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## **Governor's Office names local firm in Top 100 Minority Business Enterprises**

Bel Air, Md. - A. Bright Idea LLC, a local, award-winning public relations and advertising firm, earned accolades as one of the Top 100 Minority Business Enterprises in Maryland. This highly competitive award compliments a successful tenth year for the woman-owned business.

For the first time, the Maryland Governor's Office of Minority Affairs recognized the top 100 entrepreneurs from thousands of Maryland's minority and women business owners for their outstanding achievement in business development, client satisfaction, professional affiliations and community involvement.

"With the often challenging business climate for minority business enterprises, recognition by the Governor's Office helps solidify our successful business model," says Anita Brightman, president and founder. "As the A. Bright Idea team continues to successfully meet client needs, we're encouraged to receive the Governor's acknowledgment and vote of confidence."

An MBE is defined as a business at least 51 percent owned, managed and controlled by a minority as defined by state and federal laws. This includes members of socially or economically disadvantaged minority groups, such as African Americans, Asians, Hispanics, American Indians, women and physically or mentally disabled individuals.

Special Secretary of Minority Affairs, Sharon R. Pinder, outlined the significance of this award by saying, "Entrepreneurs, by definition, are creators and risk takers. According to the U.S. Small Business Administration, over 50 percent of small businesses fail in the first year and 95 percent fail within the first five years, and the percentage is even higher for women and minority owned businesses. Each recipient of the Top 100 MBE award has defied the odds through their dedication, perseverance, sacrifices and resilience to be here, not just as any business, but as one of the best in the state of Maryland."

The recipients of the Top 100 Minority Business Enterprise Award were honored on October 27 at an event hosted by the University of Maryland and profiled in November's "The Maryland's Top 100 Minority Business Enterprise Award" magazine, an insert to *The Daily Record*.

A. Bright Idea provides verbal and visual communication solutions for a variety of retail, small business, government and non-profit clients. The firm supports clients Bel Air Center for Addictions, The Highlands School, Hillside Lawn Service, Maryland Jockey Club, Slavia Federal Savings Bank, and URS Coleman. With a growing repertoire of services and increased staff, A. Bright Idea plans to build a new office next to its current location in Bel Air. For more information on A. Bright Idea and its services, visit [www.abrightideaonline.com](http://www.abrightideaonline.com).



CAPTION: Anita A. Brightman, APR, President and Founder

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