

Jason Powers**Office of Investment and Innovation, U.S. Small Business Administration**

Jason is the Chief of SBIC Licensing and supervises the daily activities of the Licensing Unit. Jason is a member of SBA's Investment Committee and makes the first analytical recommendation to the Director of Licensing to either proceed or deny the licensing process and to the SBA's Divisional Licensing Committee.

Before this current role, Jason was a federal agent/criminal investigator specializing in complex white-collar federal criminal investigations. Also, Jason was an active-duty U.S. Marine.

Jason has earned a BS in Finance, MBA in Finance, a Chartered Financial Analyst (CFA) Charterholder, Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE), and an All But Dissertation (ABD), pursuing a Ph.D. in Business. Jason's dissertation research is a qualitative inquiry, which intersects corporate social responsibility (CSR), socially responsible investing (SRI), and environmental, social, and governance (ESG). Jason's hypothesis addresses how marketing executives integrate and engage social media to manage corporate reputation, financial performance, and CSR, and ESG initiatives through the lens of stakeholder theory. After Jason's dissertation, he plans to contribute to ongoing research by developing academic theory in CSR/ESG/SRI.