

INTERAGENCY TASK FORCE ON VETERANS SMALL BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT

TASK FORCE REPRESENTATIVES

Task Force Chair – Marie C. Johns, SBA Deputy Administrator, was confirmed by unanimous consent on June 22, 2010. Previously, Ms. Johns was a managing member of L&L Consulting, LLC, an organizational effectiveness and public policy consulting practice. She served as President of Verizon Washington. Under her leadership, Verizon Washington made significant strides in maintaining the company's financial health during tumultuous times in the telecommunications industry. Johns retired from Verizon in 2004, after 21 years of service in the telecommunications industry.

In addition, Ms. Johns is a longtime advocate for small businesses and has a long record of business and civic leadership. She is the former chair of the D.C. Chamber of Commerce, founder of the Washington, D.C. Technology Council, and former chair of Leadership Greater Washington. She earned her BS and MPA degrees from Indiana University's School of Public and Environmental Affairs.

General Services Administration - Jiyoung Park was appointed Associate Administrator of the U.S. General Services Administration's Office of Small Business Utilization effective October 13, 2009.

In her role, Park manages and oversees GSA's small business policies and programs. The Office of Small Business Utilization strives to expand opportunities in federal government procurement for small, disadvantaged, woman-owned, historically under-utilized business zone, and service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses. Park's office provides many essential resources to help small businesses compete, including monthly webinars and events around the country on how small businesses can obtain a GSA schedule contract and how to market to the federal government.

Before coming to GSA, Park worked at Touchstone Consulting, where she led communications, strategy and program management efforts for the U.S. Agency for International Development, the National Science Foundation and the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Park has a bachelor's degree from Georgetown University and a master's degree in organization development from George Mason University.

Small Business Administration – William D. Elmore is the Associate Administrator for Veterans Business Development. Mr. Elmore was appointed to this position in 1999 and is responsible for the formulation, execution, and promotion of policies and programs of the Administration that provide assistance to small business concerns owned and controlled by veterans, by service-disabled veterans and for Self Employed members of the Reserves and National Guard. In three years, has reversed significant downward trends of veteran's participation in virtually all SBA programs, including lending, technical assistance and procurement.

Conducts comprehensive outreach to veterans and the veteran serving community, while acting as an ombudsman for full consideration of veterans in programs of the Administration:

- Serves as liaison between the SBA and the veterans' community.
- Formulates and executes programs and policies benefiting veterans.
- Promotes SBA programs and initiates to other federal agencies and to the public.
- Develops and promotes government-wide outreach and program delivery efforts to veteran entrepreneurs.

- Developed the SBA Reserve and Guard initiative with the assistance and support Of the Department of Defense and other federal agencies.
- Helped implement the veterans and service-disabled veterans procurement sections of PL 106-50 and 108-183, and;
- Works with and encourages all federal agencies to meet procurement goals for veterans and service-disabled veteran small businesses.

Prior to being appointed as the Associate Administrator, Mr. Elmore owned a small business, specializing in military record's access, & veterans' program development. From 1974 through 1995, Mr. Elmore was also the principal in the creation and operation of the One Stop Veterans Service Center in St. Louis, Missouri, providing entrepreneurial training, job placement, housing, and other services to thousands of veterans and their families.

Department of the Treasury – Donald Graves, Jr is the Deputy Assistant Secretary being appointed to this position in February 2010. Prior to joining the Treasury Department, Mr. Graves held positions in the private sector, which included ; Managing Partner at Graves & Horton, LLC (2005 – 2009); Director, Public Policy at Business Roundtable (1999 - 2005; and Policy Adviser at the Department of Treasury (1997 – 1999). Mr. Graves was educated at Williams College and the Georgetown University Law Center. Williams College

Department of Labor – Raymond Jefferson was appointed by President Obama to head the Department of Labor's Veterans' Employment and Training Service (VETS), which provides resources and services to help veterans locate grants, training and employment opportunities, and to assure their right to return to a job after completion of military service. Raymond M. Jefferson was confirmed by the Senate on August 7, 2009.

Jefferson graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point in 1988 with a major in leadership. He served as an Army Officer with leadership positions in the Presidential Honor Guard, Army Rangers and Special Forces. In 1995, while attempting to protect his teammates from the premature detonation of a hand grenade during Special Forces training, he lost all five fingers on his left hand. After recuperating in Honolulu, Jefferson attended Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, earning an MPA in Strategic Management in 1998. He then earned an MBA in 2000 from Harvard Business School. Upon graduation, he was selected as a White House Fellow and worked as a Special Assistant to the Secretary of Commerce in 2000 and 2001. In 2001 and 2002, Jefferson used a Fulbright Fellowship to study in Singapore, where he focused on how public sector leadership is exercised in that city-state's multicultural environment.

