



Alta S. Baker

Alta S. Baker is the Founder, President, and Chief Executive Officer of Safe Haven Enterprises, LLC – a unique and rapidly growing, Louisiana licensed Class A General Construction and Manufacturing Corporation located in Jennings, Louisiana. In 1998, Alta was involved in a hazardous gas release on a job site – an unforgettable experience that made her realize that personnel and property in many work environments needed additional protection. As a result, she began research and development of buildings that would provide the maximum hazard protection possible. Safe Haven provides protection for both government and private sector businesses. Blast resistant modular buildings, doors and windows are located in oil and gas facilities worldwide. Offshore facilities provided Safe Haven the opportunity to provide blast resistant and DNV certified buildings, a first in the industry.

Under Alta's direction, Safe Haven includes divisions manufacturing U.S. Department of State certified doors, windows, and louvers. These products provide 15-minute and 60-minute forced entry/ballistic resistant security in U.S. Embassy buildings and petrochemical facilities around the world. Alta quickly added to this with her Louisiana General Contractor License by providing U.S. Embassy interior wall hardening methods for forced entry/ballistic resistance to provide extra protection in the event of blast or forced entry advances toward the embassy. Safe Haven also provides environmental upgrades to embassies and compounds worldwide. Alta moved complete complex facilities into Iraq within 24 hours of the fall of Baghdad.

Alta has had many opportunities throughout her career that are highlights she takes pride in such as the Keynote speaker at Project Tsunami, Washington, DC. which has opened many doors as a woman owned business, as well as being the March 2004 Keynote speaker at Women Trading Globally conference in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. While there she spent three days in training with women who formed the first Iraqi Governing Council sponsored by Department of Commerce. She also testified before the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship on "The Effects of Hurricane Katrina on women owned businesses."

As the list of awards have been many in Alta's success, there are a few that have stood out, for example, named Women Business Enterprise Council South (WBEC South) Supplier of the Year by the Corporate Sponsors in 2018, the Women Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC) Woman of Distinction in 2016, the New York Woman in Construction Woman Owned Business of the year award for 2014. Then in December of, 2012, Alta was Inducted into WBE Hall of Fame, in Dallas Texas as she has continued to be an inspiration to so many in women business.

The Minority Enterprise Executive Council and *Minority Enterprise Advocate Magazine (MEA)* recognized the achievements of Alta in the "**Fifty Influential Entrepreneurs in Business**, *"Applauding the Vision of Success"*. Enterprising Woman named Alta Enterprising Woman of the Year, and the WBENC Applause Award, started the chain of many years of hard-earned achievement's in Alta's business career.

To add to her accomplishments, Alta has also had articles published on the Cover and feature story in Enterprising Women magazine, and WBE Magazine, along with most recently a book written by Susan Phillips Bari, titled **An Extraordinary Ordinary Life**, where Susan has written a fantastic story about Alta and Safe Haven.

Alta realizes the importance of giving back to her community and state. Alta serves on the Board of One Acadiana and previously on the Board of Communities against Domestic Abuse. In 2019, Alta was appointed by Louisiana Governor John Bell Edwards to serve on the Louisiana Small Business and Entrepreneurship Council. Alta is currently the Chair Emeritus of the Louisiana District Export Council LDEC) under which during her tenure Louisiana was named District Export Council (DEC) of the year in Washington, DC. She has also been appointed Honorary Ambassador on behalf of the State of Louisiana's Economic Development Efforts.

The Memberships and Boards that Alta is a part of show how passionate she is for all women businesses and small businesses. These include:

- Louisiana Small Business and Entrepreneurial Council Board member
- Chair Emeritus, Louisiana District Export Council (LDEC)
- Women's Business Enterprise Council South Board member
- One Acadiana Board member
- National Founding Partner, Women Impacting Public Policy
- Women Impacting Public Policy Board member
- Chair Emeritus, Women Business Enterprise National Council Women's Leadership FORUM
- Founding Member, Women's Business Enterprise Council South
- Member, Women's Business Enterprise Alliance
- Member, New Orleans Women Presidents' Organization