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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 20, 2006

**El Camino College SBDC to Host Access to Capital Conference
City of Compton
The Premiere and Authorized SBDC Service Center in the South Bay Region**

The El Camino College Small Business Development Center (SBDC) is hosting an Access to Capital Conference in the City of Compton for the small business community from 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. on December 7, 2006 at the Crystal Park Hotel, 123 E. Artesia Boulevard in Compton.

Panelists include: Isadore Hall III, Councilman 4th District; Barbara Kilroy, Compton City Manager; Vladimir Jefferson, City of Compton Economic Development Specialist; John Means, Dean of the El Camino College Business Training Center/Community Advancement; Alex Vaughan, Director of the El Camino College SBDC; Alberto Alvarado, District Director at the Los Angeles District Office of the U.S. Small Business Administration; Regina Grant Peterson, Executive Director of Advantage Certified Development Corporation; Raylene Prout, Community Relations Officer for Comerica Bank; and Sharon Peterson, Senior Business Consultant at El Camino College SBDC.

This conference is the first of many that will bridge together the silos of funding sources to the small business community in the City of Compton. The speakers will provide an overview of technical assistance and funding options accessible to start-up and established businesses. The city's leaders will discuss opportunities and benefits obtainable by the small business community as a result of Compton's conditionally approved Enterprise Zone.

SBDC business counselors also will be present to provide one-on-one "no cost" confidential counseling sessions to pre-venture, new, and established business owners and entrepreneurs in the area of needs assessment and loan packaging assistance to help get them and their businesses bankable and ready to meet with lenders.

Admission to the conference is free, and breakfast and lunch will be provided. To reserve a seat, please call the El Camino College SBDC at 310-973-3177, or register online at www.southbaysbdc.org, no later than November 30, 2006. Seats are limited. For information on the SBDC Program, visit online at www.sba.gov/sbdc, or contact Alex Vaughan, Director Small Business Development Center, El Camino Business Training Center at 310-973-3177.

Small Business Development Centers are funded by the U.S. Small Business Administration, the California Community Colleges Economic & Workforce Development Program, and center host institutions. Funding is not an endorsement of any product, opinion, or service. All federal- and state-funded programs are extended to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis. Special arrangements for individuals with disability will be made if requested in advance.

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