OSDBU NEWS

United States Environmental Protection Agency

Summer 2005

Director's Note

I am happy to announce that Cassandra R. Freeman has been selected as the new Deputy Director for the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization. Ms. Freeman has extensive small businesses experience, and will be a tremendous asset at OSDBU in helping us meet our goals and objectives. Please welcome her.

I am dedicating this issue to all the brave men and women who serve, or have served, in our armed services, and in particular for our service-disabled veterans. I recently reminded the program offices to include Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) contract opportunities in their acquisition plans.

President George W. Bush recently said:

"Americans live in freedom because of our veterans' courage, dedication to duty, and love of country…They have fought for the security of our country and the peace of the world. They have defended our founding ideals, protected the innocent, and liberated the oppressed from tyranny and terror. They have known the hardships and the fears and the tragic losses of war. Our veterans know that in the harshest hours of conflict they serve just and honorable purposes.

Through the years, our veterans have returned home from their duties to become active and responsible citizens in their communities, further contributing to the growth and development of our Nation. Their commitment to service inspires all Americans."

Let us show our appreciation for these brave men and women by joining President Bush and the U.S. Congress in their efforts to expand SDVOSB opportunities.

Read and Reflect,

Jeanette L. Brown, Director
Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization

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Cassandra R. Freeman is the New EPA OSDBU Deputy Director

Cassandra R. Freeman has been selected as the new Deputy Director for the Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization. Ms. Freeman has a well-rounded background in both the pre- and post-award arenas, procurement policy and contract litigation. She has awarded and administered contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements. She also has extensive experience working with small businesses, providing procurement training and guidance.

Cassandra comes to EPA from the Department of Navy, Office of Naval Research, where she worked in the Acquisition Department's University Business Affairs Division from 2001 to 2005. In that capacity, she negotiated, executed, and administered research and development contracts and grants with universities and nonprofit institutions. From 1997 to 2001, she served as a Procurement Analyst, Team Leader, and Contracting Officer with the United States Coast Guard and the Department of Transportation's Federal Transit Administration. From 1992 to 1997, Cassandra served as a Contracting and Grants Officer at the Office of Naval Research. She was a government contracts paralegal specialist with the Department of Army Contracts Appeal Division. Since June 2002, she has also served as an Adjunct Professor, teaching procurement, contracts and human resource courses in the Business Department at Strayer University. Cassandra attended Howard University, Washington, DC and is a graduate of the University of Maryland, University College, where she received an MS in Management, with a concentration in Procurement and Contracts; she also received an M.S.A. in Public Administration from Central Michigan University. She received her B.S. in Business and Management from the University of Maryland, University College.

"Small businesses are my customers," expressed Cassandra in an interview. "I view them as a critical part of the American economic fabric and I see my role as assisting them in understanding the role they play."

My first focus is to support Jeanette Brown to ensure EPA meets its Small Business goals, to address the issues of the President's Management Agenda, and to work with Small Business to help them understand the process and changing priorities, she said. "I want Small Business to understand teaming and joint ventures, and that doing this type of partnering is mutually beneficial," she added.

"What I bring to EPA's OSDBU is a full understanding of the procurement 360 degree cycle—from award to protest."

"My role is to educate—not only assist the Agency on how small businesses are beneficial," Cassandra explained. It is important to ensure that Small Business understands the proper alignment of the Agency's goals and needs. This education consists of outreach, counseling, our newsletter, and everyday contacts. "Through the Outreach Center, we have revamped our outreach strategy, which includes a new Program Manager to develop new initiatives to help Small Business understand what EPA does and how it operates."

"I am very committed to Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs). Colleges and universities shy away from contracts and lean more towards grants. Each have distinct benefits and present their own set of opportunities. I will assist undergraduate and graduate students [in recognizing] the opportunities in the Federal Government—not specifically in the science or technology area, but others as well."

"I truly believe in Small Business," pronounced Cassandra enthusiastically. "I am in awe: so many businesses with so many disciplines. We want to find the right small business at the right time for the right requirement. We do our best to get it right."

Assisting SDVOSB

The President and Congress Support Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses

Recognizing the challenges Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Businesses (SDVOSBs) face in participating in government contracting, the President of the United States and the U.S. Congress enacted Public Law 106-50, the "Veterans Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development Act of 1999," in August 1999 to assist SDVOSB participation in government contracting. This Act established a minimum 3 percent government-wide goal (not a mandate or set-aside) for procurement—the total value of all prime contract and subcontract awards—from service-disabled veterans for each fiscal year, representing a value of more than $280 billion annually.

To date, all Federal agencies have fallen far short of reaching this procurement goal. To further increase opportunities for SDVOSBs in government contracting, in December 2003, Congress enacted P.L. 108-183: the Veterans Benefits Act of 2003, which President George W. Bush signed on December 16, 2003. Federal agencies, in accordance with the new Act, may:

- Restrict certain contracts to SDVOSBs if at least two are expected to submit offers.
- Sole source to an SDVOSB for up to $5 million for manufacturing contracts and $3 million for non-manufacturing contracts, provided there is no reasonable expectation that at least two SDVOSBs are expected to submit offers.

In another step to further strengthen opportunities in Federal contracting for SDVOSBs, President Bush issued Executive Order 13360 on October 20, 2004. Under Section 1, Policy, the E.O. states that agencies shall more effectively implement section 15(g) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 644(g)), which provides that the President must establish a goal of not less than 3 percent for participation by SDVOSBs in Federal Contracting, and section 36 of that Act (15 U.S.C. 657f), which gives Agency contracting officers the authority to reserve certain procurements for SDVOSBs.

E.O. 13360 also established requirements for implementing the above policy. This includes requiring Agency heads to develop a strategy for implementing this policy, and specified Government bodies to provide assistance and training to SDVOSBs. Moreover, the General Services Administrator is required to establish a Government-wide Acquisition Contract reserved for participation by SDVOSBs.

What is a Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business?

Quite simply, a Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business is a "small business concern" by SBA size standards that is owned and controlled by one or more service-disabled veterans.

More specifically, the company must meet SBA size standards as specified in section 3(a) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632(a)) and the definitions and standards issued under that section. The SDVOSB company also must be owned and controlled by a service-disabled veteran, as defined in section 3(q) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 632(q)).

A "service-disabled veteran" means a veteran, as defined in 38 U.S.C. 101(2), with a disability

that is service-connected, as defined in 38 U.S.C. 101(16); the term "service-disabled" meansthat the disability was incurred or aggravated in the line of duty in the active service in the United States Armed Forces.

There is no Federal SDVOSB certification program. The service-disabled veteran business owner self represents his or her service-disabled status and small business status in the contract representations and certifications.

