

Business Opportunities at DHS



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From the Chairman

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Committee on Homeland Security, I am pleased to present the June 2008 edition of our e-publication, "Business Opportunities at DHS". In this edition of the newsletter, you will find information on future opportunities with the Department, a listing of upcoming events, and an article on the statutorily mandated role of the Department's Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU).

Speaking of small and disadvantaged business utilization, in May, the Committee released a report detailing the findings of its investigation into lax practices used by the Department to meet its contracting goals for small, minority and disadvantaged businesses. The report contains recommendations designed to facilitate increased participation by a wider range of firms in the small, minority and disadvantaged business community. You can read the report by clicking here: "Small, Minority, and Disadvantaged Business in the Department of Homeland Security—Selected Aspects, FY 2007." (<http://homeland.house.gov/press/index.asp?subsection=2>)

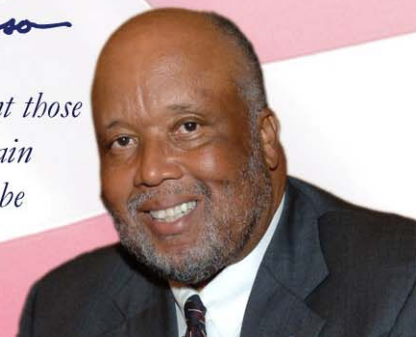
I want to take this opportunity to thank those readers who have called, emailed and written to express their thoughts, views and concerns. An open line of communication is one of the fundamental tenets of true democracy. Please continue to send in your views on working with the Department. Additionally, feel free to provide your suggestions on how to improve this publication. Do not hesitate to contact us at DHSBizOps@mail.house.gov if we can be of assistance to you.

Keep the Faith,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bennie G. Thompson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

"Securing our homeland is one of the nation's most critical needs. Artificial barriers that prevent those with good ideas from contributing to this important endeavor can no longer be permitted to remain unchecked. The kind of bureaucratic inertia that leads to limited opportunities for many must be replaced by a new spirit of service and inclusion. I am committed to ensuring expanded participation in this critical endeavor."

—Chairman Bennie G. Thompson



UPCOMING EVENTS WITH DHS

[Veterans Business Conference](#)

June 20, 2008,
McLean, Virginia
Sponsor: SBDC and Community Business
Partnership

[Women in Business 2008](#)

June 23-26, 2008,
Atlanta, Georgia
Sponsor: Women's Business Enterprise
National Council

[9th Annual Department of Energy SB Conference](#)

June 24-26, 2008,
San Antonio, Texas
Sponsor: DOE & The Veterans Corpora-
tion

[3rd Annual National Veteran SB Confer- ence & Expo](#)

July 7-10, 2008,
Las Vegas, Nevada
Sponsor: Veteran SB Federal Interagency
Council

ProBiz 2008

August 1, 2008
Hilton Hotel
8727 Colesville Road
Silver Spring, Maryland 20910
For more information about the event visit:
<http://www.probiz.tv>

HELPFUL LINKS

"How to Do Business with the Department"

[http://www.dhs.gov/xopnbiz/
editorial_0421.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/xopnbiz/editorial_0421.shtm)

DHS Organizational Chart
[http://www.dhs.gov/xabout/structure/
editorial_0644.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/xabout/structure/editorial_0644.shtm)

OSDBU Contacts
[http://www.dhs.gov/xopnbiz/smallbusiness/
gc_1178570919850.shtm](http://www.dhs.gov/xopnbiz/smallbusiness/gc_1178570919850.shtm)

Statistics on DHS Small Business
Performance
[http://www.sba.gov/aboutsba/sbaprograms/
goals/index.html](http://www.sba.gov/aboutsba/sbaprograms/goals/index.html)

DHS P.A.C.T.S.

