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DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

NOVEMBER 2012

Contracts

New Haven Forum

DAS Commissioner DeFronzo attends St. Francis Set Aside Kick-off Event

On Monday, October 22, Commissioner DeFronzo and Supplier Diversity Program Manager Meg Yetishefsky attended the kick-off event of Saint Francis Hospital's new Supplier Diversity Program. "As you know, Governor Malloy is always encouraging public-private partnerships here in Connecticut and I can't think of a better example than this event," said Commissioner DeFronzo.

In its initial phase, St. Francis will access the DAS on-line State Supplier Diversity database of over 3,000 state certified small and minority vendors. It is a comprehensive list of food service distributors, equipment suppliers, landscapers, plumbers, contractors and more. "Our diverse list of vendors and commodities should prove helpful for the new St. Francis Supplier Diversity program," said DeFronzo.

"Plus, your new supplier diversity program will be an economic development incentive for those state certified vendors. Our directory is available online 24/7 for your use and our 3,000 certified vendors will now have the opportunity to contract with St. Francis – promoting the local economy, local businesses and jobs," he added.



DAS Commissioner Donald DeFronzo speaks at the St. Francis kick-off event.

DAS to speak at CSA Conference

The Connecticut Subcontractors Association is pleased to invite individuals to attend the November 28 meeting to feature DAS' Meg Yetishefsky, the Program Manager of the State of Connecticut Small Business Program. Meg will provide an overview on how subcontractors can become certified in the Small Business Program. The Small Business Program serves as primary liaisons for small vendors seeking procurement opportunities with the State of Connecticut and the private sector market. [Click here for more information.](#)

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12PSX0243 OEM Power Flame Burner and Combustion Control Systems Parts

12PSX0286 Installation of UPS Generator

12PSX0320 Purchase and Installation of Computer Room Air Conditioning System

12PSX0321 Printing: Governor's 2013 - 2015 Biennial Budget and 2015 Midterm

12PSX0346 Printing of CT Boater's Guide

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New Haven Minority Business Forum

On Friday, October 19, several vendors and panel members braved the torrential rains to attend the New Haven Minority Business Enterprise Informational Forum at Southern Connecticut State University. This meeting, hosted by State Representative Toni Walker and State Senator Toni Harp gave many New Haven area minority business owners the opportunity to seek answers to their questions about doing business with the state. Toni Harp noted, "Small business drives the economy of this state and you are vitally important."

Presenting and fielding questions were: Carol Wilson and Carlos Velez of DAS Procurement and Contractor Prequalification, Debra Goss of DOT, Deputy Commissioner Bud Salemi of Department of Construction Services, Lindy Gold of Department of Economic and Community Development, Alvin Bingham of the Commission of Human Rights and Opportunities, Matt Larsen of UCONN Purchasing, Kim Hawkins of HEDCO, Terry Obrien, Compliance Officer, Board of Regents and Seth Klaskin of the Secretary of State.

The discussion brought forward many ideas as well as information that the panel was able to take back for further consideration. Minority business owner Jim Kayser of Resources Services noted his biggest concern was that minority-business, small business and women-owned businesses are all clumped in one category. He said, "There is an underlying problem – many vendors are listing their businesses in a women's name, usually a spouse, and getting contracts as an SBE. The contracts are awarded to this 'SBE' and it appears as if a requirement has been satisfied."

Commissioner DeFronzo, Carol Wilson, Carlos Velez and Deputy Commissioner Salemi fielded questions pertaining to DAS Procurement and Department of Construction Services.

Commissioner DeFronzo closed the forum saying, "I would like to thank everyone for coming today and for being blunt about their concerns. We are looking at changes to the contractor service processes and to be able to identify gaps in information. This will be a process and we will continue to work with you."