



Four Individuals, Two Companies Debarred

WASHINGTON (March 28, 2006) - The Corporation for National and Community Service (Corporation) has debarred four individuals and two companies from participating in government programs as a result of investigations by the Office of Inspector General (OIG).

Ms. Delores M. Brown, Central Business Solutions, Inc. (CBS), Atlanta, GA; and Mr. Sydney Penman and Mr. Greg Gadson, co-owners, Event Audio Visual Concepts, LLC (EAV), Atlanta, GA; and their two companies were debarred following an investigation of bid rigging and other Federal contracting violations.

The OIG disclosed evidence that Ms. Brown conspired with Mr. Penman to falsely misrepresent EAV to the Federal Government in order to classify the business as being owned by a disabled veteran, thereby receiving preferential consideration for contracts. Further investigation disclosed evidence that Ms. Brown conspired with Mr. Gadson to submit fraudulent bids to the Corporation with the intent of influencing the procurement process. This investigation also disclosed evidence that Mr. Penman and Mr. Gadson violated the Code of Federal Regulation by engaging in Federal contracts while employed by the Federal Government.

On March 9, 2006, the Corporation debarred both companies and the three individuals involved for a period of three years from the date they were suspended (December 3, 2004).

In another action, Ms. Melissa Trejo, former AmeriCorps member, Hood River, OR, was debarred on March 16, 2006, by the Corporation for two years after she admitted to illegally receiving both AmeriCorps*Care and State childcare subsidies while enrolled in AmeriCorps.

Ms. Trejo received a total of \$17,593.26 in childcare subsidies for her four children during her AmeriCorps term, including \$7,612.30 in AmeriCorps*Care subsidies to which she was not entitled. AmeriCorps*Care participants are prohibited from simultaneously receiving State childcare benefits.

On January 10, 2006, Trejo entered into a consent judgment in U.S. District Court which required her to make restitution in the amount of \$7,612.30.

Debarred persons are banned from participating in any government procurement and non-procurement programs, including student loans, for up to three years. Their names are entered in a General Services Administration debarment registry that is used by all Federal agencies.