The link to the current PACTS solicitation **including modifications** can be found at <http://www.dhs.gov/xopnbiz/opportunities> or at www.fbo.gov. Proposals are due on **Thursday, June 26, 2008**. For questions or comments about the current PACTS solicitations please contact:

PACTS Program Manager:
Sherry Barber
Department of Homeland Security
Office of Procurement Operations
Washington, DC 20528
FACTS@DHS.GOV

PACTS Contracting Officer:
Harrison Smith
Department of Homeland Security
Office of Procurement Operations
Washington, DC 20528
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BID PROTEST SUCCESSFUL AGAINST DHS

This spring, the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, in *Savantage Financial Services, Inc. v. U.S.*, 81 Fed.Cl. 300 (2008), issued an order stating that DHS could not proceed with its current acquisition strategy systems for integration and migration services for the consolidation of Department-wide financial systems. As a result of this ruling, DHS has pledged to make changes designed to change the way it crafts solicitations to permit a wider variety of technology solutions. See a copy of the Department's letter:

<http://homeland.house.gov/SiteDocuments/duke.pdf>

The decision prompting this change in the Department's acquisition strategy resulted from a bid protest launched by a small business. If you feel that you have been treated unfairly in the acquisition process, you have the right to file a protest. The United States Government Accountability Office (GAO) provides a forum for vendors to seek redress. A vendor may file a bid protest with GAO. GAO will usually issue a decision within 60 days and may halt the award of a contract while it reviews the case. For more information on bid protests visit: <http://www.gao.gov/legal/bidprotest.html>, and as always if you feel your company has been treated unfairly, please contact us at dhsbizops@mail.house.gov.

DID YOU KNOW...

You can locate advance acquisition planning information at:

<http://www.fido.gov/dhs/aap/publicviewsb.asp>

You can locate current opportunities at:

<http://vsearch2.fbo.gov/servlet/SearchServlet>

You can serve as a subcontractor with a prime at DHS:

[http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/opnbiz/OSDBU-
DHS_Prime_Contractors_List.pdf](http://www.dhs.gov/xlibrary/assets/opnbiz/OSDBU-DHS_Prime_Contractors_List.pdf)

If you believe your company has been treated unfairly by the Department of Homeland Security, please tell us about it:
DHSBizOps@mail.house.gov

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

For more information about these opportunities, please visit: <http://vsearch2.fbo.gov/servlet/SearchServlet>

Solicitation #	DHS Office/ Agency	Project	Point of Contact	Response Date
PR128870	United States Secret Service	USSS needs parking lot facility improvements for its training center in Laurel, MD.	Charles James, Contract Specialist Charles.James@uss.s.dhs.gov	June 27, 2008
HSCG40-08-Q-2MG538	United States Coast Guard	USCG needs a generators.	Keith A. Wakefield, Contract Specialist 410-762-6220	June 23, 2008
2003969	Customs and Border Patrol	CBP needs communication equipment to upgrade its surveillance systems.	Michael Hall Contract Specialist: Michael.A.Hall@dhs.gov	June 25, 2008
HSTS04-08-Q-CT-6009	Transportation Security Administration	TSA needs portable sign holders.	Venitha Mathias, Contract Specialist Venitha.Mathias@dhs.gov	June 27, 2008
HSFEGC-08-R-0023	FEMA	FEMA needs Emergency Food Supply Assistance in New Orleans, LA; Lake Charles, LA; Jackson, MS, and Biloxi, MS	Katherine Lindsley Katherine.Lindsley@dhs.gov	July 8, 2008
HSCG38-08-Q-200049	United States Coast Guard	USCG needs aircraft components and parts	Gail Payne Gail.F.Payne@uscg.mil	June 30, 2008
1008Q1809	Customs and Border Protection	CBP needs Remote Reconnaissance and Surveillance Robot	Shaun Saad, Contract Specialist Shaun.Galen.Saad@dhs.gov	June 23, 2008
HSCG40-08-Q-50151	United States Coast Guard	USCG needs centrifugal pumps	Yvette R. Johnson, Contract Specialist Yvette.R.Johnson@uscg.mil	June 19, 2008
HSTS04-08-Q-CT6005	Transportation Security Administration	TSA needs portable lecturns for various locations	Venita Mathias Venita.Mathias@dhs.gov	June 27, 2008
HSCG40-08-Q-286	United States Coast Guard	USCG needs various lighting fixtures	Sarah Morin Sarah.E.Morin@uscg.mil	June 19, 2008
RFQ20035810	Customs and Border Patrol	CBP needs a Powder X Ray Diffractometer	Isabelle Nguyen Isabelle.Nguyen@dhs.gov	June 24, 2008
HSCG28-08-Q-1001001A	United States Coast Guard	USCG needs maintenance, repair, and rebuilding of equipment	Linda Clark, Contract Specialist Linda.Clark@dhs.gov	March 20, 2008
HSCG38-08-Q-S300032	United States Coast Guard	USCG needs rechargeable cells	Sherri Roche, Contract Specialist Sherri.Roche@uscg.mil	March 28, 2008