Jefferson began his career in government in 2003, when he was named as the Deputy Director for the State of Hawaii's Department of Business, Economic Development and Tourism (DBEDT). He was the first person of African-American descent to serve in a cabinet-level appointed position in Hawaii. Serving at DBEDT through 2004, Jefferson co-led a major reorganization for the department, which had more than 230 employees and an operating budget of \$182 million. In 2004, Jefferson left public service for private sector work as a leadership consultant, culminating in his work for McKinsey & Company in Singapore, from 2006 to 2008, where he created and delivered leadership training and development programs for clients and offices throughout Asia. His focus areas were organizational change, inspirational leadership, top team development and peak performance. He is a member of the Asia Society, the Fulbright Association, the NAACP and the Special Forces Association.

Department of Defense – Theodore F. Fessel, Jr. is Director, National Outreach and Plans for the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) at the headquarters in Arlington, VA. After an extensive military career, Ted retired from active duty on June 1, 2009.

Commissioned an Ensign in February 1981, Fessel went on to his Division Officer assignments first aboard USS HAROLD E. HOLT (FF 1074) home ported in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. While assigned to HAROLD E. HOLT he deployed to the Western Pacific and Indian Oceans completing all Surface Warfare Officer Qualifications. His second assignment was aboard the USS FORRESTAL (CV 59), home ported in Mayport, Florida and deployed to the Mediterranean.

During his first shore assignment, he returned to the Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island as a Branch Head, Instructor and Officer in Charge of the Yard Patrol Craft assigned to Naval Education and Training Center (NETC). In 1988, he was selected as the OCS Instructor of the Year and was designated a Master Training Specialist. Also, while assigned to OCS, he attended Graduate School at the University of Rhode Island gaining a Master's Degree in Education, receiving a proven subspecialty in Education, Training and Management. During this tour, he was selected for the Navy Reserve's Full Time Support Program.

Next he attended Department Head School graduating with distinction. His follow-on orders were as Chief Engineer aboard USS TRIPPE (FF 1075) where the TRIPPE conducted numerous anti-drug operations in the Caribbean. Then he was assigned to USS GUARDIAN (MCM 5) as Executive Officer leading the crew through an arduous compressed inspection cycle coupled with a homeport shift from Mayport, Florida to Ingleside, Texas.

Following his Department Head Tours he went on to serve as Executive Officer aboard USS LA SALLE (AGF 3) from March 1994 – November 1995. USS LA SALLE was the forward-deployed Flag Ship for Commander US Sixth Fleet and Striking and Support Forces, Southern Europe. During this tour, he successfully led the USS LA SALLE through all required inspections and a homeport transition from Norfolk, VA to Gaeta, Italy and numerous port visits in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

As Commanding Officer at the Navy and Marine Corps Operational Support Center in Spokane, Washington, which included approximately 500 Selected Navy Reservists and 160 Marines, his command achieved the outstanding recognition of receiving the "Sidney Fields Award" two years in a row. This is awarded to centers attaining the highest standards of mission accomplishment. He was also personally awarded the "1998 Captain G. Grant Trophy" an award that is bestowed upon the individual that has made the most significant contribution to the Navy Reserve within Navy Region Northwest.

Following his Command tour, he went on to serve as the Chief Staff Officer in Amphibious Squadron Four making two Mediterranean deployments in 1999 and 2000. The first with the NASSAU Amphibious Ready Group (ARG), which was awarded the Navy Unit Commendation for its deployment in combat operations in support of the Kosovo crisis and the second with the SAIPAN ARG.

During the events of September 11, 2001 Captain Fessel was the Director of Surface Programs while assigned to the staff of the Chief of Naval Operations and the Office of the Chief of Navy Reserve.

After this he held Major Command as the Commander of Navy Region Reserve Component Command Northeast responsible for over 7,000 assigned Navy Reservists located at 20 Navy Operational Support Centers in eight states, including all of New England, New York and New Jersey.

He returned to Washington D.C. for two years as the Chief of Staff in the Office of the Chief of Navy Reserve.

His most recent operational assignment was as the Officer in Charge of the Office for the Administrative Review of the Detention of Enemy Combatants (OARDEC), forward deployed to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba for 7 months.

Personal awards include the Defense Superior Service Medal, Legion of Merit with one gold star, Meritorious Service Medal with three gold stars, the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with one gold star, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement medal, the Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal and various service and campaign awards.

Department of Veterans Affairs – Timothy J. Foreman is the Executive Director, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU). Mr. Foreman serves as the chief small business advocate to VA's Secretary and his senior staff. The Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) serves as the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) advocate, to assist and support the interests of small businesses.

