

T O R R A N C E



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SOUTH BAY ENTREPRENEURIAL CENTER CELEBRATES ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY AND REMEMBERS FOUNDING PARTNER, LEE PETILLON

Torrance, Calif., December 9, 2013 – On Wednesday, December 11, 2013, the South Bay Entrepreneurial Center (SBEC) will celebrate its one-year anniversary and honor late founding partner, Lee Petillon.

The South Bay Entrepreneurial Center was formed as a public-benefit corporation in 2011 by a group of civic and business leaders in Torrance and the South Bay. The original founders of the SBEC, Mike Grimshaw and Lee Petillon, wanted to create an environment where founders and companies could gain knowledge and support to build lasting businesses. Made possible by the partnership of Fran Fulton, Manager of the City of Torrance Office of Economic Development, and a \$100,000 start-up grant by the City of Torrance, the SBEC opened its doors in October 2012.

Wednesday's one-year anniversary celebration is in memoriam of Petillon, who was a securities attorney and an expert on small business financing. He drafted seven bills passed by the California Legislature that helped small businesses. He authored a widely-used book on representing start-up companies and generously shared his expertise with entrepreneurs and with academic, legal, and business groups. He practiced law with a passion for 53 years.

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The SBEC, “where innovation, technology, business and investment come together” is a non-profit community based center for public benefit providing incubation, training, mentoring and funding resources for entrepreneurs throughout the 14 cities of the South Bay.

To inquire about membership or mentorship opportunities at the South Bay Entrepreneurial Center, or to RSVP for the one-year anniversary and memorial, visit theSBEC.org.

Inquiries for the City of Torrance Office of Economic Development may be directed to (310) 618-5807 or EconomicDevelopment@TorranceCA.Gov.

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