

Jerry A. Mitchell
225 Spragins Street, Suite E
Huntsville, Alabama 35801

Summary of Qualifications

Economic Development Professional with 15 years experience as an entrepreneur and economic development consultant, 12 years in leadership positions as an officer in the military and a project manager in the Defense industry. Currently provide business and technical assistance to hundreds businesses/entrepreneurs in strategic planning and business development, acquiring financial capital, market research and analysis, and training.

Work Experience

2001 – Present

Executive Director/CEO

North Alabama African American Chamber of Commerce

Huntsville, AL

Run operations of 200+ member organization, and implement activities to accomplish chamber goals and objectives. Provide small business consulting; perform business recruitment, and advocacy on member/community issues. Conduct training seminars covering: business start-up, business plan development, marketing, customer service, financial planning, grant writing and research.

2003 – Present

Adjunct Professor

Alabama A&M University

Normal, Alabama

Provide instruction for MBA program participants and undergraduate business students. Courses taught include: Entrepreneurship & Small Business Management, Human Resource Management, Organizational Theory & Behavior, Strategic Management, and Training & Development.

1994 - 2001

Entrepreneur/Business owner

Huntsville, AL/St. Louis, MO

Founder and Sr. Partner of a consulting firm specializing in data collection/research/analysis of information, and training & development. Clients included federal and state government, and small to medium sized businesses.

1988 – 1993

Sr. Analyst/Project Team Leader, CAS, Inc.

Huntsville, AL

Sr. Analyst and Project Leader responsible for supervising Jr. Analysts, business development and securing of new task orders, and ensuring task order completion.

1980 – 1987

Officer (Captain), U.S. Air Force

Certified Acquisition Management professional for aircraft and telecommunications systems. Project Manager for \$15 million Independent Verification and Validation contract. Division Chief with supervisory authority for government civilians, junior officers, and enlisted men.

Education

Completed Doctoral coursework (Public Administration) & passed competency exam.
University of Alabama (Tuscaloosa)

Masters (Business Management), Central Michigan University, Mt. Pleasant, MI

BBA (Accounting –major, math –minor), Valdosta State University, Valdosta, GA

Minority Entrepreneur Institute, Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA

Bio for Jerry Mitchell

Since 2001 Jerry Mitchell has served as Executive Director/CEO of the North Alabama African American Chamber of Commerce (NAAACC), an organization committed to fostering positive economic development in North Alabama African American communities and other under represented communities. In this position he has consulted with more than 750 businesses/non-profits providing business development planning and technical assistance. Additionally, he has assisted over 120 businesses in acquiring needed capital for start-up and expansion, securing amounts ranging from \$25,000 to \$1.5 million.

From 2003 through 2007, he hosted and produced "Business Matters", a public radio program focused on small business and economic development. Since 2003 he has served as an adjunct professor for the Alabama A&M University School of Business teaching graduate and undergraduate courses in: *Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management, Strategic Management, Organizational Behavior and Theory, and Human Resource Management.*

Prior to becoming an entrepreneur Mr. Mitchell served honorably for 7 years as an officer in the U.S. Air Force and was a project manager for multi-million dollar government acquisitions. Following his military service he was employed for 4 years as a Sr. Analyst in the government defense contract industry.

He serves on the Board of Directors for: the National Black Chamber of Commerce (headquartered in Washington DC), the Better Business Bureau of North Alabama, the AAMU Community Development Corporation, the Valdosta State University (VSU) Langdale School of Business Alumni Advisory Board, and the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce. He is the recipient of a number awards for community service and leadership from churches, business associations and service organizations. The following is a brief list of the recent awards:

- Jun 2009 Alabama Black Achiever Awards – Non-Profit CEO
- May 2009 Distinguished Service Award, City of Huntsville
- Aug 2008 Community Service Award, Huntsville/Madison Co. NAAACP
- Aug 2005 Outstanding Community Leadership Award,
Speakin' Out News Silver Anniversary
- Sep 2003 Outstanding Community Leadership, New Life SDA Church

In response to statewide requests for assistance from entrepreneurs, business owners, non-profits and communities, he along with other small business leaders launched the Alabama State Black Chamber of Commerce (ASBCC) in the fall of 2008. The ASBCC interacts with thousands of businesses across Alabama and currently has 5 affiliates: the NAAACC, the Alabama Blackbelt Region Minority Chamber of Commerce, and the Greater Birmingham Black Chamber of Commerce, and the Tuscaloosa Area Black Chamber of Commerce, and ASBCC College Chamber of Commerce at Oakwood University. He currently serves as President/CEO of the ASBCC.

Mr. Mitchell has bachelors in accounting from VSU(1979), a masters degree in business management from Central Michigan University (1983), and completed doctoral coursework in public administration/policy at the University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa (dissertation not completed). In addition, he successfully completed entrepreneurial training at the Minority Enterprise Institute at Kennesaw State University in 1996 and Leadership Huntsville/Madison County in 2007.