

## HAWAII DISTRICT OFFICE

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## SBA PROCUREMENT AWARDS HONOR TWO HAWAII FIRMS

Celebrate National Small Business Week- April 29 to May 5, 2018

Honolulu, HI – Dealing with the Federal Government can be a formidable task for any contractor, but it is particularly challenging to a small business owner. With an enterprising and determined CEO, those small companies can rise to the top, building the reputation and the resume to continue to win profitable contracts as well as gain recognition and honors.

SBA Hawaii District Office announced today that two Hawaii-based firms did just that and will be honored with SBA Procurement Awards for their outstanding performance and achievements as contractors for the U.S. Federal government during National Small Business Week. These small business owners have built successful businesses that excel in the contracting arena and have grown to include significant projects and new office locations across the globe to execute and deliver products and services on time and on budget for Uncle Sam.

- The 2018 Prime Contractor of the Year for Hawaii and Region IX is Aimoku McClellan, Chairman and CEO of Pelatron, Inc., a former 8(a) business development company with SBA. Founded in 2004, Pelatron is a proven performer in design, engineering, IT solutions and mission critical Base Support systems. They've completed groundbreaking work in mobile tactical Command and Control communications with the military and civilian applications. Most recently, Colonel Jason Rusco, Chief of the Aerospace Dominance Enabler Division at Hill Air Force Base in Utah, nominated Pelatron for this SBA Procurement Award for the Air Force Control and Reporting Center (CRC) modification program where they are building and sustaining eighteen (18) systems deployed worldwide.
- The 8(a) Graduate of the Year for Hawaii is Raymond Jardine, Jr. of Native Hawaiian Veterans, LLC. The company was started in 2004 by Jardine, a Native Hawaiian and service disabled veteran, to provide specialized expertise in professional services, support and operational services. The company has grown revenues year over year during its nine year tenure as an 8(a) company, graduating in 2017. The workforce expanded to over 180 skilled, experienced 180 individuals who have satisfied government and civilian customers around the world. Through Jardine's leadership,

Native Hawaiian Veterans is well positioned to successfully compete in the federal contracting arena and to train and employ tomorrow's economic and business leaders.

The SBA Procurement Awards will be presented to Native Hawaiian Veterans and Pelatron, Inc. at the 31<sup>st</sup> Annual Statewide SBA Awards ceremony and luncheon on Friday, May 4, 2018, at the Hawaii Prince Hotel along with other SBA small business owners, entrepreneurs, exporters, contractors and small business advocates. For more information on these prestigious awards, go to [www.sba.gov/hi](http://www.sba.gov/hi) .

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