Subcontracting by prime SDVOSB "or other SDVOSB concern" is limited at:

- 50% of direct labor for services
- 50% of cost of manufacturing
- 15% of labor costs for General Construction
- 25% of labor costs for Special Trade construction

The Top Ten NAICS Codes of Industries With Many SDVOSBs

233 Building, developing and general contracting

234 Heavy construction

235 Special trade contractors

333 Machinery manufacturing

334 Computer and electronic product manufacturing

336 Transportation equipment manufacturing

422 Wholesale trade, nondurable goods

514 Information services and data processing services

541 Professional, scientific, and technical services

561 Administrative and support services

EPA's Strategy for Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses

EPA's strategy for contracting with Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses demonstrates our commitment to maximize opportunities for veteran-owned small businesses in our Federal contracting. The strategy includes our plan for implementing Executive Order 13360, including:

- Reserving contracts exclusively for service-disabled veteran businesses;
- Encouraging and facilitating participation by service-disabled veteran businesses in competitions for award of Agency contracts;
- Encouraging Agency contractors to subcontract with service-disabled veteran businesses and actively monitoring and evaluating Agency contractors' efforts to do so;
- Training Agency personnel on applicable law and policies relating to participation of service-disabled veteran businesses in Federal contracting;
- Disseminating information to service-disabled veteran businesses that would assist these businesses in participating in awards of Agency contracts; and
- Holding special outreach sessions for service-disabled veteran businesses.

If you have any questions or comments regarding this strategy, please contact EPA's Small Business Competition Advocate, Ms. Corinne Sisneros, at (202) 564-4321.

SDVOSB Set-Aside and Sole Source Procurement Options

Procurements exceeding the micro-purchase threshold ($2,500) may be set-aside for SDVOSB competition exclusively when:

(1) There is a reasonable expectation that at least two responsible SDVOSBs will submit offers; and

(2) Award can be made at a fair market price.

(3) If the contracting officer (CO) receives only one acceptable offer from an SDVOSB concern in response to a set-aside, the CO should make an award to that concern. If the CO receives no acceptable offers from SDVOSB concerns, the SDVOSB set-aside shall be withdrawn and the requirement, if still valid, set-aside for small business concerns.

Sole source awards may be made to SDVOSBs when:

(1) An SDVOSB concern is determined to be responsible with respect to performance of the applicable contract;

(2) The CO determines that only one qualified SDVOSB can satisfy the requirement and no more than one SDVOSB is likely to submit an offer;

(3) The anticipated award price of the contract (including options) will not exceed $3 million ($5 million for manufacturing North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) codes); and

(4) The award can be made at a fair and reasonable price.

If not setting aside for SDVOSBs, every effort should be made to utilize an SDVOSB when using one of the procurement sources below (if available):

(a) Federal Prison Industries;

(b) Javits-Wagner-O'Day organizations;

(c) Existing IDIQ contracts;

(d) Federal Supply Schedules; or

(e) The 8(a) Program, unless released by the SBA.

EPA SDVOSB Status Report

EPA's FY 2005 procurement goals include a minimum 3 percent for prime contract awards to SDVOSBs and a minimum of 3 percent for SDVOSB subcontracting awards.

EPA has already awarded almost $800,000 to SDVOSBs through the second quarter of Fiscal Year 2005. We anticipate new opportunities for SDVOSBs as the annual call letter issued by the head of the Contracting Activity and the OSDBU Director reminded EPA's program offices to include SDVOSB contract opportunities in their acquisition plans that were due on May 20, 2005.

How to Locate SDVOSB Firms

VetBiz Vendor Information Pages (VIP) (http://www.vetbiz.gov/vip/vip.htm)—The Office of Federal Procurement Policy informed all Federal agencies on April 29, 2003, that VetBiz VIP should be the first source for finding veterans in business.

A "sources sought" synopsis may be announced in FedBizOpps (http://www.fedbizopps.gov).

To find eligible SDVOSBs, Contracting Officers also can use the following searchable databases available online:

The CCR Dynamic Small Business Search: http://dsbs.sba.gov/dsbs/dsp_dsbs.cfm

GSA E-Library: http://www.gsaelibrary.gsa.gov/ElibMain/ElibHome

Center for Veterans Enterprise

The primary goal of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs OSDBU's Center For Veterans Enterprise (CVE) is to support economic empowerment for every veteran entrepreneur and to provide resource assistance for veterans and service-disabled veterans who are considering business ownership. CVE operates a comprehensive one-stop shop website (http://www.vetbiz.gov/) offering management, financing, marketing, mentoring, and other assistance. CVE also teams with strategic partners, some listed below, because the effort to assist veteran-owned businesses is a government-wide effort encompassing a number of Federal departments, agencies, and allied organizations. CVE operates the Vendor Information Pages (VIP), where veterans can register their website and where Government entities and contractors can search for veteran-owned businesses.

The Veterans Corporation

National Veterans Business Development Corporation (NVBDC), or simply The Veterans Corporation (TVC), was created in 1999 by an act of Congress—P.L. 106-50. Chartered as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, NVBDC's mandate is to fill a gap in the delivery of small business training, mentoring and entrepreneurial services to the nation's veterans including service-disabled veterans. The House and the Senate nominate the NVBDC Board of Directors, and the President of the United States appoints its members to their positions of service. In addition, there are three ex-officio board members: The Secretary of Defense, the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and the Administrator of the Small Business Administration. The Veterans Corporation is the only organization dedicated to the advancement of veteran-owned businesses. It provides veterans, including service-disabled veterans, with the tools they need to be successful in business:

- Access to capital
- Entrepreneurial education
- Access to markets
- Access to services
- Business networking

No other public or private organization provides this specific assistance to the 24-million-strong Veteran community. TVC serves transitioning military personnel and all veterans of the U.S. Armed Forces, National Guard and Reserve. The nonprofit seeks to link them with partners and purchasing agents in both the public and private sectors. Membership is completely free. To enroll online, set your browser to https://www.veteranscorp.org/register/memReg.aspx

The Veterans Entrepreneurial Training Program

The Veterans Entrepreneurial Training (VET) program was created to help the Veteran Business community by providing cutting edge business education at all levels of business development. This program offers the Kauffman Foundations' "FastTrac" as its core curriculum. A curriculum exists for both new and existing veteran-owned businesses, all at a reduced cost. For those considering starting a business, the FastTrac™New Venture curriculum will help you create a feasibility plan or a business plan. For Veterans who already own a small business and are looking for ways to expand their business, the FastTrac™ Planning curriculum can provide strategic direction to increase profits and grow market share.

