

State Employees & Agencies Honored Today For Purchasing With Small Businesses

State Employees And Agencies Honored For Commitment To Purchasing With Small And Disabled Veteran Businesses

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The State and Consumer Services Agency (SCSA) today recognized six state employees and 11 agencies for their outstanding effort and commitment to increasing the amount of contracts to California's small businesses and companies operated by disabled veterans in a ceremony at Sacramento State University.

In 2006, Gov. Schwarzenegger directed his administration to do 25 percent of its purchasing and contracting with certified small businesses and at least 3 percent with disabled veterans business enterprises (DVBE). Today's State Agency Recognition Awards honored employees and departments for their best practices, innovation and outstanding achievements in working to meet the governor's ambitious goal.

"Our Governor knows small businesses are a vital resource to state government and the California economy and has raised the bar for departments and agencies to expand the role of small firms and disabled veteran businesses doing business with us," said SCSA Secretary Rosario Marin.

"The individuals and agencies acknowledged today have taken that challenge to heart and worked hard to meet that goal." The Agency Winners Of The 2008 State Agency Recognition Awards Are: State and Consumer Services Agency Secretary's Special Achievement Award: Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) The HCD has averaged 52 percent small business participation on all contracts and 10.5 percent DVBE participation over the past two years.

This department also recently increased their DVBE numbers five-fold to over 15 percent during the past year. California Small Business Association/California DVBE Alliance Leadership Award: California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) - District 9 -

Bishop, Calif. The California Department of Transportation, District 9, located in a remote region of the state used media and technology to help their small business liaisons access state contracts.

In three months time, with the use of radio advertising only, 80 new requests have come from small businesses that wanted to do business with the Caltrans district. Small business success stories resulting from this effort include: Mr. K's Automotive of Bishop, which currently services Caltrans vehicles, and the Shell Gas station and Big Pine Chevron also of Bishop, which fuel Caltrans vehicles.

Gold Award: Military Department The Military Department has made the "DVBE First" an official, executive supported program. Every executive from the adjutant general down is committed to expanding the program that steers Military Department purchasing to disabled veteran businesses first.

Silver Award: California Department of State Parks and Recreation The Parks Service instituted a new six percent DVBE participation requirement in service and public works contracts. This innovative business decision helped the department more than double its previous year's results and greatly exceed the overall statewide three percent DVBE goal.

Bronze Winner: California Arts Council The CAC has reported small business participation at 30.1 percent and 4.3 percent for DVBE. This was the first time CAC accomplished the DVBE goal and its second time reaching the small business goal.

The Following State Employees Were Honored With 2008 Advocate Of The Year Awards: Governor's Award: Kathy Randall, Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation - Preston (PYCF) - Amador County Randall's combination of leadership, emphasis on team atmosphere, and basic approach of insisting that every quote or solicitation include SB/DVBE participation was a key to her department's success. Because of Randall, PYCF is a leader among California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation facilities and institutions by consistently meeting participation goals over the last seven years.

Advocate of the Year Gold Winner: Maureen Moss, Department of Consumer Affairs Over the last several years, Moss established her department's goals, increased

program education and communication with staff, improved customer service, was consistently available to address program issues , and established an in-depth knowledge and familiarity of the DGS small business and DVBE program Web site.

Overall, she displayed a perseverance to improve and exceed the program participation goals. The DCA's most recent DVBE participation is 5.41 percent and its small business participation is 31.62 percent.

Advocate of the Year Silver Winner: Steve Ebo, California Department of Veterans Affairs, Chula Vista Veteran's Home Ebo provided divisions within his agency a partial list of vendors, including certification numbers with expiration dates and commodity listings.

By providing this information directly to the divisions , Ebo made it easier for the requestors to begin utilizing more small business and DVBE vendors. Advocate of the Year Bronze Winner: Robin McCune, Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation - Mule Creek (MCSP) Ione, CA McCune helped facilitate research on how to expand and improve the use of the DGS Web site content by transferring the data into user - friendly formats.

She merged databases so MCSP staff could conveniently distinguish vendor information by goods or services. Advocate of the Year Bronze Winner: Ronald O'Brien, Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation El Paso de Robles Youth Correctional Facility, Lancaster, CA O'Brien researched the availability of small business and/or DVBE vendors to provide services and products and utilized statewide contracts that were awarded to small business and DVBE vendors.

As a result, the facility achieved 8.24 percent DVBE and 32.59 percent small business participation. Advocate of the Year Honorable Mention: Karen Wong, Department of Industrial Relations Wong emphasized the importance of implementing the program to division chiefs and senior managers so that it could be relayed with authority to the procurement staff.

Wong further supported implementation by thoroughly reviewing required small business and DVBE program documentation when requesting for DVBE waivers. Most Improved Small Business Participation Awards went to the California Environmental Protection

Agency, Gambling Control Commission and Department of Industrial Relations while the Office of Real Estate Appraisers, California Tahoe Conservancy and Department of Social Services brought the Most Improved Disabled Veterans Business Enterprise Participation Awards back to their offices.

All awards were judged by an impartial panel of representatives from state, non-profit and business entities. For a complete list of nominees please visit

www.pd.dgs.ca.gov/smbus/SARA2008.htm.