



January 14, 2015

Governor Charlie Baker
State House
Boston, MA 02133

Dear Governor Baker:

On behalf of the MACDC Board of Directors and Membership, I want to once again congratulate you on becoming our Commonwealth's Governor and express our enthusiasm about working with you and your Administration over the next several years. We are thrilled with the many talented people you have recruited to serve, most especially two of our very own – Chrystal Kornegay and Nam Pham.

I wanted to write today to follow up on some of the items that we have discussed in the past and about which you spoke at the MACDC Convention in October.

First, and most immediately, we want to formally request that your FY 2016 budget include \$2 million for the Small Business Technical Assistance program (*line item 7002-0040*). At the Convention you committed to level fund this program at \$2 million per year – a funding level that can certainly be justified by the impressive outcomes it produces. In FY 2014, the program achieved the following:

- 1,058 business clients received services from our grantee small business assistance providers, a 16 % increase over the prior year.
- 87% of business clients were from an underserved target demographic (women, minorities, immigrants, low/moderate community, low/moderate income business owner, unemployed, or a veteran).
- 213 new businesses created; 272 businesses stabilized and 322 businesses grew as a result of services provided by our grantees.
- Nearly 500 new jobs created and nearly 600 jobs were preserved.
- 277 businesses received financing for a total of nearly \$16.5 million

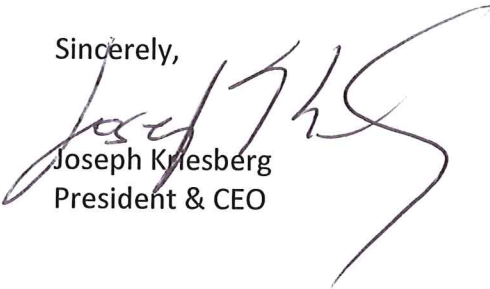
The Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation, which is chaired by your Secretary of Housing and Economic Development, Jay Ash, has done an excellent job administering this program. They distribute funds through a highly competitive and transparent process and provide on-

going oversight to ensure high levels of performance. MGCC also sponsors professional training and capacity building services to ensure that the grantee organizations apply best practices and get strong results.

At the MACDC Convention, you also agreed to meet with the MACDC Board of Directors within the first hundred days of your Administration. We would respectfully suggest a meeting in March so that you and your team have a chance to get organized and to take care of urgent priorities. In the meantime, we plan to reach out to Secretary Ash, Undersecretary Kornegay, Assistant Secretary Pham and others to begin working with your Administration. During these conversations and meetings we will have an opportunity to talk about the Community Investment Tax Credit, the Housing Budget (capital and operating), Brownfields, and other shared priorities.

Thank you again for your strong support of our sector and our communities. We look forward to working together in the coming years. Please don't hesitate to contact me if we can ever be of any assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Joseph Kriesberg', written over the typed name and title.

Joseph Kriesberg
President & CEO

Cc: Jay Ash, Secretary
Carolyn Kirk, Deputy Secretary
Chrystal Kornegay, Under Secretary
Nam Pham, Assistant Secretary
Larry Andrews, President, Mass. Growth Capital Corporation