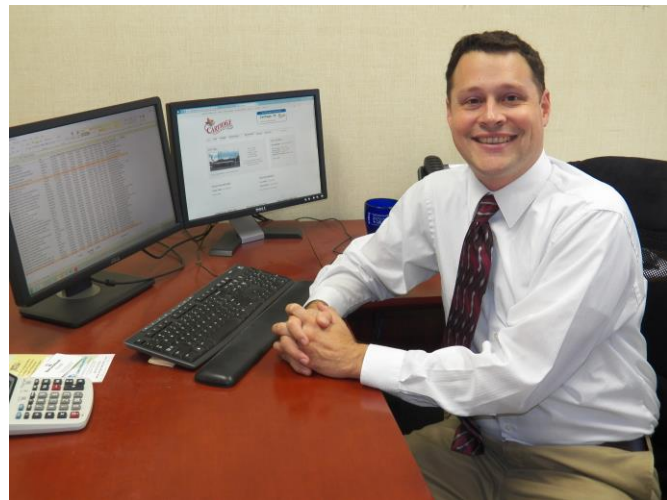


PRESS RELEASE

ETCOG Hires Bashaw to Manage Small Business Loan Program: The East Texas Regional Development Company

Kilgore, TX, October 30, 2013: David Cleveland, Executive Director of the East Texas Council of Governments (ETCOG), the regional planning organization for fourteen East Texas counties, has announced the appointment of Kerry Bashaw to ETCOG as the East Texas Regional Development Company (ETRDC) Manager. In this position Bashaw will be responsible for directing, planning and coordinating financial and other administrative or support services for the ETRDC loan programs, ensuring accountability to management, the ETRDC Board and ensuring compliance with state and federal laws, regulations, and policies.



Bashaw brings with him nearly ten years of commercial lending for small businesses, non-profits and community development corporations. Prior to accepting this position, Bashaw served as Senior Loan officer for Christian Community Credit Union in San Dimas, CA; Junior Loan Underwriter at BMC Capital in Dallas; and Loan Officer for the Small Business Administration in Fort Worth.

"Kerry's addition to the ETCOG Team is a big 'win' for the small business community in East Texas," said ETCOG Executive Director, David Cleveland. "His exceptional customer service skills combined with his banking and financial acumen will be appreciated by many businesses that want to create and retain jobs in our region".

For more information, contact David Cleveland at (903) 218-6423 or (903) 808-7559.

About the ETRDC

Since 1983, the East Texas Regional Development Company has provided small businesses in Texas with the financing they need to expand or even start their business. The East Texas Regional Development Company or ETRDC is a private, non-profit, organization formed for the purpose of assisting small businesses. The ETRDC is administered and housed within the East Texas Council of Governments.

About ETCOG

The East Texas Council of Governments (ETCOG) is a voluntary association of counties, cities, school districts and special districts within the fourteen-county East Texas region. ETCOG assists local governments in planning for common needs, cooperating for mutual benefit and coordinating for sound regional development. Established in 1970, ETCOG, either directly, or through its contractors, provides programs and services for East Texas seniors, employers, and job seekers. ETCOG and its contractors also build the 9-1-1 emergency call delivery system, provide peace officer training and homeland security planning services; and deliver rural transportation services, business finance programs, and environmental grant funding for the region.