

**THE DAILY**

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## Bridgewater government contractors named SBA Small Business Persons of the Year

By Andrew Kitchenman

The owners of Bridgewater-based civilian and defense contractor **Phacil Inc.** were named the New Jersey Small Business Persons of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Phacil CEO **Rafael Collado** and Chief Operating Officer **Sascha Mornell** received the award on Thursday.

In addition, the SBA named **Wells Fargo Bank** business development officer **Adam Lewis** the state's Financial Services Champion of the Year; Ocean View construction services company **Kalimex Inc.** President **Anne C. O'Brien** the Region 2 Regional Prime Contractor of the Year; and **Tracie M. Yeoman**, of the state Department of Labor and Workforce Development, the state Veteran Champion of the Year.

The Small Business Persons of the Year award recognized Phacil's work in providing information technology, acquisition support, facilities management support, security and intelligence services, and human resources support.



Mornell and Collado

Collado founded, built and sold three companies before starting Phacil with Mornell in 2001. Collado said the company's turning point was being certified as an SBA 8(a) contractor, a program benefiting minority- and women-owned small businesses.

"Rafael Collado and Sascha Mornell are your typical entrepreneurs: They are risk-takers who have a vision and passion, and an understanding of what it takes to nurture an idea and build it into a successful company," said **James A. Kocsi**, SBA New Jersey district director.

Lewis was nominated by **Sarjit Bharj**, vice president of **Princeton Microwave Technology**, of Hamilton.

"Lewis has helped Wells Fargo Bank to become a significant player in SBA's guarantee loan program," Kocsi said.

O'Brien began Kalimex in 1996 and has worked on high-profile projects, including the recent Statue of Liberty reopening, the Vanderbilt Mansion restoration and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers infrastructure projects.

Yeoman serves veterans and small businesses at the One Stop center in Toms River.