

Charlie “Chuck” H. Mills, III
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Chuck Mills is founder and CEO of Salera Capital Management, a financial services and business consulting firm. Since its inception in 1998, Salera has successfully provided short term and asset based lending to small businesses in the government contracting industry. In 2007 Mr. Mills co-founded his second firm, Salera Employee Benefits Solutions, a firm focused on providing employee benefits solutions to US federal government contractors. Salera’s client list includes some of the largest government contracting firms in the US. Mills and his company have received numerous awards to include the Small Business Administration’s Regional Minority Small Business Advocate of the Year award.

During 1994-98, Mills was with Bear Stearns & Company on Wall Street, first as a trader for a \$300 million portfolio of US government bonds and then as Vice-President within the company's Emerging Markets unit.

During 2002-2004, Mills took a hiatus from his firm and became an appointee of Virginia Governor Mark Warner, as Director of the Virginia Department of Business Assistance. In this position, he led the Washington, D.C. region's second largest economic development agency, servicing over 200,000 existing businesses within the Commonwealth of Virginia. His oversight included programs ranging from access to capital, workforce training, small business and incubator counseling, women business certification and support, and proactive business problem solving.

Coming from a humble childhood, Mr. Mills has become a successful motivational and inspirational speaker. Mills is also a “speaker” for the US State Department. In this international diplomacy role, he has provided presentations throughout Argentina, Brazil, S. Africa, Indonesia, U.A.E., Syria, Qatar, Belgium, the Caribbean, Kazakhstan and China on small business, economic and strategic development, and public policies relating to these issues.

Mills is a graduate of the US Naval Academy. He served nine years in the US Marine Corps as a Cobra helicopter pilot and in the first Iraq conflict of 1990 - 91. During 1992-94, he was selected as a “Marine One” helicopter pilot for Presidents George H. W. Bush and William Clinton.

He has served on numerous boards, including Community Capital Bank of Virginia where he currently serves as chair of the loan committee and on the governance committee, and formerly served as the Secretary of George Mason University’s Board of Visitors.

In his spare time Mills enjoys RVing, reading, watching movies and coaching his children’s sports teams. Mills resides in Loudoun County, VA with his wife and three children.