

**Opening Statement of
Chairman Steve Chabot
Committee on Small Business
Hearing: *SBA Management Review: Oversight of SBA's Access to Capital Offices*
January 12, 2016**

Good morning. Thank you all for being with us today. I call this hearing to order.

Last week, we heard from both the Government Accountability Office and the Administrator of Small Business Administration, SBA, on troubling management challenges within the Agency. What I heard led me to believe that this Committee needs to fully review offices within the SBA to ensure that each one is meeting its mission. That is why we started a series of hearings yesterday, in both full Committee and Subcommittees, to examine various SBA offices and find ways to overcome significant deficiencies. As the President's budget is due to be released next month, it is imperative these hearings are held to ensure our decisions about funding various programs and offices are well informed.

Today's hearing will focus on the Office of Capital Access and Office of Credit Risk Management. Access to capital continues to be challenging for small businesses and these two offices have the competing tasks of both promoting the SBA's access to capital programs while ensuring the programs are free of waste, fraud, and abuse. In FY 2015, SBA lending programs had a record year, lending roughly \$23.5 billion in the 7(a) program and nearly \$4.3 billion in the CDC program. As the SBA's lending portfolio continues to grow, it will become even more vital that these two offices work together to establish clear guidance and ensure the integrity of the lending programs. As the Committee of jurisdiction, we must ensure that we are conducting oversight and proactively assisting them in this effort.

I'd like to thank our witnesses for coming today and I look forward to your testimony. I now yield to Ranking Member Velázquez for her opening remarks.