All classes are facilitated by experienced business owners or business consultants, who bring a wealth of real world knowledge and experience to the table. Programs are conducted locally based on the interest level generated by the veteran community. In addition to the classroom training, upon graduation, participants receive a gift card to Gateway computers equal to the cost of their tuition.

The FastTrac™ curricula are available to veterans as a result of a partnership with the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, the Small Business Administration, and the Department of Veterans Affairs. If you are interested in signing up for either curriculum, check it out thoroughly before subscribing so you are completely familiar with the fee they charge and the services they offer.

For further information on FastTrac visit http://www.fasttrac.org/.

Opening Door's for America's Heroes

GSA, in partnership with the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, U.S. Small Business Administration, U.S. Department of Defense, and the U.S. Department of Commerce, hosted a three-day conference to assist veteran, service-disabled veteran, and small businesses learn how to access the $280 billion Federal marketplace. EPA's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) participated in this conference, "Opening Door's for America's Heroes," which was held from December 6-8, 2004, in Honolulu, Hawaii to coincide with the 63rd Pearl Harbor anniversary.

The successful event drew over 700 participants and over 70 exhibitors from across America. Speakers included U.S. Senator Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii), GSA Administrator Stephen Perry, SBA Administrator Hector Barreto, and Brigadier General Charles Neeley, among others.

Administrator Perry said, "One of government's most important roles is to help create an environment where businesses can develop, grow and prosper, thereby creating a strong national economy and more jobs. GSA and our partner agencies are working very hard to ensure that everyone has access to opportunities to sell to the Federal Government. The more we can do to develop an open dialogue through events such as this one, the better we make the process."

Attendees participated in 10 workshops and individual matchmaking sessions. Exhibitors included 15 Federal agencies and over 50 prime contractors and other small businesses. Workshop topics included how to become a GSA Schedule contractor, how to do business with the Department of Defense, marketing strategies, and subcontracting opportunities.

Speaking of the $1.9 billion government contracting dollars spent in Hawaii in 2003 and the successes of local veteran businesses,

Senator Daniel Inouye stated, "According to the U.S. Small Business Administration, 2003 was a record year for government contracting in Hawaii. Small businesses are key to government contracting, and their economic impact to the State of Hawaii is growing."

House Veterans' Affairs Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity Hosts SDVOSB Roundtable

At the request of the Association of Service-Disabled Veterans, the House Veterans Affairs Subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, in cooperation with the Small Business Committee, hosted a roundtable on April 7, 2005, in Washington, DC, to discuss progress towards implementing recent veteran-owned small business legislation.

Congressman John Boozman, Chairman of the subcommittee on Economic Opportunity, Committee on Veterans Affairs, opened the meeting noting his experiences as a small business entrepreneur stating, "I know the difficulties faced by small businesses in meeting payroll, healthcare and other benefits." He also emphasized that legislation giving preferential treatment to veteran-owned businesses was intended to provide a stepping stone to success in the broader private sector markets. "Veteran business owners should not fall into the trap of reliance on Federal contracts for long-term success."

Congressman Jeb Bradley, Chairman of the subcommittee on Tax, Finance and Exports Committee on Small Business, expressed his support for service-disabled veteran-owned businesses by stating, "I was pleased to co-chair a roundtable discussion on veterans' entrepreneurship today. It is my hope that the constructive dialogue that we had will encourage more veterans to start small businesses, which form the backbone of our economy. We owe it to our nation's veterans to give them every opportunity to create successful business ventures, and I look forward to working with my colleagues on both the House Small Business and Veterans' Affairs Committees to address the concerns and issues that were raised at this event."

According to John Lopez, Chairman of the Association for Service Disabled Veterans, "This was one of the best meetings we've ever had and I especially welcome the positive support that I have gotten from the national veterans service organizations following the event. I look forward to more successes in the future with the Congress."

The roundtable included representatives from the Association of Service Disabled Veterans, the Disabled American Veterans (DAV), American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW), American Veterans (AMVETS), Vietnam Veterans of America (VVA), and many service-disabled veteran business owners. Representatives from the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Small Business Administration, DoD, State Department, EPA, the Smithsonian, and several other government agencies also participated. Several veterans and government agencies expressed their opinion that there is a need for congressional clarification of legislation regarding the order of preference that Federal agencies are expected to follow in deciding whether contracts should be set aside for 8(a) firms, HubZone firms or Service-Disabled Veterans.

Congresswoman Sue Kelly, also a member of the Small Business Committee noted, "It is critical for the House Small Business and Veterans' Affairs Committees to continue working together to address the important issues brought forth by our veterans at today's roundtable. Our veterans have made incredible sacrifices to protect our country, and we need to make sure our Federal agencies are doing everything possible to make the next phase of their lives significantly easier. When they complete their distinguished military

service, our servicemen and women deserve the utmost assistance available to help them start their own small businesses, procure Federal Government contracts, and experience well-deserved success in their new livelihood."

In closing the roundtable, Chairman Boozman expressed his concern that additional protections for veteran-owned businesses may be needed and that he looked forward to additional opportunities to work with the Small Business Committee. "It's important to remember that providing opportunities is not just because veterans have served the nation, it's also because veterans are proven winners and can get the job done. As the Task Force for Veterans' Entrepreneurs says, 'Veterans Mean Business'."

Building Our Nation's Future Through Partnering With Veterans

The National Veteran Small Business Conference and Exposition: Building our Nation's Future Through Partnering With Veterans, presented by the Department of Defense Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization, in cooperation with the U.S. Army Small Business Office, takes place on June 20-24, 2005, at the Caesars Palace in Las Vegas.

The Conference will provide important information on:

- Status of veteran small business programs throughout the Federal Government
- Information on veteran small business legislation
- How Executive Order 13360 is being implemented
- Strategies for increasing business opportunities
- Products and services available to increase business opportunities

For more information, set your browser to: http://216.200.89.135/conference/veteran04/index.asp

EPA Office/Program Highlights

EPA's Office of Administration and Resources Management, Office of Water, and Superfund Program, under EPA's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response, offer many small business procurement opportunities.

EPA Office of Administration and Resources Management

The Office of Administration and Resources Management (OARM) is responsible for eight key areas:

Human Resources.

OARM performs the human resource functions for Headquarters employees, as well as Agency-wide policy development, strategic planning, and direction for EPA's human resource programs, including: workforce development programs; employee benefits and services; recruitment, staffing, and classification; labor and employee relations; cultural diversity initiatives; workforce planning; organizational analysis, Agency directives, and consulting services; executive resources management; and automated human resource management systems.

Facilities Management.