Previously, Mr. Foreman was the Navy Director for Small Business Programs, responsible for setting the overall small business policies, objectives and strategies designed to enhance small business prime and subcontracting performance within the Department of the Navy. He was the U.S. Navy leading small business authority and is a direct report to the Secretary of the Navy or the Under Secretary of the Navy on all small business matters. Prior to his appointment to the Navy, Mr. Foreman had extensive experience in the Office of the Secretary of Defense, Office of Small Business Programs, to include leading many Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) and Defense FAR Supplement (DFARS) cases to implement statutory and regulatory changes to the small business prime and subcontracting programs. He also acted as the office lead for legislative initiatives, GAO and DoD IG cases involving various small business issues. Mr. Foreman served as a senior price analyst in the Office of the Secretary of Defense. He also served on the Defense Acquisition Regulation Contract Cost Principles Committee. His responsibilities included policy development in the cost principles area, as well as special studies and other accounting issues. Specifically, Mr. Foreman drafted the Historically Underutilized Business Zone (HUBZone) and the Anti-Bundling legislation which can be found in Public Law 105-135. Mr. Foreman has worked for the Senate Committee on Small Business as the Committee's Senior Procurement Advisor and working closely with Committee members and their staffs to develop small business procurement policy issues.

Mr. Foreman is a graduate of the Brookings Institution's "LEGIS FELLOW PROGRAM" program, the Federal Executive Institute's (FEI) "Leadership for a Democratic Society Program" and the prestigious "Senior Officials National Security (SONS)" program from Harvard University. He also successfully completed the "Contemporary Executive Development" program, George Washington University. Mr. Foreman holds a Bachelor of Science degree and a Masters in Business Administration degree from the University of Dayton and a Masters of Accounting degree from American University in Washington, DC. Mr. Foreman was commissioned a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army in 1970.

Office of Management and Budget – Randolph Lyon is Chief of the Commerce Branch.

The National Association of State Directors of Veteran Affairs - John M. Garcia, Cabinet Secretary of the New Mexico Department of Veterans Service, is a native born New Mexican, appointed by Governor Bill Richardson in January of 2003 as the first Cabinet Secretary of the New Mexico Department of Veterans Service.

Secretary Garcia was also appointed by Governor Bruce King as Deputy Chief of Staff in 1991 and later in his administration as the Cabinet Secretary of the New Mexico Department of Economic Development. Previously, he was President of Garcia & Associates, a business consulting firm he established in 1995 specializing in business Development, Marketing, Public Relations and Lobbying. In 1985 he was the Director, Albuquerque Hispano Chamber of Commerce

He was a member of the United States Army and served in the Central Highlands South Vietnam with the 4th Infantry Div. from 1969 to 1970 and was honorably discharged in 1971.

Garcia is a founding member of the Vietnam Veterans of New Mexico and the New Mexico Vietnam Veterans of America. He served as a Commissioner for the New Mexico Veterans Service Commission for twelve years. He also served as the National Deputy Director of the Vietnam Veterans Leadership Program and was actively involved with the dedication of the National Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington DC.

Secretary Garcia has served on numerous boards and commissions and currently is a board member of the national SBA Veteran Business Advisory Board and has received the New Mexico Veteran Small Business Advocate of the Year Award by the New Mexico SBA. He was also presented with the National Secretary's Leadership Award by the Veterans Administration and has been honored by the National Association of the State Directors for his leadership as Chairman with the Iron Mike Award.

The Student Veterans of America (SVA) – Elizabeth O'Herrin is a co-founder of SVA and she is currently pursuing her master's degree in governmental studies from the Johns Hopkins University Zanvyl Krieger School of Arts & Sciences.

Prior to beginning graduate school, Elizabeth served as an associate director with the American Council on Education (ACE), which represents the interests of nearly 2,000 college presidents and chancellors. Elizabeth led ACE's broad based, multi-year veterans' education initiative: *Serving Those Who Serve: Higher Education and America's Veterans*. This initiative includes \$2 million in grants, awarded to colleges and universities operating model programs for veterans and their families; the *Severely Injured Military Veterans: Fulfilling Their Dreams* project, designed to help wounded veterans transition into higher education; and the Veteran Success Jam, a 72 hour online national dialogue that provided the opportunity for nearly 3,000 individuals, including the Secretary of Labor, to contribute thoughts and ideas on veterans reintegration.

Prior to coming to ACE, Elizabeth served as a Staff Sergeant with the Wisconsin Air National Guard as a munitions systems technician: assembling, transporting, inspecting, and fusing explosives and weapons systems. She has deployed to the Middle East three times. In 2008, she co-founded the Student Veterans of America, a national non-profit association comprised of student veterans' organizations on campuses across the country.

