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TRAINING OFFERED FOR SMALL BUSINESSES WELL ATTENDED

THOMASVILLE, AL – A small business workshop recently held at Stillman College in Tuscaloosa provided valuable facts and interaction among more than 25 people in attendance. Sponsors for the workshop were First United Security Bank, Alabama Minority Business Opportunity Center (MBOC), Accounting and Business Consultant's, Inc. (ABC, INC) and South Region Minority Development Council (SRMDC). Presenters Bob Sellers, Commercial Lender for First United Security Bank's Tuscaloosa Office and Tim Clay, Enrolled Agent for ABC, Inc. Clay stated that not only was this workshop beneficial to consumers, but to the organizations as well. "The thing I like about these seminars is the one-on-one contact we have with entrepreneurs. We are able to answer their questions and learn from them as well," said Clay.

According to Sellers, the workshop held in Tuscaloosa on October 14th was a success. "The goal of this workshop was to make ourselves available to small business owners in a casual environment in which all the participants were made to feel comfortable. I believe this was accomplished," Sellers said. "Discussions began with questions from the participants, and the event resulted in several one-on-one appointments where existing and prospective small business owners discussed their financial future."

The workshop featured information regarding the availability and types of loans, preparation for loan documents needed, examples of positive and negative business loans and

how to best choose a provider for small business financing. “I’m excited about this series of programs. Very seldom do minority businesses get the opportunity to learn about financing options, and actually meet with a lending officer as well,” ALMBOC Project Manager Lance Mitchell said. “I look forward to more successful seminars.”

Those groups or individuals who are interested in help with starting up a business should visit the branch nearest them or email Marketing Officer Mary Kelly at marys@firstusbank.com. Established in 1952, First United Security Bank serves it’s customers through 19 offices in Brent, Butler, Calera, Centreville, Coffeerville, Columbiana, Fulton, Gilbertown, Grove Hill, Harpersville, Jackson, McCalla, Thomasville, Tuscaloosa, and Woodstock. The bank holds more than \$675 million in assets, is a member of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and is an Equal Housing Lender. For more information, visit the bank’s website at: www.firstusbank.com. Blog us at firstusbank-usbi.blogspot.com. Or write to: First United Security Bank, P.O. Box 249, Thomasville, AL 36784.