



SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
WASHINGTON

09 JAN 2008

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Contracting with Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses (SDVOSBs)

1. The U.S. Army Small Business Program supports the Warfighter while at the same time strengthens America's industrial base. Over 12,000 Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business firms are currently registered in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR) database. This number continues to grow. The Center for Veterans Enterprise maintains the VetBiz Vendor Information Pages (VIP), a similar database tracking small businesses in which veterans, to include those who are service-disabled, are majority stakeholders.

2. Despite these accomplishments, the Army has not yet achieved the goal of having SDVOSBs participate in 3 percent of the total value of all prime contract and subcontract awards for each fiscal year, as established by the Veterans Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development Act of 1999 (Public Law 106-50). Therefore, it shall be a top priority for the Army contracting community to maximize contracting opportunities for, and participation by, businesses owned by service-disabled men and women who served our Nation.

3. To increase procurement opportunities for veterans, Congress passed the Veterans Benefits Act of 2003 (Public Law 108-183). This provides for procurement set-asides for SDVOSBs. The rule implementing this Act grants Army acquisition professionals the authority to use the set-aside program. Executive Order 13360 further emphasizes the importance of meeting our 3 percent goal.

4. Army acquisition professionals at all levels must aggressively include SDVOSBs in contract solicitations and increase outreach activities to meet our 3 percent goal. Resources, such as the Veterans Technology Services (VETS) Government-Wide Acquisition Contract (GWAC), CCR Database, and VetBiz VIPs, are available to assist contracting personnel to satisfy acquisition requirements through the use of SDVOSBs. The Army Small Business Office website (www.sellingtoarmy.info) is another useful resource to facilitate doing business with SDVOSBs.

SUBJECT: Contracting with Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Businesses (SDVOSBs)

5. Entrepreneurs who have defended America deserve the opportunity to compete for Army contracts. Their expertise gained in years of service is an important resource we ought to leverage. While I am proud of our past small business performance, I know that the Army is capable of meeting and exceeding the 3 percent goal through innovation and perseverance.



Pete Geren

DISTRIBUTION:
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY, ACQUISITION, LOGISTICS AND TECHNOLOGY
COMMANDER, U.S. ARMY MATERIEL COMMAND
COMMANDER, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
COMMANDER, U.S. ARMY INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY COMMAND
COMMANDER, U.S. ARMY MEDICAL COMMAND
COMMANDER, U.S. ARMY MEDICAL RESEARCH AND MATERIEL COMMAND
CHIEF, NATIONAL GUARD BUREAU
COMMANDER, U.S. ARMY SPACE AND MISSILE DEFENSE COMMAND/U.S. ARMY FORCES STRATEGIC COMMAND
COMMANDER, U.S. ARMY TEST AND EVALUATION COMMAND
DIRECTOR, U.S. ARMY CONTRACTING AGENCY