OARM develops and conducts programs for acquisition, maintenance, and operations of all EPA facilities, including: space management and utilization; facilities construction, acquisition, design, and layout; New Headquarters Project; facilities management, maintenance and repairs, property management, transportation, security, and mail management; and the workplace health and safety of EPA employees.

Sustainable Development.

OARM is responsible for environmental management initiatives for energy efficiency and sustainability, recycling, pollution prevention, and environmental compliance of EPA facilities.

Contracts Management.

OARM plans, awards and administers contracts for the Agency, including issuing and interpreting acquisition regulations; administering training for contracting and program acquisition personnel; providing advice and oversight to regional procurement offices; and providing information technology improvements for acquisition.

Grants Management.

OARM is responsible for cradle-to-grave administrative management of all Headquarters-administered grants, loans, cooperative agreements, fellowships, and interagency agreements.

Suspension and Debarment.

OARM undertakes investigation and case development for all EPA suspension and debarment activity to ensure that only responsible persons participate in Agency contract and assistance programs.

Management of RTP and Cincinnati.

OARM provides diversified administrative support services to all EPA-RTP and Cincinnati customers, including human resources services, facilities management, information technology services, and safety, health and security.

Federal Environmental Executive.

OARM coordinates and assists environmental efforts of the Federal community in waste prevention, recycling, the affirmative procurement of EPA-designated recycled content products, and the acquisition of recycled and environmentally preferable products and services, including bio-based products.

There are plenty of great contracting opportunities for small businesses to have access to the Federal Government, explained Luis Luna, Assistant Administrator at EPA's Office of Administration and Resources Management, during an interview. "We need to maximize those opportunities. EPA has an excellent system in place: Find the best folks to provide the services. The FY05 goal is that 25 percent of contracts go to Small Business. We are conducting market research and posting information on the web. We need to put as much information out there as early as possible," Luna said. "The key is plenty of lead time [so that small businesses] know what is expected," he stated. Small businesses can organize, form partnerships if they wish and put together a bid.

"We hold EPA staff accountable; we track the dollars by region. OARM led the Agency in all of the above. We are trying to walk the talk and demonstrate that it can be done. We want to provide full access to as many as possible. Our Contractor Forum with one-on-one contact is an excellent mechanism. We want to find the best, the brightest. Our goal is to maximize opportunities," stated Luna.

He said that EPA finds small businesses are innovative and are ahead of the curve and that

there are great small businesses. They provide outstanding support, quality work. He added that they must be realistic about capabilities, persistent, responsive (understand what the customer needs) and be willing to provide feedback. "Talk to others who have been successful—to gain insight," he advised small businesses. "Don't be scared. Try it. The learning is so valuable."

"Team is not just a slogan, it is really a way of functioning that brings solutions to everyone," concluded Luis Luna. "A team is a win-win solution, with a satisfied contractor and a satisfied client relationship."

EPA's Office of Water

EPA's water quality activities are handled by the Office of Water (OW), which is responsible for implementing the Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act, and portions of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments of 1990, Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, Ocean Dumping Ban Act, Marine Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act, Shore Protection Act, Marine Plastics Pollution Research and Control Act, London Dumping Convention, the International Convention for the Prevention of Pollution from Ships and several other statutes. OW activities are targeted to prevent pollution wherever possible and to reduce risk for people and ecosystems in the most cost-effective ways possible.

Several organizations make up the Office of Water: Office of Wetlands, Oceans and Watersheds, Office of Science and Technology, Office of Wastewater Management and the Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water. Policy, communications and budget staff support the overall operation of the Office of Water. In addition, Water Divisions in all ten Regional offices work with stakeholders to implement all programs. Also within the Office of Water is the American Indian Environmental Office which provides valuable outreach and coordination with tribes on multi-media environmental challenges in Indian Country.

Because of the size of this effort, OW staff depend on many others, including the ten EPA Regions, other Federal agencies, State and local governments, Indian tribes, the regulated community, organized professional and interest groups, landowners and managers, and the public-at-large. OW often provides guidance, specifies scientific methods and data collection requirements, performs oversight and facilitates communication among those involved. As soon as OW and Regional staff have helped the States and Indian tribes to build the capacity, many water programs are delegated to them to implement.

The Office of Water places a high level of importance on meeting its Small Business goals, said Benjamin Grumbles, Assistant Administrator for the Office of Water, during an interview. There has been a gradual reduction in OW contract dollars, but OW has upped its Small Business utilization, he said. "We will continue to try harder to maximize effectiveness and efficiency, while being equitable," he continued.

OW manages many regulations, and we try to take into account the impact of our regulations on small business. In fact, we conduct more panels to help monitor that than any other EPA Office, he explained. OW takes consideration of the impact of these regulations on Small Business. This is handled by panels to help make informed discussions.

There are several new opportunities for Small Business. One example is the emphasis on water security. "One of the trends for the foreseeable post 9/11 future is water security [for small businesses]," said Grumbles. An example of a success story is Horsley Witten Group, a small business that supports OW's water security program by developing training materials for water utility companies.

We also are working on developing opportunities for SDVOSBs, he added. OW will continue to support Small Business development and seek new strategies to support EPA's OSDBU.

EPA's Superfund Program

Superfund is the Federal Government's program to clean up the nation's uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. Under the Superfund program, abandoned, accidentally spilled, or illegally dumped hazardous waste that poses a current or future threat to human health or the environment is cleaned up. To accomplish its mission, EPA works closely with communities, Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs), scientists, researchers, contractors, and State, local, tribal, and Federal authorities. Together with these groups, EPA identifies hazardous waste sites, tests the conditions of the sites, formulates cleanup plans, and cleans up the sites.

The Superfund Program was created on December 11, 1980 when Congress enacted the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA). This law created a tax on the chemical and petroleum industries and allowed the Federal Government to respond to releases or potential releases of hazardous wastes that might harm people or the environment. The tax went to a Trust Fund for cleaning up abandoned or uncontrolled hazardous waste sites. CERCLA was amended by the Superfund Amendments and Reauthorization Act (SARA) on October 17, 1986.

One of EPA's top priorities is to get those responsible for the contamination—the PRPs—to clean up the site. If the PRP cannot be found, is not viable, or refuses to cooperate, EPA, the State, or tribe may clean up the site using Superfund money. EPA may seek to recover the cost of cleanup from those parties who do not cooperate.

Contract Opportunities Under Superfund

Prime and subcontracting opportunities are available under several types of Superfund contracts. The contracts fall into six basic categories:

Removal Action:

Contracts to provide EPA regional offices with (1) technical and management assistance for the removal action program financed by the Hazardous Substance Response Trust Fund, the corrective action program financed by the Underground Storage Tank (UST) Trust Fund, and the Oil Spill Prevention Program under the Clean Water Act and (2) cleanup personnel, equipment, and materials for the removal program and corrective actions financed by the UST Trust Fund.

