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## Coldiron is New SKED Director of Lending

SOMERSET, Ky. – A Pulaski County native is taking the reins of the Southeast Kentucky Development Corporation (SKED) lending department.

Somerset resident Chris Coldiron, brings 28 years of lending and small business ownership experience with him to the key position. He began work with the nonprofit economic development organization and lender on April 2.

Coldiron says working for SKED is a welcome change from his most recent experience as the owner of Elm Street Capital, a business he founded in 2003 and continues to oversee on a limited basis.



**CHRIS COLDIRON**

“I look forward to returning to commercial lending,” Coldiron said. “I’m particularly excited about learning exactly how SKED gives back to the region and how I can help it grow in the coming years. It’s a great organization that has worked to create a lot of jobs and bring a great deal of investment to Southeast Kentucky over the past 31 years.”

He’s toured the country with his own business over the past 15 years. At SKED, his travel will be focused on meeting with and helping the small business owners and entrepreneurs in its 45-County Service area in Kentucky.

“Small business owners are the backbone of our economy,” Coldiron said. “My goal is to make sure as many as possible know how a nonprofit lender like SKED not only invests in their business but works to give them the tools they need to succeed with training and technical assistance.”

**Southeast Kentucky  
Economic Development**   
A Regional Growth Corporation

Prior to founding Elm Street Capital, Coldiron spent 13 years working in commercial banking. He began his career in banking as a management trainee at Fleet Bank in Maine. Coldiron then returned to Kentucky and spent 12 years working at a commercial bank where he was executive vice president of commercial lending.

He earned his bachelor's degree in finance at Eastern Kentucky University. He has been married to his wife Karen for 28 years and has three children.

SKED Executive Director Brett Traver says Coldiron brings a wealth of capabilities and promise to the organization.

“Chris is a great addition to our staff,” Traver said. “His commercial banking experience, investment skills and small business ownership knowledge bring a new level of knowledge and understanding to our staff. I look forward to working with him to grow SKED’s lending programs and create even more employment opportunities and financial investment in the region.”

Coldiron can be reached at the SKED offices, located in the Center for Rural Development, by phone at (606) 677-6046 or email at [chris.coldiron@centertech.com](mailto:chris.coldiron@centertech.com).

SKED is a nonprofit economic development organization and has been designated a CDC by the U.S. Small Business Administration. The organization was formed 31 years ago by Fifth District Congressman Hal Rogers to create jobs in Southeast Kentucky.

Its corporate office is based in Somerset and serves a 45-county service region. A staff of nine professionals works with business owners, small and large, to identify financing solutions to fund their location, expansion and working capital needs, and provide them the technical assistance and training they need to succeed.

For more information about SKED, visit our website: [www.southeastkentucky.com](http://www.southeastkentucky.com).