

For Immediate Release

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**Wright-Patt Credit Union Joins
Ohio Business Lending Clearinghouse Network**

Columbus – The Ohio Business Lending Clearinghouse, which makes it easier for Ohio's small businesses to quickly connect with loan opportunities, continues to expand its network of lenders with the addition of the Wright-Patt Credit Union. This addition gives Ohio small businesses another resource as they grow and create jobs for Ohioans.

Wright-Patt Credit Union joins the ranks of other prominent lending institutions such as Fifth Third Bank, Huntington Bank, Key Bank, and PNC Bank, in an effort to connect Ohio small businesses with potential lending opportunities and business development resources.

"I am thrilled to see Wright-Patt Credit Union join the network," said James A. Leftwich, Director of the Ohio Department of Development. "Local banks and credit unions are just as important as larger institutions to small businesses as they search for funding. Increasing potential for small business loans is critical as we work to grow Ohio's economy."

The Ohio Business Lending Clearinghouse, administered by the Ohio Department of Development's Office of Insurance and Financial Development, is an innovative public/private partnership, which leverages the power of technology to bring together Ohio small businesses with Ohio lenders and other business development resources such as the state's Small Business Development Centers. It uses a free, web-based tool that enables Ohio businesses looking for a loan to enter 12 pieces of company information onto the website www.OhioBLC.com, which then works to match the business with a lender that best suits its needs.

Lenders are contacted with the loan and business profile details, and within 48 hours, interested lenders contact the businesses to discuss the loan request. Those businesses that aren't matched or don't qualify for a loan are referred to a network of business development resources that can assist them further. The Small Business Development Centers, for instance, are one-stop locations for business and technical assistance, counseling, business training, quality-based assessments, loan packaging guidance, and information on federal, state, and local regulations and programs.

"Wright-Patt Credit Union recognizes the importance of small businesses helping drive economic success in our market. So we are excited to join OBLC as a convenient way for the credit union to connect with even more area businesses," said Tim Mislansky, Senior Vice President at Wright-Patt Credit Union. "As a community-based lending institution, we understand the need to provide well-priced financing, and feel we have an obligation to help local businesses grow and prosper."

Wright-Patt Credit Union has more than 200,000 members, 23 member centers, approximately 475 employees, and is headquartered in Fairborn, Ohio. The credit union offers financial products and services including checking, savings, loans, credit cards, mortgages, and financial planning.

Since its launch in October 2010, the Ohio Business Lending Clearinghouse has assisted numerous small businesses and Ohio's lending community, as it provides both with a unique opportunity to quickly connect in an efficient new way. The program administrators are working with Ohio's financial institutions to expand the lender network and support small business growth.

*The **Ohio Business Lending Clearinghouse** is a nonprofit partnership between the Ohio Department of Development, the Ohio Treasurer's Office, and some of Ohio's leading financial institutions. The program is committed to helping connect small businesses with the tools they need to grow, prosper, and create jobs for Ohioans.*

*The **Small Business Development Center of Ohio Network** was created in 1985 through a partnership between the U.S. Small Business Administration and the Ohio Department of Development. The program fosters a strong climate for small business growth with many local community partners including colleges and universities, economic development agencies, chambers of commerce, and other community organizations.*

*Working with partners across business, state and local governments, academia, and the nonprofit sector, the **Ohio Department of Development** works to attract, create, grow, and retain businesses through competitive incentives and targeted investments. Engaged every day in marketing, innovating, investing, and collaborating, the **Ohio Department of Development** works at the speed of business to accelerate and support the teamwork that is necessary for success by providing financial, informational, and technical assistance to those making an investment in Ohio's future.*

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