



## Big Brothers Big Sisters Southeastern Pennsylvania

**Contact:** Gregory Burton  
Big Brothers Big Sisters Southeastern PA  
[gburton@bbbssepa.org](mailto:gburton@bbbssepa.org)  
W 484.482.1428

### **BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS SOUTHEASTERN PA WELCOMES MICHELE LAWRENCE AND SCOTT BENTLEY TO ITS BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

*Lawrence, Area President for Wells Fargo and Bentley, President of VideoRay, will serve three-year terms*

PHILADELPHIA—(October 23, 2014)—Big Brothers Big Sisters Southeastern PA (BBBS SEPA), the state's most experienced donor- and volunteer- supported one-to-one youth mentoring organization, has appointed Michele Lawrence and Scott Bentley to its Board of Directors. Lawrence currently serves as Area President and Senior Vice President for the Philadelphia Retail market of Wells Fargo. Bentley is President and majority owner of VideoRay, the dominant manufacturer of small, underwater robots, and headquartered in Pottstown, PA.

"We are honored to have Michele Lawrence and Scott Bentley on our board," said Marcus Allen, chief executive officer for BBBS SEPA. "Michele and Scott are powerful advocates for mentoring in their professional lives and through Big Brothers Big Sisters Southeastern PA."

The 26-member BBBS SEPA Board of Directors is made up of regional business and community leaders. The organization looks to the board for fundraising efforts, strategic planning, and resource sharing. Both Lawrence and Bentley will serve three-year terms.

Michele Lawrence founded the Saving Our Boys (S.O.B.) nonprofit in 2010 and recently partnered with the Call Me MISTER program at Cheyney University to launch a S.O.B. Leadership Development Institute. The institute is part of an overarching effort to begin repairing the vision and future of boys of color. The program is a prelude to a year-long leadership and mentorship development institute that addresses key areas of performance: personal, academic and social - with the purpose of bettering young African-American men, and helping them to realize their full potential. Michele has been with Wells Fargo for 25 years, which is also proud sponsor of a BBBS SEPA Beyond School Walls program with the KIPP school in North Philadelphia.

Scott Bentley is a pioneer in underwater robotics manufacturing. His company VideoRay sponsors a BBBS SEPA Beyond School Walls program with Pottstown Middle School, which is now in its second year. Prior to founding VideoRay in 1999, Scott Bentley was one of the first employees of Bentley Systems, Inc., an infrastructure software firm founded in 1985. Bentley Systems is also a Beyond School Walls corporate partner with BBBS SEPA and Chester County's Collegium Charter School & Renaissance Academy.

#### **About Big Brothers Big Sisters Southeastern Pennsylvania**

Big Brothers Big Sisters Southeastern PA enriches, encourages and empowers children to reach their highest potential through safe, one-to-one mentoring relationships. In Chester, Delaware, Montgomery and Philadelphia Counties, Big Brothers Big Sisters Southeastern PA changes the lives of nearly 3,000 children annually. Individual donations and other funding help



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to support the children and volunteers in our program. To learn more, visit [www.bbbssepa.org](http://www.bbbssepa.org) or call 215.790.9200.