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American Indian- and Alaska Native-Owned Businesses Total 201,387 and Generate \$27 Billion in Revenue

Washington, D.C. – The Minority Business Development Agency and the U.S. Census Bureau today released new statistics that show American Indian- and Alaska Native-owned firms generated nearly \$27 billion in revenue and employed 191,270 people in 2002.

“President Bush is committed to building a healthy economy,” said MBDA’s National Director, Ronald N. Langston, “And growing the number, size and receipts of American minority business enterprises is paramount, especially American Indian- and Alaska Native-owned firms.” “Last year MBDA launched the Office of Native American Entrepreneurship and Trade to give this group of business leaders expanded business opportunities that will help create jobs and generate revenues in Indian Country,” concluded Langston.

Additional highlights from the newly released Census report, *2002 Survey of Business Owners: American Indian- and Alaska Native-Owned Firms*, include:

- There were 3,631 American Indian- and Alaska Native-owned firms with receipts of \$1 million or more in 2002.
- California accounted for 19 percent of total American Indian- and Alaska Native-owned firms, followed by Oklahoma (8.5 percent) and Texas (8 percent) in 2002.
- In 2002, 175 American Indian- and Alaska Native-owned firms employed 100 or more workers and generated \$5.3 billion in gross receipts.
- In 2002, construction accounted for 16 percent of all American Indian- and Alaska Native-owned businesses.

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About the Minority Business Development Agency, US Department of Commerce

The Minority Business Development Agency, part of the U.S. Department of Commerce, is the only federal agency created specifically to foster the establishment and growth minority-owned businesses in America. With a network of nearly 40 centers nationwide, MBDA is able to serve minority entrepreneurs and business owners across the United States and Puerto Rico. In FY 2005, MBDA reached almost 20,000 minority-owned firms, assisted in securing more than \$1 billion in contract and financial awards, and helped create over 2,000 jobs. To learn more about MBDA and the closest center to you, please visit www.mbda.gov.