



CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICE

August 31, 2012

Dear Director Weems:

The Chief Procurement Office (CPO) is providing to you the Fiscal Year 2012 report of Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) and Veteran Owned Business (VOSB) pursuant to Public Act 97-260 (30 ILCS 500/45-57(b)). The Act calls for a goal that not less than 3% of the total dollar amount of state contracts to be awarded to SDVOSBs and VOSBs.

The CPO worked with the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs (IDVA), the Department of Central Management Services (CMS), and other state agencies and universities to encourage Illinois veterans that own businesses to become certified in the state's Veterans Business Program (VBP). Certification in VBP is the primary means for identifying the number and location of SDVOSB and VOSB and the type of supplies and services they offer.

Efforts by the Chief Procurement Office to increase veteran awareness and knowledge about state procurement include the CPO's Small Business Set-Aside Program (SBSP) changing its application and outreach materials to encourage veteran businesses owners to participate in VBP and SBSP. The CPO presented at a "Mission: Veterans 2 Entrepreneurs" event and created a public-private coalition to leverage limited state resources available to small businesses. Members of the coalition include the CPO, IDVA, CMS, the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, Illinois Office of the Comptroller, Illinois Office of the Treasurer, and the Illinois Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, the Department of Transportation will be surveying their pre-qualified contractors to identify veteran owned businesses and ask them to become certified.

There are currently 13 certified businesses in VBP. Eleven of the 13 are also registered in the SBSP. As VBP develops, the number of certified businesses will increase.

Per 30 ILCS 500/45-57 (b), the CPO reports:

1. Total number of veteran small businesses that submitted bids for contracts = 3
2. Total number of veteran small businesses that entered into contracts = 3
3. Total contract awarded amount = \$700,659 (estimated .007% of total spend)

As the number of VBP certified businesses increases, the number and value of state procurements awarded to veteran small businesses will increase. The Chief Procurement Office fully supports IDVA and CMS in their outreach efforts and towards meeting the 3% contracting goal. The goal is appropriate at this time and should be continued.

Sincerely,

Matt Brown
CPO for General Services

Ben Bagby
CPO for Institutions of Higher Education

Fred Hahn
CPO for Capital Development Board

Bill Grunloh
CPO for Department of Transportation