

News Release

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Kathryn Eshelman Named to National Women's Business Council Federal Appointment for Columbus, OH-based Businesswoman

Washington, DC – Kathryn Eshelman, President and Co-Founder of Columbus, OH-based Grade A Notes and Owner and Co-Founder of PatrioticJewelry.com, has been appointed to a three-year term on the National Women's Business Council. Eshelman will represent the Women Presidents' Organization (WPO), of which she is a charter member. She has over 20 years experience in the business, civic and political communities.

The National Women's Business Council is a bi-partisan Federal government council created to serve as an independent source of advice and counsel to the President, Congress, and the U.S. Small Business Administration on economic issues of importance to women business owners. Members of the Council are prominent women business owners and leaders of women's business organizations. The Council is committed to:

- *Conducting* research on issues of importance to women business owners and their organizations;
- *Communicating* these findings widely;
- *Connecting* the women's business community to public policy makers; and
- Providing programs and platforms for *change* in order to expand and improve opportunities for women business owners and their enterprises.

"It is my pleasure to welcome Kathy Eshelman to the National Women's Business Council," said Tami Longaberger, Chair of the National Women's Business Council and Chair and CEO of The Longaberger Company. "As the founder of two successful companies, Kathy brings to the Council a wealth of valuable experience. Kathy's background as both a business owner and a leader in the women's business community will enrich the Council, and I look forward to working with her to advance the priorities of women business owners."

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The Women Presidents' Organization is a national organization working locally and internationally to connect top women entrepreneurs at the million and multimillion-dollar level for greater personal and professional success. In addition to her contributions to WPO, Eshelman has participated in several women's entrepreneurship events, including a panel discussion during the Women's Entrepreneurship in the 21st Century Summit hosted by the U.S. Department of Labor in March 2004. She is a graduate of the Jo Ann Davidson Ohio Leadership Institute and was also named a finalist for *Enterprising Woman Magazine's* 2006 Enterprising Woman of the Year award. Eshelman served as president of the University Community Business Association in Columbus, OH for 13 years and has been featured in local and national media, including CNN and *The Wall Street Journal*.

"I am honored to have the opportunity to serve other women business owners through my participation on the National Women's Business Council," said Eshelman. "I look forward to working with the Council to address the needs of women entrepreneurs and to promote growth in the women's business community. As a member of the Women Presidents' Organization, I understand the incredible value women-owned businesses bring to our nation's economy and I hope to work through the Council to encourage more women to grow their businesses to the million dollar level and beyond."

As the nation's advocate for the more than 10.6 million women-owned businesses in the U.S., the National Women's Business Council works to promote increased access to affordable health care, access to capital, access to federal contracts and international markets, and access to the information and expertise women business owners most need to succeed. Women-owned businesses currently represent nearly half (48%) of all U.S. firms, employing 19.1 million people and generating nearly \$2.5 trillion in sales.

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