If you believe your company has been treated unfairly by the Department of Homeland Security, please tell us about it: DHSBizOps@mail.house.gov

ROLE OF THE DEPARTMENT'S OSDBU

Did you know that every federal agency with contracting authority is required by the Small Business Act to establish an Office of Small Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU)?

The OSDBU is **required** to advocate, assist, and facilitate small business participation in agency prime and subcontracting opportunities. The Department of Homeland Security's OSDBU is responsible for ensuring that small businesses are treated fairly and that they have the opportunity to compete and be selected for a fair amount of DHS' prime and subcontracting opportunities. The OSDBU serves as the focal point for small business acquisition matters and works closely with all DHS components to implement the program. The OSDBU strives to create an environment in which small businesses have a meaningful opportunity to obtain DHS prime and subcontracts. Also, the OSDBU at DHS has small business specialists within the DHS components who are available to provide advice to small business owners about procurement opportunities.

The OSDBU also assists in coordinating monthly vendor outreach sessions. Vendor Outreach Sessions are a series of pre-arranged 15-minute appointments with Small Business Specialists from various components of the Homeland Security procurement offices. These sessions provide the small business community an opportunity to discuss their capabilities and learn of potential procurement opportunities. For more information about OSDBU or other small business assistance visit <http://www.dhs.gov/xopnbiz/smallbusiness>.

We're Here to Serve You!

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Are You a Minority-Owned Start-Up Firm?

The Minority Business Development Agency funds Business Development Centers around the country to assist with the start-up, expansion and development of minority-owned firms. Minority Business Enterprise Centers (MBECs), Native American Business Enterprise Centers (NABECs), and Business Resource Centers (BRCs) provide individualized management and technical assistance to minority entrepreneurs at every stage of business development. Minority Business Opportunity Committees (MBOCs) coordinate Federal, state and local business resources. They are designed to identify business opportunities and leverage existing programs to increase market access for minority-owned firms. For a center near you, please go to www.mbda.gov.

Are You a Women-Owned Business?

[Women-owned small businesses](#) ("WOSBs") are reported to be the fastest growing segment of this country's business community. Unfortunately, WOSBs have not seen a proportionate increase in the number of federal contracting dollars sent their way. In fact, the federal government has repeatedly failed to meet its own women-owned small business contracting goal (which was set at 5% under Section 7106 of the Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act).

Department of Homeland Security High Priority Representative Technology Areas

- Standoff detection on persons
- Tools to detect and mitigate animal disease breakouts
- Handheld rapid biological and chemical detection systems
- Analytical techniques for security across the information technology system engineering life cycle
- Composable and scalable secure systems
- Enhanced screening and examination by non intrusive Inspection
- Mobile biometrics screening capabilities
- High speed, high fidelity ten print capture capability
- Detection paradigms and systems for enhanced, emerging, and novel biological threats
- Ability to detect handmade or novel explosives
- Capability in real time for positive verification of individual's identity using multiple biometrics

Other High Priority Representative Technology Needs are in the "High Priority Technology Areas" Document. This document may be obtained by visiting www.hsarpabaa.com and by following the Representative High Priority Areas link.