

NEWS RELEASE
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**SUFFOLK BUSINESS OWNER RACHAEL CULBERTSON HONORED AS SBA'S
2026 BLUE COLLAR SMALL BUSINESS OF THE YEAR**

SUFFOLK, VA (May 8, 2026) The City of Suffolk Department of Economic Development and the Virginia District Office of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) are proud to celebrate local business owner and President of Culbertson Contracting, Rachael Culbertson, as the recipient of the SBA's 2026 Blue Collar Small Business of the Year Award.

Founded in 2021, Culbertson Contracting is a woman-owned, family-operated site development company serving Suffolk and the Hampton Roads region. Built on more than 22 years of combined industry experience, the company has quickly earned a reputation for quality work, integrity, and a strong commitment to the community.

"Culbertson Contracting is a local, woman-owned, family-run site development company built on more than 22 years of combined industry experience and a commitment to serving our community with excellence," said Rachael Culbertson. "My husband, Joseph, and I started with little more than a dream, faith, and the conviction that integrity, hard work, and a willingness to take smart risks can build a lasting business, and a legacy for our five children."

Culbertson shared that receiving the award is both an honor and a reflection of the dedication that has fueled the company's growth. "This recognition is a meaningful

milestone and a reminder that, with faith in God and a commitment to doing what's right, the American Dream is still within reach for those willing to pursue it," she said.

The SBA's Blue Collar Small Business of the Year Award recognizes outstanding small businesses in skilled trades and construction industries that demonstrate business success, innovation, resilience, and community impact. Culbertson Contracting's growth and continued investment in the region exemplify the important role small businesses play in strengthening local economies and supporting workforce development.

To celebrate the achievement, a luncheon honoring Rachael Culbertson will be held on Monday, May 11, 2026, at 12:00 p.m. at Culbertson Contracting, located at 1562 Holland Road. The program will feature Mayor Michael Duman, Director of Economic Development for the City of Suffolk Janet Days, Director of the SBA Virginia District Office Carl Knoblock, and the award recipient Rachael Culbertson.

For more information, please contact Rachael Culbertson of Culbertson Contracting at 757-802-6537 or visit culbertsoncontracting.com.

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