



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
Secretary of Commerce
Washington, D.C. 20230

May 4, 2023

Ms. Silvia Torres Bowman
Director
Illinois SBDC International Trade Center
at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville
2126 Alumni Hall
Edwardsville, IL 62026

Dear Ms. Torres Bowman:

It is my privilege to inform you that Illinois SBDC International Trade Center at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville has been selected to receive the President's "E" Award for Export Service in recognition of your organization's achievement in making significant contributions to an increase in U.S. exports. This well-deserved award is the highest honor given to providers of services to exporters.

The organization has demonstrated a sustained commitment to export expansion. The "E" Awards Committee was impressed with your work that supported \$138 million dollars in export sales achieved by its clients over the past four years. The organization's dedicated outreach to serve rural and minority-owned businesses was also particularly notable. Illinois SBDC International Trade Center at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville's achievements have contributed to national export expansion efforts that support the U.S. economy and create American jobs.

Elizabeth Ahern of the Peoria U.S. Export Assistance Center was pleased to support your award application and will assist you with any questions you may have with regard to the 2023 President's "E" Award ceremony. Congratulations on this exceptional achievement.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gina Raimondo".

Gina M. Raimondo