Remedial Response:

Contracts to provide EPA regional offices with technical assistance and resources for remedial investigation and feasibility studies; engineering services to design remedial actions; engineering evaluations and cost analyses for non-time critical removal actions, including issuing and managing subcontracts for construction of the selected remedy, and engineering services for construction oversight. Enforcement support is also provided with the oversight of the remedial investigations/feasibility studies, remedial designs, and remedial actions, and negotiation support; and other technical assistance, including community relations, sampling and analytical support, and pre-design investigations.

Support Services:

Contracts to provide special technical support services to EPA regional and Headquarters personnel. Contracts cover safety and technical training, demonstration of new or novel technology, laboratory analysis and sample control, quality assurance, aerial survey and mapping, and remote sensing.

Technical Enforcement Support:

Contracts to provide technical support to EPA Headquarters and Regional personnel to enforce CERCLA and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).

Policy, Program Management, and Administrative Services:

Headquarters contracts to support formulation of Superfund policy and implementation, as well as contracts for development and maintenance of automated data processing (ADP) systems and data handling services at Headquarters and the Regional offices.

Other Contract Venues:

State leads, under Cooperative Agreements, in which the State performs work with its own resources, or by contracting for needed goods and services with private firms. Also, EPA, in a cooperative effort involving a broad spectrum of government and private parties, coordinates all actions in preventing and preparing for oil spills to improve the effectiveness of oil spill responses.

Additional information is available on the Superfund website at http://www.epa.gov/superfund/programs/contracts/opport.htm

OSDBU News

Come Join Us!!!

EPA's OSDBU will sponsor a Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business Trade Fair on August 11, 2005 at The Marriott at Metro Center, 775 12th Street, NW, Washington, DC. Counseling is included. Visit the EPA's OSDBU website at www.epa.gov/osdbu for more information.

The OSDBU Procurement Conference 2005

The OSDBU Procurement Conference 2005 took place at The Show Place Arena in Upper Marlboro, Maryland, just outside of Washington, DC, on April 21, 2005. This was the 15th annual OSDBU conference.

Newcomers and existing small businesses alike attended, looking for new procurement opportunities, assistance, and prospects to improve their business. A seminar entitled "Doing Business with the Government" targeted new small business owners and those interested in setting up a business. Other seminars targeting new and existing small business owners included:

"New Initiatives: Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business Program"

"New Initiatives: Grants"

"GSA Schedules – Who needs them, and are they significant?"

"How to Market to Large Business Prime Contractors"

A large exhibit accompanied the conference. More than 300 exhibitors, consisting of Federal Government agencies, State, and local government representatives, universities, small businesses, large businesses, and prime contractors, were on hand exploring new business opportunities, seeking to locate potential small business subcontractors, and offering procurement information and advice.

Back by popular demand, the conference offered pre-scheduled 15-minute appointments between Federal Government program and procurement personnel, large business prime contractors, and small business representatives.

Additional conference information is available at http://www.fbcinc.com/osdbu/default.asp

"Service-Disabled Veterans — Tales From The Federal Procurement Trail:

The Good Guys, The Bad Guys, and Everybody Else"

This presentation, given during the OSDBU Procurement Conference 2005 by Joan F. Van Middlesworth, Chief of Purchasing and Contracting at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, described the service-disabled veterans legislation, how it works, and how it's performing.

Van Middlesworth explained that an individual veteran must have documentation, either from the Department of Defense or Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), that establishes that the veteran has a service-connected disability. She explained that most current veteran business owners are getting their documentation from the VA. It comes in the form of a single page letter issued by the Veterans Benefits Administration, stating whether the disability is service-connected or non-service-connected and indicating a percentage rating of the degree of disability as evaluated by the veteran's medical team and benefit provider.

The acceptable degree of disability ranges from zero percent to 100 percent. The zero percent is very confusing. Van Middlesworth said that many claim that a veteran with zero percent disability is not disabled at all. The logic is that the veteran with zero percent disability has an injury that will worsen with age. "For instance," she explained, "if I'm one of those guys on those air craft carriers, and I'm doing this with the lights (waving the planes in and out), even though I'm wearing ear protectors, chances are I'm suffering some degree of hearing loss. And as I get older my hearing loss is going to get worse and worse." Only 62,000 veterans currently have zero percent disability status.

For veterans who are significantly disabled, the veteran's spouse—or the personal care giver for those veterans who do not have a spouse—may aide that veteran in the daily management of that business.

Van Middlesworth explained that the Federal Government goals are far from being met. SDVOSB set-asides went into effect in May 2004, and it appears that this is helping to increase SDVOSB procurement percentages somewhat. The hope is that there will be a surge in SDVOSB procurement in 2005 following the President's requirement that each Federal agency develop a strategic plan.

Roving Reporter Conference Findings

HCD International attended the conference as a roving reporter for EPA's *OSDBU News*. One attendee reported coming to the conference to learn how to tap into the Federal Government procurement system, after years of working for local governments. Numerous came to learn about the needs of Government agencies, and to network with other small businesses and seek out partners with whom they could team on Federal procurement opportunities. Others came seeking subcontracting opportunities with prime contractors. A number of attendees came for the first time at the request of one of their colleagues who had previously attended.

One attendee, Scott Denniston, Director of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU), stated that the service-disabled veteran program, because of the recent public laws and Executive Order, is the most popular small business program. From the viewpoint of accomplishments versus the goals, it's the

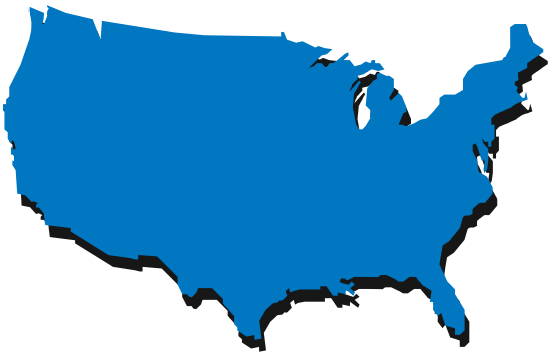
weakest small business program. Most agencies are focusing on this program in an effort to better reach their goals. Denniston said that the Vendor Information database today contains 3,600 service-disabled veteran-owned businesses and about 5,000 veteran-owned businesses. Registering in the database helps Federal agencies and prime contractors to find out what your capabilities are and how to find you, said Denniston. It facilitates teaming with large prime contractors. Another advantage of being in the database is that it indicates the product service codes you participate in. "We automatically, electronically, everyday send you a list of all the solicitations from all the Federal agencies that have been identified as service disabled vet set-aside opportunities," continued Denniston.