Elizabeth graduated from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, where she served as president of the University of Wisconsin student veterans' organization and resource center. She is a 2010 Pat Tillman Military Scholar.

VET Force - James F. Wilfong is an executive member of this advocacy group which promotes veteran-owned businesses. Mr. Wilfong brings extensive public and private sector experience to the Task Force some of which is highlighted in the following paragraphs.

In 1999, President Bill Clinton named James Wilfong the Small Business Administration's Assistant Administrator for International Trade, where he remained until 2001. This appointment highlighted a career of diversity with remarkable vitality and scope. Beginning as a small business entrepreneur in the ski industry in the early 1970's, Wilfong has devoted more than 35 years to business development and public service in the areas of government, international trade, finance, marketing, small business management, entrepreneurship, education, public policy and community organizing.

Following his appointment in 1999 as Assistant Administrator for International Trade at the SBA, Wilfong developed and promoted small business trade with the goal of creating more vibrant, prosperous and peaceful communities throughout the world. He over saw the agency's Small and Medium-Sized Enterprise (SME) trade policy and supervised various educational, technical assistance, risk management and finance programs. Wilfong created the successful SBA trade finance program, Export Express, and advanced innovative policies designed to assist U.S. small

businesses seeking to enter the international marketplace. He worked to enhance the voice of small business in the development of U.S. foreign policy both by serving as Vice Chair of the Small Business Working Group of the Organization on Economic Cooperation and Development (ECD) and as a member of the National Security Councils Subcommittee on Africa. He helped coordinate the work of U.S. Bi-National Commissions, specifically in Russia, Egypt and South Africa. While in that position, Wilfong addressed the Russian Duma on the role of entrepreneurial and small business development in the creation of free market economies. He was a member of the U.S. delegations to the World Trade Organization's Seattle Conference and the OECD Bologna Conference where Wilfong represented and testified on behalf of small Business interests. He has also testified before the U.S. Congress, the World Bank, the Export-Import Bank of the United States (Exim) and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

In 2004, Wilfong was given the SBA's Small Business Advocated for Veterans award for Maine. He designed a national veteran's business-planning educational program in partnership with the National Veterans Business Development Corporation, Gateway Computers and the Kauffman Foundation. Wilfong is a founder, organizer and Executive Director of H2O for ME, a citizen's environmental group active in water resource issues. He is a past member of the board of directors and treasurer of the Small Business Exporters Association in Washington, DC. Wilfong also served as a member of the Entrepreneurs advisory Council of the NxLevel Foundation. He is a member of the US Chamber of Commerce's Small Business Council and its Committee on International Trade. He is also an executive member of VET-force, an advocacy group promoting veteran-owned businesses. VET-Force recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Defense Materials Organization of Australia to facilitate veteran-to-veteran SME business development, and the group is now working to develop similar MOUs with defense agencies in Canada and Denmark. He is the president of the National Veterans Health Foundation. Wilfong is a member of the Greater Lovell Land Trust, an organization dedicated to the protection of the Kezar Lake Watershed. Wilfong chaired the regional school re-organization and consolidation committee in Western Maine in 2007-08. Currently, Wilfong is Chairman of the board and co-founder of a new software engineering firm, Innovative Applied Sciences and operates his own consulting and educational company.

As the Senior Entrepreneur at University of Southern Maine's Center for Entrepreneurship, he teaches SME and small farm business planning, marketing, finance and international trade education. In 2008, he established the Center for Entrepreneurship at Fryeburg Academy, in partnership with USM. He currently teaches there.

The American Legion - Daniel M. Dellinger is a 29 year member of the American Legion, the world's largest veteran's organization. He has served in many capacities throughout his career to include State Commander of the Department of Virginia, National Membership Chairman, National Aerospace and National Legislative Council Committee Chairman, National Economic Commission Chairman and is currently the Chairman of the National Security Commission for the national organization.

Dan owned his own construction management and general contracting company, excelling for over twenty years working with owners and architects building commercial buildings in the Washington area. He currently works for Chamberlain Construction Corp., as their Senior Project Manager specializing in religious and educational facility construction. In addition, Dan owned a gift/antique store for ten years. Dan is also very active in his community. A former Vienna Town Councilman and Vice Mayor, he also served as a member on the Vienna Board of Architectural Review, and currently serves on the Board of Directors of Historic Vienna, Inc., Vienna Host Lions and as Judge Advocate at Vienna American Legion Post 180.

Dan grew up in Vienna, VA, graduating from James Madison HS and holds a BA from Indiana University of PA. Dan served in the US Army during Vietnam as a company commander. He continued to serve in the reserves where he earned the rank of captain.

