

NEWS ADVISORY

PRESS OFFICE

Release Date: September 18, 2007 Release Number: MA07-26 **Contact:** Dennis Byrne, (202) 205-6567 **Internet Address:** www.sba.gov/news/

SBA and Sam's Club To Host Veterans Small Business Matchmaking Conferences This Fall in San Antonio and Sacramento

On-Site Matchmaking Sessions Will Highlight the Contracting Process With Private and Federal Government Contracting Officers And Procurement Officials

WHAT: Several hundred veteran-owned small businesses are expected to attend and participate in on-site Veterans Small Business Matchmaking Conferences scheduled this fall in San Antonio, Texas and Sacramento, Calif.

The conferences will educate veterans about federal contracting through a series of workshops, and introduce veteran small business owners to private and government procurement officials in a matchmaking setting.

The government spends nearly \$78 billion each year purchasing goods from small businesses. Veterans, who own about 15 percent of small businesses nationwide, have served the country ably, and often have excellent business skills that carry over from military experience.

WHO: SBA Administrator Steven Preston, Sam's Club senior executives, and others to be announced, will speak at the conferences.GSA Administrator Lurita Doan has been invited to speak.

WHEN: Monday - - October 29, 2007 (San Antonio, Texas) Friday - - November 9, 2007 (Sacramento, California)

- WHERE:San Antonio Event . . .Sacramento Event . . .Hilton San Antonio AirportHilton Sacramento Arden West611 Northwest Loop 4102200 Harvard StreetSan Antonio, TX 78216Sacramento, CA 958158:00 a.m. 4:30 p.m.8:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.
- **NOTE:** For more information go to: <u>www.connectingsmallbusiness.com</u> or call or e-mail Dennis Byrne (202) 205-6567 (dennis.byrne@sba.gov) to indicate your intention to attend.