



NEWS RELEASE

PRESS OFFICE

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SBA News Releases:

SBA SELECTS PRIVATE CERTIFIERS TO HELP WITH DISADVANTAGED STATUS REVIEWS

Follows OMB move to okay subcontracting self-certification through June 30

WASHINGTON --The U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) has selected 62 private organizations to help in the certification process required for firms requesting federal status as small disadvantaged businesses (SDBs), with the potential for more to be added later.

Starting Feb. 15, the private groups will screen and analyze SDB applications to make recommendations on ownership and control, while the SBA will continue its role in determining social and economic disadvantage, and the firm size.

This selection follows the Office of Management and Budget's decision late last month to allow firms involved with federal subcontracting to continue to self-certify their SDB status through June 30. Previously, this self-certification option was to expire on Jan. 1. This is an important consideration for the large prime contractors who can obtain evaluation credits and monetary incentives by including SDBs in subcontracts for federal projects.

“The doors of opportunity must be kept wide open for small disadvantaged businesses willing to work on federal projects,” said SBA Administrator Aida Alvarez. **“The addition of these private certifiers located throughout the United States means that small businesses everywhere will be able to obtain SDB applications quickly and easily. Certification is the passport to a federal market that averages about \$200 billion per year.”**

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Applications can also be obtained on-line at <http://www.sba.gov/sdb> or by calling toll-free 1-800-558-0884.

The private certifiers also will serve as intake locations for the completed forms and are allowed to charge a reasonable fee for services rendered. They have 15 days to make certain the application is complete and another 30 days to determine whether the applicant meets the ownership and control requirements for SDB status. To qualify, a disadvantaged individual or individuals must own 51 percent or more of the business and must devote full-time to its daily management. Once the private certifiers complete their analysis, the package is forwarded to the SBA, which must complete its work in 30 days.

SBA selected the 62 private certifiers from a pool of 105 candidate organizations that included small and large businesses, SDBs, non-profits and participants in the SBA's 8(a) business development program. Organizations were evaluated based on past performance, current technical and personnel considerations, overall technical approach and proposed fee structure.

Federal certification became an important consideration last fall. In October, the Clinton Administration instituted a program that provides SDBs seeking prime federal procurements a price evaluation adjustment of up to 10 percent for contracts in selected industries -- those that still reflect the effects of earlier discrimination. To qualify, the SDB must receive formal certification from the SBA and be listed in the agency's on-line database, *PRO-Net*. The list is on the Web at <http://pro-net.sba.gov>.

On Jan. 1, the subcontracting phase of the SDB program was activated. This, too, involves only selected industries, the same ones eligible for the price credit. Prime contractors who use small disadvantaged businesses for subcontracting can qualify for evaluation credits and monetary incentives. The regulations initially required that the SDB subcontractors must be SBA-certified and appear on the *PRO-Net* listing, but this will not become mandatory until

July 1. Until then, SDB firms can continue the established practice of self-certifying.

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The SBA, which began accepting applications Aug. 24, now has nearly 5,775 certified SDBs in *PRO-Net* covering a wide array of goods and services.

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(Full List of Private Certifiers Attached)

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CALIFORNIA

ASIAN, INC.

San Francisco, CA 94109
(415) 928-5910

COVENANT INDUSTRIES

Industry, California
(626) 330-3500

EAGLE CONSULTING

Pasadena, CA 91106
(323) 257-3900

EQUICAP FINANCIAL

Newport Beach, CA 92660
(714) 955-4878

GORDON/BARASH ASSOCIATES, INC.

Los Angeles, CA 90048-4938
(323) 852-9864

KEY GROUP, INC.

Fillmore, CA 93015
(805) 524-5588

LINK 2000

San Francisco, CA 94103
(415) 552-7401

MASON TILLMAN ASSOCIATES, LTD

Oakland, CA 94610
(510) 835-9012

PROCUREMENT RESOURCE CENTER

San Leandro, CA 94577-0274
(510) 895-8701

SATO ASSOCIATES

San Diego, CA 92130
(619) 481-2376

COLORADO

STATE OF COLORADO

Denver, Colorado 80202
(303) 894-2355

DELAWARE

FEDERAL QUALIFIERS, INC.

Newark, DE 19711
(302) 234-1246

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ALLIANCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

Washington, DC 20036
(202) 822-8880

DEVCORP SERVICES, INC.

Washington, DC 20009
(202) 319-1994

EDUCATIONAL SERVICES, INC.

Washington, DC 20036
(202) 628-8080

THOMPSON, COBB, BRAZILIO & ASSOCIATES

Washington, DC 20005
(202) 737-2684

WASHINGTON CONSULTANTS

INTERNATIONAL

Washington, DC 20016
(202) 363-6596

FLORIDA

RENAISSANCE CONTRACT MANAGEMENT, INC.

