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**MD Businesswoman Shines as Standout in Two Prestigious Competitions**

*Frontrunner is contending for both a \$5,000 grant and Rising Star Award in separate but equally prominent contests*

Fort Washington, MD, October 22, 2013 — If the DMV hosted a biggest winner contest, entrepreneur Sherrell Martin could very well earn the title. The Maryland native is a selected finalist in two high-profile contests for women in business: the inaugural Elevate by Fairfield program and the WE Rock Awards.

Martin, owner of Empower 2 Thrive, LLC, a boutique practice specializing in financial management accounting and business development consulting, is a top contender in the [Women's Elevation Magazine WE Rock Awards](#). Along with 10 other entrepreneurs in her category and one young entrepreneur, she is competing for the honor of the Rising Star Award.

Voting for her category—and the WE Rock Awards in general—began on September 6 and will run until October 31. Martin encourages her supporters to vote daily, as often as possible, at [www.WERockAwards.com/vote](http://www.WERockAwards.com/vote).

Martin is also one of 19 women across the country competing for a \$5,000 business grant in the [ELEVATEbyFairfield program](#). Sponsored by Fairfield Inn & Suites, which has partnered with the National Black MBA Association and WBENC, the finalists will receive three months of free access to workspace, additional resources and other events they can use to grow their businesses. The winner will be announced in November.

“I am completely honored and humbled to be a finalist in both of these contests. Winning one or both of these awards will help me get my message out about the importance of business finances,” Martin explains. “There are so many people talking about personal finances but few are stressing the importance of business finances. I want to help other entrepreneurs understand that with the proper knowledge and tools, they can build a thriving business *and* personal life.”

Sherrell Martin is also available for interviews and speaking engagements. For booking, media appearances and/or more information, contact [info@empower2thrive.com](mailto:info@empower2thrive.com). For more information about Empower 2 Thrive, LLC, visit [www.empower2thrive.com](http://www.empower2thrive.com).

**About Sherrell Martin:** Martin is the owner and chief empowerment officer at Empower 2 Thrive, LLC, aboutique practice specializing in financial management, accounting and business development consulting. Through virtual accounting and bookkeeping services as well as teleseminars, webinars and workshops, she helps entrepreneurs create, build and maintain financially thriving businesses so they can sustain success, create wealth and build their legacies.

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