Hieu Doan has been shrimping and crabbing with his father in South Louisiana for over 20 years. His catch supplied the family’s seafood market until 2013 when Hieu converted it to an upscale Vietnamese restaurant, Namese, which remains open and thriving in downtown New Orleans. In light of his success, Doan was inspired to undertake a new venture, which would become BOIL Seafood House. The menu was born from the idea of combining traditional Vietnamese food with the bold, unique flavors of New Orleans cuisine.

What was once a music store before falling into dilapidation after years of abandonment would become the restaurant of Doan’s dream with the help of an SBA 504 loan, utilized to purchase the property and finance major renovations. The massive overhaul in accordance with historic district guidelines supported the revitalization of an area within the Lower Garden District that is now so popular, locals and tourists cross paths in the name of Viet-Cajun chargrilled oysters.

504 loans have added 11,493 jobs to the LA economy

$405 million in financing to help LA small businesses

672 entrepreneurs in LA have benefited from program

A Sample of LA 504 Borrowers

- Data Technology Solutions
- Monroe Animal Health Center
- Crescent City Auction Gallery
- Starr Textile Services of LA, Inc.

Source: U.S. Small Business Administration

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DENTIST BUILDS PROPERTY WITH SBA 504

Brandon Martin moved to Lafayette in January of 2010 after five years as a practicing dentist and opened his own office, Martin Family & Cosmetic Dentistry, in a leased space. It wasn’t long before his small office became too small to keep up with a growing demand from new patients.

He knew he needed a larger facility and determined his ideal property would need to be built from the ground up with his customers in mind. With a 504 loan, it was possible to finance the purchase of land and construction of a new facility. Today Dr. Martin operates out of his constructed property, a brick building that could be mistaken for a charming home if it weren’t for the "Brandon Martin, DDS" sign by the front door.

Dr. Martin says that "having the option to lock in a low rate and stretch out payments over a longer period of time for such a large capital outlay was key. The financing package allowed me to build and own my own facility sooner than I originally thought possible."

CDC: Louisiana Capital Certified Development Company, Inc.