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Tulsans amid top small businesses in state

By Staff Reports
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Three Tulsa companies are among the state small businesses that will be honored Thursday.

The U.S. Small Business Administration named 2011 Kelsy Eakin, president and CEO of Keltech as Oklahoma Young Entrepreneur of the Year.

Other Tulsans that will receive awards include Majick RavenHawk, founder and CEO of Engage Life & RavenHawk International, as Oklahoma Women in Business Champion and **Sean Kouplen, president and CEO of Regent Bank, as Oklahoma Financial Services Champion.**

Statewide, Gerald Wayne Williams will be honored as the 2011 Oklahoma Small Business Person of the Year. Williams is owner and president of the Oklahoma City-based Interim Solutions for Government LLC, a company that provides contract support services to the federal government. In nine years, ISG has grown to 190 employees with sales exceeding \$13 million.

"We're very proud to recognize Mr. Williams as Oklahoma's top small business person," said Dottie Overal, SBA Oklahoma district director. "A service-disabled veteran and retired federal employee, Mr. Williams continues to serve his country. His resiliency and perseverance through bleak economic times is boosting the state's and country's economy and creating jobs."

Others scheduled to be recognized by the SBA include Lisa Thiessen, business development specialist, Southwestern Oklahoma State University, Weatherford, Veteran Small Business Champion; Sharron Jackson, business coach, Metro Technology Centers, Oklahoma City, Minority Small Business Champion; Push 'Em Station, Donny Simmons, owner, Mead, Jeffrey Butland Family Owned Business; Patricia E. Beck, self employment training coordinator, Great Plains Technology Center, Lawton, Oklahoma Home-Based Small Business Champion; and Dr. Barbara Rackley, coordinator of the Durant office, and Lori Boyles, coordinator of the Oklahoma City office; REI Women's Business Center, Women's Business Center of Excellence.

The businesses will be honored during a luncheon at the Oklahoma History Center.

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By Staff Reports

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