



N. Michael Obi

President & CEO Spectrum Global Solutions, LLC

Michael Obi is president and CEO of Spectrum Global Solutions, a strategic planning and global distribution company he founded in 2003 to position small and mid-sized businesses for growth and global competitiveness.

Obi began his entrepreneurial journey as a teenager. When he was 17, he started an international trading business and executed transactions in Africa, Europe and Asia.

He spent 17 years in the financial services industry, most recently as senior vice president and director of Cleveland-based KeyBank's retail and small business segment. The segment represented annual revenues in excess of \$1.5 billion and operated with 6,000 sales and service professionals. While at KeyBank, Obi received the Chairman's Award for leadership for his team's record acquisition of new retail and small business clients. This Award is the highest honor given to KeyBank's employees for excellence.

Prior to joining KeyBank, Obi was vice president and senior finance manager at Bank of America, assistant vice president at Wachovia Bank and a financial analyst at SunTrust Bank. Obi's financial background and extensive knowledge of the global market drive his enthusiasm to promote economic development and globalization in Greater Cleveland and around the world.

Obi is active in the community and serves on the board of Opera Cleveland. He is a lifetime member of the National Association of Black MBAs and serves on the local chapter's advisory board. He was recently appointed Board Chairman of the National Charitable Fund (NCF).

He is on the panel of the Cleveland Foundation's Civic Innovation Lab, an organization dedicated to promoting innovative civic and economic ventures in Northeast Ohio. He was instrumental in establishing the State of Ohio's Small Business Development Center at the Urban League of Greater Cleveland, a model now replicated across the country.

Obi earned a bachelor's degree in accounting and master's in business administration from the University of North Florida's Coggin School of Business in Jacksonville, Florida. He is also a graduate of KeyCorp's Leadership Experience at the Weatherhead School of Management at the Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland.