

## LEWIS C. ATTARDO

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Lewis Attardo is the Statewide Program Manager for Business Technology Commercialization (BTC) and a Certified Business Analyst for the Florida SBDC State Director's Office, located at the University of West Florida. The BTC Program assists entrepreneurs, university researchers and manufacturers engaged in innovation with R&D and the rapid commercialization of products or processes. The BTC Program provides entrepreneurs with linkages to universities, private and federal resources, including grant funding and federal laboratory collaboration on research, identification of sources of debt and equity capital; technology networks; training; and related services to support the expansion of physical and bioscience ventures. Lew also serves as the primary point of contact in Florida for the federal SBIR/STTR Programs and serves as a Peer Reviewer for SBIR Phase II proposal.

Lew has designed and managed knowledge-based business development programs in FL, CA, PA, a two-state program for GA and SC. He served as the director for the Pennsylvania Ben Franklin Technology Center at Penn State University; CEO for the Savannah River Regional Diversification Initiative (two-state program in GA and SC), COO and Executive Director for the Sacramento Area Regional Technology Alliance (CA), CEO Hardee County Economic Development Council and Executive Director for the Hardee County IDA; Executive Vice President for The Enterprise Corporation of Tampa Bay, and Co-Director for the Tampa Bay Defense Transition Task Force. Lew has also designed, managed and/or serves as a reviewer for more than 20 programs to support high growth business development for national and international organizations, including The US Departments of Commerce, Agriculture, Energy, Housing and Urban Development; The US Small Business Administration; International Economic Development Council, The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, Paris, FR; the United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Paris, FR, and New Zealand Trade and Enterprise.

Lew also has over 20 years of experience as a small business owner, limited partner investor and as a consultant to small and medium-sized enterprises across the US. He has provided assistance to scalable physical and bioscience ventures with raising capital and the development and commercialization of unique products and processes. He has authored and presented several papers and articles on building knowledge-based economies, current trends in due diligence, public private partnerships and technology-based entrepreneurship.

Lew has served on the several boards and committees including co-chair for the International Economic Development Council's Technology Committee, Penn State University's Technical Advisory Council and chair for the National Association of Small Business Development Centers Technology Interest Group. He was a founding member and Vice President of the Ben Franklin Venture Forum in Harrisburg PA, and is currently a member of Enterprise Florida's Technology, Entrepreneurship and Capital Council, Florida Venture Forum, Northwest Florida Venture Forum, Pensacola High Growth Business Council and he has served as a board member an active investor for advanced electronics, bioscience and transportation ventures.

Lew is a graduate of Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, where he majored in Economics.