Denniston offered a lot of good advice to those attending the conference:

"It's important to know that no one is going to get a contract by coming to a conference like this today. This is the first step in your market research and what I recommend to service disabled vets is that they come in with questions. Don't come in and tell us what you do, come in and ask a couple of basic questions: 1) Do you buy "xy" product or service that obviously the company does. Do you do it in a geographic area where I'm located?…(W)here are the decision-makers located because you need to get face time with those folks…The other thing that's important is for all small business to realize that nobody is going to give you a contract because you're a small business, you're service disabled, you're a woman, you're 8A. They're going to give you a contract because you can help fulfill a need that they have to fulfill, their mission no matter what that mission is. So the successful small business understands what they have to do, have figured out what the mission is, and how they can contribute to it. These are the people that are successful. A lot of small businesses and particularly service-disabled ones will tell you that it is very difficult to break into a new Agency. Because whenever we bring a new vendor in to any situation there's risk involved and most government, procurement, and technical people are risk adverse. So a lot of small businesses find the best way to break into an Agency is one of two ways: 1) Be willing to start small, or 2) Team or partner with a small or large business that already has a presence in the Agency…And you establish your own track record and build those personal relationships and then you're going to be successful on your own."

Also present was Joan F. Van Middlesworth, the Chief of Purchasing and Contracting at the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. She supervises the Department's contracting, and purchasing that exceeds the $2,500 limit of purchase cardholders. She was a speaker at the conference. Middlesworth explained that the Department of Veterans Affairs does not have a large procurement need, but that "about one out of three or four that I talked to today, there's a possibility that we could do some business together." She told our roving reporter that when she arrived in 1991, the Department was not meeting its socio-economic goals. "In 1993 we received our first award for meeting all the socio-economic goals," she said, "and we have a plaque hanging in my office for every year since. We have not failed to meet those goals. And the only way to do it is to go out and find that company, to use every tool you have to search for the companies. That's why these fairs are so good for us."

Regional News



8(a) Firm Receives First Performance-Based Contract Awarded Under Region 6 ESS Program

EPA Region 6 historical event—The first performance-based contract issued under the Region 6 Enforcement Support Services (ESS) Program was awarded on January 26, 2005. The contract was issued to GRB Environmental Services, Inc. This contract will provide support for cost recovery, litigation, all facets of PRP searches, research and document management of potential evidence, etc. in Regions 5 and 6. The maximum value of the contract is $5,492,468.45.

GRB is a woman-owned small business established in 1985, based in New York. GRB has a 12-year history of CERCLA support to U.S. EPA. GRB has performed work in EPA Region 2 on the TAT, START, RST and Superfund Records management contracts as well as several New York State contracts.

GRB's subcontractor, Techlaw, will provide regional office space for GRB in both Dallas, Texas and Chicago, Illinois.

The signing ceremony was held at EPA in Washington D.C. on February 23, 2005. Attendees were: Rose Barbour (President, GRB), Richard Barbour (GRB), Judy Manley (Techlaw), Trisha Brown-Derocher (Techlaw), Judy Davis (OAM), Joan Thurman (OAM), Betty Williamson (EPA-Region 6), Jeanette Brown (OSDBU), LaShawn Smith (OAM), Susan Bromm (OAM) and Yvette Garner (OAM).

EPA Headquarters awarded the contract. The Awarding Contracting Officer was Joan Thurman. Region 6 staff will administer the contract.

The EPA Administrative Contracting Officer and Project Officer are:
Regional Contracting Officer – Michael Pheeny;
Project Officer – Karen Hartis.

Tetra Tech Implements Two Mentor-Protégé Agreements With Small Disadvantaged Businesses

Tetra Tech EM Inc. (Tetra Tech) is a Prime Contractor for Region 6's Response Action Contractor (RAC) contract. Tetra Tech entered into Mentor-Protégé agreements with Sullivan Consulting Group (SCG) and Pacific Western Technologies, Ltd. Sullivan Consulting Group (SCG) is an 8(a), service disabled veteran and small disadvantaged business. SCG is based in San Diego, CA. Pacific Western Technologies is a small disadvantaged business based in Lakewood, CO.

The Mentor-Protégé agreements became effective February 25, 2005. The following are some of

the mentoring activities to be done under the agreements:

Sullivan Consulting Group:

- Develop and enhance the firm's technical skills and competencies in the area of remedial action, remediation technologies and techniques;
- Research, examine and identify new emerging technologies that are at the bench/pilot stage;
- Join/attend the Remedial Technology Development Forum conference with Protégé to jointly identify new technologies that could positively influence existing and future projects within EPA Region 6.

Pacific Western Technologies, Ltd.:

- Develop and enhance the firm's technical skills and competencies in the area of remedial action, remediation technologies and techniques;
- Research, examine and identify new emerging technologies that are at the bench/pilot stage;
- Support the Protégé's understanding of the EPA RAC program at a management level including reporting requirements, financial tracking, and computer tools currently used by Tetra Tech under the EPA Region 6 RAC program.

Both firms will be given subcontracting opportunities under the RAC's contract. The purpose of the subcontracts is to develop the Protégés' capabilities to provide services critical to EPA programs.

The EPA Administrative Contracting Officer and Project Officer are:
Regional Contracting Officer – Cora Stanley;
Project Officer – Henry Thompson.

EPA Region 7 Awards Contracts for Architect & Engineering Services

On March 31, 2005, Region 7 awarded two contracts for Architect & Engineering Services (AES) to support the Superfund Program. These two contracts will replace the previous Remedial & Response Action (RAC) contract for Region 7. The respective contract competitions were initiated in May 2004 with a pre-proposal conference in the Regional Offices in Kansas City, KS. The potential value of both contracts totals just under $200 million. The Regional Placement Contract Officer was Marie Noel. The Contracts & Grants section is managed by Larry Kalwei.

One of the AES contracts was competed as a full and open competition. This contract was awarded to Black & Veatch Special Projects Corporation, with a ceiling price of $100,226,191. Black & Veatch is a large engineering and environmental consulting firm headquartered in Overland Park, KS. One of the team subcontractors is Professional Environmental Engineers, Inc., a minority-owned, 8a, HUB Zone, and Small Disadvantaged Business headquartered in St. Louis, MO.

The second AES contract was competed as a small business set-aside. The contract was awarded to HydroGeoLogic, Inc., with a ceiling price of $99,708,785. HydroGeoLogic is a minority-owned Small Disadvantaged Business headquartered in Herndon, VA. On this second contract, one of the team subcontractors is CDM, Inc., a large environmental and engineering consulting firm headquartered in Cambridge, MA.

