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DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

OCTOBER 2009

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## **Conference highlights leadership and ‘Can-do’ attitude**

DAS Procurement Director Carol Wilson and Team Leader Joe Giliberto attended the National Association of State Purchasing Officials (NASPO) conference in late September and returned with both professional and personal lessons for procurement staff.

The four-day conference covered a number of professional topics including professional development, multi-state partnerships, how to track federal stimulus money, along with cooperative and green purchasing. NASPO paid for DAS’ attendance at the conference.

The keynote speaker was Navy Commander Kirk Lippold of the USS Cole which was attacked and almost sunk in a Yemen port. Commander Lippold gave an inspirational speech regarding teamwork, training, leadership and how the crew worked together – mostly without orders – to save the sinking ship. “Everyone did their job without asking. People were doing other assignments simply because it needed to be done at that time,” he relayed in his speech. As he surveyed the damage to the boat, The Commander only needed to ask one question within 20 minutes, because he saw his crew addressing and correcting problems. The message was not lost on those attending the conference.

“I wish I could have taken my whole staff to this conference,” said Wilson. “The professional and personal lessons learned were something every employee – public or private – could learn from Commander Lippold.”

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## **State Vehicle Auction**

There will be a state vehicle auction Saturday, October 31 at the State Surplus Facility located at 60 State Street (rear of DMV), Wethersfield. Directions: I-91, Exit 26, follow auction signs. Inspection is the morning of the auction from 8:30 a.m. - 10:00 a.m. For more information, [click here](#).



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## Contracts over the last 15 Days

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### **09PSX0239AA - Road Flares**

The Department of Public Safety

All Using State of Connecticut Agencies

Political Subdivisions of the State of Connecticut

### **08PSX0323 - WIC INFANT FOODS REBATE SYSTEM and WIC INFANT CEREAL REBATE SYSTEM (NASPO Cooperative)**

For All Using State Agencies

For more information visit: [www.das.state.ct.us](http://www.das.state.ct.us)

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## State Agencies Need to Stay Within Their Budgets

Now that the state has a budget – with some last minute tweaking from state legislators – DAS Procurement officials are asking agencies to continue to keep an eye on the bottom line. And DAS will be doing the same.

“We’ll be keeping an eye on all state procurement spending,” said DAS Procurement Director Carol Wilson. “Whether you’re using a P-Card, state contract or the GL-71 purchasing function, we’re watching.”

DAS was asked by Governor Rell to conduct a sweeping review of all DAS contracts to determine if they were deemed essential. As part of this effort, DAS Commissioner Sisco issued a directive in February 2009 directing state agencies to reduce and eliminate all spending that is non-essential.

“We need gas, we need electricity, and a number of items to keep the state up and running,” said Wilson. “These are essential items. If anything can be viewed as frivolous; we will call agencies and ask for justification.”