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Bob Dickerson

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NOW, MORE THAN EVER, SMALL BUSINESSES REQUIRE ASSISTANCE. AS SMALL BUSINESS COMMUNITIES RECOVER, I ASSIST THEM IN BECOMING PROFITABLE AND PRODUCTIVE BUSINESSES IN THEIR COMMUNITIES.

Dob Rickerson



BONG

Bob Dickerson has spent his career figuring out how to get money into people's hands. He did it for years as a commercial and consumer lending officer at numerous large financial institutions. He does it now as the Executive Director of the Birmingham Business Resource Center and the CEO of Foundation Capital, a Small Business Administration Certified Development Company.

Bob established the BBRC in 1996 after recognizing that there was no program in Birmingham that integrated loan programs, capacity building, and advocacy - three elements that any business requires to flourish. Bob obtained the backing of Birmingham's political authorities, different economic development organizations, and others in order to establish the BBRC. He eventually created an organization that has evolved into a "onestop shop" for small business funding and technical assistance. The BBRC assists with projects ranging in value from a few thousand dollars to several million dollars. Since 1996, the BBRC's initiatives have originated almost \$400 million in company loans.

Bob earned a business administration degree from Tuskegee Institute in 1973. He has worked at various financial organizations, but he believes that working for Birmingham business titan A. G. Gaston was the pinnacle of his career.

Bob was so inspired by Gaston that he and others founded the A.G. Gaston Conference in 2005. The annual conference addresses the problems and accomplishments of black and other minority businesses, as well as how they can be strengthened through networking, skill development, and focused training. The conference is usually held in Birmingham in February.

Bob is involved in a number of foundations, boards, and civic organizations. He is a member of the National Community Reinvestment Coalition (NCRC) and the Board of Directors of the Birmingham Civil Rights Institute. He also serves on the boards of the Birmingham Business Alliance, the A. G. Gaston Boys & Girls Club, the Talladega (Alabama) College Board of Trustees, the Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama, the Commercial Development Authority of Birmingham, the Community Capital Trust Board of Trustees, and the Fair Housing Center of Northern Alabama.

He currently sits on community advisory boards for numerous global financial institutions, where he assists CEOs in developing more successful high-impact community development programs.

In 2001, he received the Birmingham Chamber of Commerce's Jesse J. Lewis Jr. Community Service Award, and in 2007, he was named the Wachovia Minority Business Executive of the Year by the Birmingham Business Journal. In 2009, Bob and the BBRC received the Department of Commerce Minority Business Development Agency's national "Access to Capital" award.



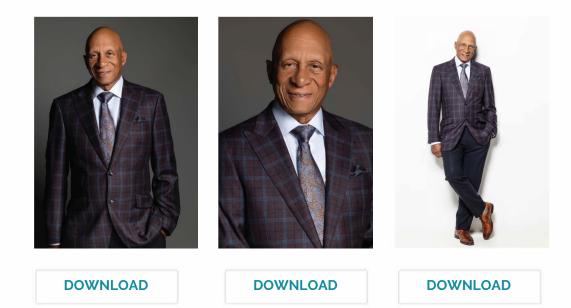
SHORT

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PHOTOS



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