For more information, contact:

Chester Stovall
Regional Coordinator, Small Business Utilization
US Environmental Protection Agency
901 N. 5th Street, Kansas City, KS 66101-2798
stovall.chester@epa.gov
(913) 551-7549

Agency Goals

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) goals for Fiscal Year (FY) 2004/2005 are based on estimated contract obligations of $1.2 billion for direct and $200 million for subcontract.

EPA FY 2004/2005 PRIME CONTRACT GOALS

Direct	*FY '04/05 Goal*
Small Businesses	27.0%
8(a) Businesses*	*6.3%
Non 8(a) Small Disadvantaged Businesses	*3.0%
Women-Owned Small Businesses	5.0%
HUBZones	3.0%
Service Disabled Veterans	3.0%

*Since 8(a)s are SDBs, EPA in essence has an SDB goal of 9.3%.

EPA FY 2004/2005 SUBCONTRACTING GOALS

Subcontract	*FY '04/05 Goal*
Small Businesses	50.0%
Small Disadvantaged Businesses	20.0%
Non 8(a) Small Women-Owned Businesses	7.5%
HUBZones	3.0%
Service Disabled Veterans	3.0%

The Federal Government purchases billions of dollars in goods and services each year that range from paper clips to complex space vehicles. It is the policy of the United States, as stated in the Small Business Act, that all businesses have the maximum practicable opportunity to participate in providing goods and services to the government. To ensure that small businesses get their fair share, the SBA negotiates annual procurement preference goals with each Federal agency and reviews the results.

Small Business Vendor Profile System

EPA's Small Business Vendor Profile System is designed to collect and display information concerning businesses registered with EPA's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU). The system captures information on the following types of small businesses: small; small disadvantaged; 8(a) certified; women-owned; Hubzone; veterans; service disabled veterans; and tribal businesses (Federally or State recognized). Information is also available on Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACUs), and minority servicing institutions.

Small Business Vendor Profile System

If you would like to be included in EPA/OSDBU's automated database go to: cfpub.epa.gov/sbvps, or complete the following form and fax it to Denean Jones at (202) 501–0756.

Date: _____

Company Name*: _____

Contact*: _____

Title: _____

Address*: _____

City*: _____ State*: _____ Zip Code*: _____

Phone #*: _____ Fax #: _____

E-mail Address*: _____

Internet Address: _____

NAICS Code(s)*: _____

_____

Capabilities: _____

_____

Have you done business with the EPA before*: ❑ NO ❑ Yes, as a Prime ❑ Yes, as a Subcontractor

Classification

- ❑ Large
- ❑ Mid-Size
- ❑ Small

Tribal

- ❑ Federally Recognized
- ❑ State Recognized

- ❑ SDB
- ❑ Small WOB
- ❑ 8(a) Certified
- ❑ Service Disabled Veteran
- ❑ HUBZone
- ❑ HBCU
- ❑ HACU
- ❑ Tribal College/ University
- ❑ Other Minority

Ethnicity

- ❑ African American
- ❑ Asian-Indian
- ❑ Asian-Pacific
- ❑ Caucasian American Female
- ❑ Hispanic
- ❑ Native American
- ❑ Other Minority
- ❑ None

The fields marked by * are required and must be filled in.

www.epa.gov/osdbu

Small Business Ombudsman

As the small business gateway for EPA, the Ombudsman's function falls into three main categories: (1) Developing and providing compliance assistance and tools for small businesses; (2) Providing information about small businesses to EPA; and (3) Identifying small business needs for EPA rules, enforcement and policy development.

EPA Office of Policy, Economics, and Innovation - Small Business Division
Small Business Ombudsman Regulatory Assistance and Outreach Program

EPA Employees:	Title	Contact #
Karen Brown	**Division Director & Small Business Ombudsman**	**(202) 566-2816**
Angela Suber	**Program Analyst**	**(202) 566-2827**
Daniel Eddinger	**Program Analyst**	**(202) 566-2820**
Elsa Bishop	**Program Analyst**	**(202) 566-2814**
Catherine Tunis	**Regulatory Impact Analyst**	**(202) 566-2830**
Bridgette Dent	**Program Assistant**	**(202) 566-2819**
Joyce Billious	**Secretary**	**(202) 566-2813**
Eileen Mayer	**Program Analyst**	**(202) 566-2812**

SEE Enrollees:		
James Malcolm	**Chemical Engineer, Toxic Substances and Haz Mat**	**(202) 566-2821**
Larry Tessier	**Civil Engineer, Asbestos, Radon, and Lead**	**(202) 566-2829**
Tom Nakley	**Civil Engineer, CWA, SDWA and General Assistance**	**(202) 566-2826**
Howard Boddie	**Computer Specialist**	**(202) 566-2815**
Esther McCrary	**Senior Secretarial Support Staff**	**(202) 566-2824**
Peggy Alexander	**Senior Secretarial Support Staff**	**(202) 566-2811**

Major Functions/Products:

- Serve as a port of entry for small businesses to EPA;
- Advocate for small business regulatory issues and relief inside EPA;
- Coordinate small business issues with program offices, regions, and states;
- Focus on asbestos regulatory requirements/handle questions and complaints;
- Operate and maintain a Small Business hotline;
- Participate on regulatory development workgroups representing small business interests;
- Prepare semi-annual Newsletter;
- Organize meetings with the Deputy Administrator and Small Business Trade Associations;
- Oversee and prepare Report to Congress on the status of CAAA State Section 507 Programs;
- Manage contracts, grants and cooperative agreements to strengthen State Small Business Ombudsman Technical Assistance Programs;
- Sponsor Annual Small Business Regional Liaison Conference;
- Develop guidance and policies for small businesses;
- Resolve disputes between small businesses and EPA dealing with policies and regulations;
- Distribute small business publications, regulations, guidance, and tools.

Small Business Ombudsman — Toll Free Hotline: (800) 368-5888 Local: (202) 566-2855 Main Line: (202) 566-2822
Fax: (202) 566-0954

Contact information current as of 5-05.