West Palm Beach, FL 33416
(561) 965-9880

RIVERVIEW CONSULTANTS, INC.

Jacksonville, FL 32202
(904) 632-0930

GEORGIA

FIRST FINANCIAL ASSOCIATES, INC.

Atlanta, GA 30303
(404) 659-8700

INDIANA

CMR SERVICES GROUP

New Albany, IN 47150
(812) 944-9796

ILLINOIS

RALPH G. MOORE & ASSOCIATES

Chicago, IL 60606
(312) 419-1911

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MARYLAND

ECK GROUP

Bowie, MD 20720-0415
(301) 262-7714

PAJ BUSINESS STAFFING

Silver Spring, MD 20910
(301) 589-4600

SCIENTIFIC SYSTEMS & SOFTWARE

Columbia, MD 21046
(410) 381-3200

T.J. MURPHY & ASSOCIATES, P.A.

Columbia, MD 21044-1514
(410) 884-6510

MASSACHUSETTS

HARRIS CONSULTING, INC.

Lexington, MA 02420-4441
(781) 674-0041

HISPANIC-AMERICAN CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE

Boston, MA 02109
(617) 261-4222

MINNESOTA

IMPACT

Minnetonka, MN 55305
(612) 545-6475

MISSISSIPPI

BANKS, FINLEY, WHITE & COMPANY

Jackson, MI 39201
(601) 353-5423

SYSTEMS CONSULTANTS ASSOCIATES, INC.

Jackson, MS 39296-5197
(601) 355-5911

MISSOURI

C.C. WARD & ASSOCIATES

St Louis, MO 63108
(314) 533-9273

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PEWITTE & ASSOCIATES MANAGEMENT
CONSULTANTS

Blue Springs, MO 64015-5335
(816) 228-1969

NEBRASKA

HAYES & ASSOCIATES, LLC

Omaha, NE 68114
(402) 390-2480

NEVADA

NEW VENTURES, INC

Las Vegas, NV 89101
(702) 384-3881

NEW JERSEY

DOLCEY E. CHAPLIN, ESQ.

Ridgewood, NJ 07450
(201) 445-7189

NEW MEXICO

NEDA BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

Albuquerque, NM 87102
(505) 843-7114

NEW YORK

HARVEY E. DAVIES

Syracuse, NY 13214
(315) 446-8874

MDI ASSOCIATES, LLC
Loudville, NY 12211
(518) 465-0078

REGIONAL ALLIANCE FOR SMALL CONTRACTORS
New York, NY 10048
(212) 435-6185

SOUTH BRONX OVERALL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (SOBRO)
Bronx, NY 10455
(718) 292-3113

ROCHESTER MINORITY BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CENTER
Rochester, NY 14605
(716) 546-5556

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NORTH CAROLINA
LIZ MILLS LTD, INC.
Charlotte, NC 28270-2752
(704) 365-4773

OHIO

WESTERN RESERVE MINORITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
Shaker Heights, OH 44122
(216) 283-4700

PENNSYLVANIA

THE BOTTOM LINE, INC.
Pittsburgh, PA 15203
(412) 481-0400

CONTRACTS COMPLIANCE, INC.
Villanova, PA 19085
(610) 995-8500

EXICO, INC.
Pittsburgh, PA 15222
(412) 261-3073

SOUTH CAROLINA

DESA, INC.
Columbia, SC 29201-2609
(803) 256-3212

TENNESSEE

ELR CONSULTANTS, INC.
Oak Ridge, TN 37831-5119
(423) 483-2995

RUFFIN AND COMPANY, P.C.
Nashville, TN 37207
(615) 860-4456

MID-SOUTH MINORITY BUSINESS COUNCIL
Memphis, TN 38124
(901) 678-2450

TEXAS

GABRIEL ENTERPRISES
Corpus Christi, TX 78418
(512) 939-7700

H.V. VILLEGAS & CO
H.V. Villegas
Austin, TX 78704
(512) 457-0800

VIRGINIA

B. J. CONCEPTS
Fairfax Station, VA 22039
(703) 425-3303

BROWN & COMPANY
Arlington, VA 22201
(703) 522-0800

CDM FEDERAL PROGRAMS CORPORATION
Fairfax, VA 22033
(703) 968-0900

FEDERAL ACCESS PRIVATE CERTIFIER
Alexandria, VA 22304
(703) 212-9538

NATIVE AMERICAN MANAGEMENT SERVICES, INC.
McLean, VA 22101
(703) 821-2226

SYMTECH CORPORATION
Alexandria, VA 22313
(703) 329-0600

WISCONSIN

EMPLOYMENT TRAINING CONSULTANTS,

INC.

Watertown, WI 53094-4318
(920) 261-9456

WYOMING

DENALI VENTURES

Cheyenne, WY 82009
(307) 778-6442

WYOMING BUSINESS CONSULTANTS

Cheyenne, WY 82009
(307) 778-3968