

**Fiscal Year 2005 Accomplishments Report on Executive Order 13339,
Increasing Economic Opportunity and Business Participation
of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI)
US Department of Veterans Affairs**

The FY 2005 Performance Report is outlined in the Bullets below. The report describes VA's initiatives and program activities that support Departmental objectives to increase the participation of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPIs) in Federal programs where they may be underserved, including health, human services , and economic and community development

- As a result of this outreach initiative, the Los Angeles Regional Office established meaningful partnership arrangements with several AAPI community groups—such as the Japanese American National Museum, the Japanese Bar Association, the Japanese American Korean War Veterans Association, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.
- At the Honolulu Regional Office, the Vocational Rehabilitation and Employment Division purchases from vendors in Hawaii, Guam, and American Samoa. With a caseload of over 1,200 cases—including 100 veterans in Samoa and approximately the same number in Guam—almost all purchases are made through local vendors who are predominantly of Asian and Pacific Islander descent.
- The Philadelphia Regional Office provided equal opportunity for public sector/private sector partnership for the community—and economic development of Asian American and Pacific Islander businesses—by intervening with the City of Philadelphia and having an ordinance passed which permitted an Asian American/Pacific Islander owned business to provide food service to VA employees at this location.
- VA continues to the VETBIZ.Gov web site to highlight opportunities for use in of the severely disabled veterans opportunity small business authority((SDVOSB On April 17, 2005 Deputy Secretary Mansfield instructed all key VA officials to review upcoming contracting opportunities to identify whether they were suitable for using the SDVOSB
- Technical Assistance Conferences are were conducted in New York City and San Francisco, and invitations have been extended to all AAPI veteran organizations and VA representatives Houston, Texas has been selected for additional technical conference to be scheduled in the near future the and the conference will include veterans who may be interested in the last the Center for Veterans Enterprise

- In August of 2005, the State Cemetery Grant Program administered by the National Cemetery Administration awarded a grant of almost \$1.7 million to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to establish a veteran's cemetery on Saipan. The grant will pay 100 percent of the allowable costs for establishing a 4.6 acre cemetery, including roads, drainage, committal shelter and irrigation. It also includes 1,200 grave sites.
- The Center for Minority Veterans participated in an AAPI roundtable with officials from The VA Boston Health Care System which resulted in an initiative to increasing enrollment AAPI veterans into VA health care services, and acknowledged that outreach efforts should be targeted within the AAPI veteran community.
-