Request For Publications

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization
1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW (1230N)
Washington, DC 20460
(202) 564-4100
(202) 501-0756 (Fax)

Name:_____

Firm:_____

Address:_____

_____

City:_____ State:_____ Zip Code:_____

Phone #:_____

Fax #:_____

Please Check Publications Requested

- ❑ Doing Business with EPA
- ❑ Mentor-Protege Program
- ❑ Forecast of Contract Opportunities
- ❑ Finding Your Way Through EPA
- ❑ Contract Opportunities Under Superfund (five basic categories)
- ❑ The 8(a) Program
- ❑ HUBZone Fact Sheet

www.epa.gov/osdbu

Calendar of Events

DATE	EVENT	SPONSOR/LOCATION	CONTACT
June 20 - 24	***The National Veteran Small Business Building our Nation's Future Through Partnering with Veterans***	DOD/OSDBU U.S. Army Small Business Office Caesars Palace Las Vegas, NV	www.vetbizjournal.com
June 22	***Training - "Best Practices for Small Business to include Audit Readiness"***	OSDBU Outreach Center	Robert Duhart (202) 564-0999
June 28 - 29	***Advancing Women by Empowering Women Business Women's Network***	Lansdowne, VA	www.bwni.com
July 14	***HubZone Business Counseling Day***	OSDBU - Headquarters 1201 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC	**Patricia Durrant** www.epa.gov/osdbu
July 20	***Training - "Procurement Opportunities Beyond Contracts"***	OSDBU Outreach Center	Robert Duhart (202) 564-0999
July 28 - 30	***13th Annual Convention The National Black Chamber of Commerce***	Washington, DC	www.nationalbcc.org
July 31 - August 3	***DOT/ Federal Aviation Administration National Small Business Procurement Opportunities & Training Conference***	Disney's Coronado Spring Resort 101 West Buena Vista Drive Orlando, FL 32830	**Jeanette L. Brown**
August 11	***Service Disabled Veteran-owned Counseling Day***	OSDBU - Headquarters 1201 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC	**Patricia Durrant** www.epa.gov/osdbu
August 17 - 19	***The California Black Chamber of Commerce 10th Anniversary Conference***	Sacramento, CA	Ms. Donna Lynman (916) 364-2400
September 14 - 17	***US Hispanic Chamber of Commerce 26th National Convention & Business Expo***	Milwaukee, WI	Lupe Saldana (202) 564-5353
October 13	***Environmental Cleanup Business Counseling Day***	OSDBU - Headquarters 1201 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC	**Patricia Durrant**
October 25 - 26	***Diversity and Women Leadership Summit and Gala***	BWN	www.summit.bwni.com
November 10	***Native Americans Small Business Counseling Day***	OSDBU - Headquarters 1201 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC	**Patricia Durrant**
December 8	***Service Disabled Veterans Small Business Counseling Day***	OSDBU - Headquarters 1201 Constitution Avenue, NW Washington, DC	**Patricia Durrant**
December 14	***5th Annual Small Minority & Business Owners Conference***	City of San Antonio & Bexar County	Renee Watson (210) 335-2417

EPA/OSDBU Mission

The mission of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization is to support the protection of the environment and human health by fostering opportunities for partnerships, contracts, subagreements, and grants for small and socioeconomically disadvantaged concerns.

OSDBU Employee Contact List

Jeanette L. Brown, *Director*	(202) 564-4100	brown.jeanettel@epa.gov
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Patricia Durrant, *Socioeconomic Program Officer*	(202) 564-4738	durrant.patricia@epa.gov
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Tammy Thomas, *Management Analysis*	(202) 564-4298	thomas.tammy@epa.gov
Elnora Thompson, *Office Automation Assistant*	(202) 564-4139	thompson.elnora@epa.gov
Thelma Harvey, *Secretary - Contractor*	(202) 564-4138	harvey.thelma@epa.gov
Barbara Overton, *Secretary - Contractor*	(202) 564-0999	overton.barbara@epa.gov

Contact information current as of 5-05

Cyberspace Travel Guide

Please take the time to ensure that someone in your business is assigned the task of traveling to key websites so you can remain knowledgeable about potential opportunities.

The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs **Center For Veterans Enterprise** (CVE) operates a comprehensive one-stop shop website offering management, financing, marketing, mentoring, and other assistance to veterans.
Website: (http://www.vetbiz.gov/)

CVE operates the **Vendor Information Pages** (VIP), where veterans can register their website and where veteran-owned businesses can be located.
Website: http://www.vetbiz.gov/vip/vip.htm

The Association for Service Disabled Veterans (ASDV) is a national association that is establishing greater economic participation for service disabled and prisoner of war veterans and all of the 80 million veteran family members in the United States. Membership is comprised of individuals from the 2.2 million SDVs of the nation and organizations that support the goals of ASDV. To pursue its mission, ASDV has established programs and services that address the areas of legislative and legal advocacy, business development, healthcare, and information access.
Website: http://asdv.org/

The Veteran's Business Network is a national membership association of veteran business owners, executives and entrepreneurs whose mission is to facilitate member prosperity through tools and functions designed to promote business.
Website: http://www.veteransbusinessnetwork.com/

The Veterans' Business Outreach Center (VBOC) serves as a clearinghouse for business and technical assistance, primarily for veterans with a service-connected disability within SBA's Region IV—Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. The VBOC networks with SBA district offices and SBDCs across this region to provide veterans with the assistance they seek.
Website: http://www.vboc.org/

The Veterans Corporation (TVC) is the complete business source for current and prospective veteran and service-disabled veteran business owners, and for companies interested in working with veteran-owned businesses. TVC, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation, was created in 1999 by Public Law 106-50. Membership is free.
Website: http://www.veteranscorp.org/default.aspx

Regional MBE/WBE Coordinators

REGION I
(CT, ME, RI, MA, NH, VT)
Sharon Molden (617) 918-1062
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
New England Region
One Congress Street (MGM), Suite 1100
Boston, MA 02114-2023

REGION II
(NJ, NY, PR, VI)
Otto Salamon (212) 637-3417
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
290 Broadway- 27th Floor
New York, NY 10007-1866

REGION III
(DE, VA, MD, PA, DC, WV)
Romona McQueen (215) 814-5155
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103

REGION IV
(AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN)
Josephine Brown (404) 562-9634
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
61 Forsyth Street, S.W.
Atlanta, GA 30303-8960

REGION V
(IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI)
Adrianne Callahan (312) 353-5556
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
77 West Jackson Boulevard (MC-10J)
Chicago, IL 60604-3507

REGION VI
(AR, LA, NM, OK, TX)
Debora N. Bradford (214) 665-7406
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
First Interstate Bank Tower at Fountain Place
1445 Ross Avenue, 12th Floor, Suite 1200
Dallas, TX 75202-2733

REGION VII
(MO, NE, IA, KS)
Chester Stovall (913) 551-7549
U. S. Environmental Protection Agency
901 North 5th Street
Kansas City, KS 66101

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Marshall Pullman (303) 312-6499
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Denver, CO 80202-2405

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