



AbilityOne  
E.R. "Dick" Alley Career  
Achievement Award

Call for  
Nominations

**Nomination Deadline:**  
**February 24, 2016**



## U.S. AbilityOne Commission

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The U.S. AbilityOne Commission® administers the AbilityOne® Program. The Commission determines which products and services purchased by the Federal Government must be procured from AbilityOne-participating nonprofit agencies. It also establishes the fair market prices for these products and services, and makes subsequent revisions as appropriate. In assisting the Federal Government in expanding its AbilityOne procurement, the Commission has designated more than 600 authorized distributors.

The Commission is composed of 15 Presidential appointees, with 11 representing Federal agencies, and four serving as private citizens who are knowledgeable about the obstacles to employment of people who are blind or have significant disabilities.



## AbilityOne Program

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Providing employment opportunities to more than 45,000 people, the AbilityOne Program is among the nation's largest sources of employment for people who are blind or have other significant disabilities in the United States. More than 550 participating nonprofit agencies provide employment opportunities by providing quality goods and services to the Federal Government.

The AbilityOne Program is administered by the U.S. AbilityOne Commission, an independent Federal agency, with assistance from National Industries for the Blind and SourceAmerica®.

# Submission Requirements for the E.R. “Dick” Alley Career Achievement Award

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## ELIGIBILITY

All individuals employed by the Federal Government are eligible to be nominated, with the exception of members of the U.S. AbilityOne Commission staff.\*

## EVALUATION CRITERIA

All nominees will be evaluated and rated based on the following criteria:

- Consistent, dedicated service in the form of specific actions that have materially advanced the employment of people who are blind or have significant disabilities through the AbilityOne Program over a substantial number of years.
- Demonstrates a high degree of personal integrity as well as exceptional knowledge and understanding of the AbilityOne Program.
- Establishes/maintains cooperative relationships with the members of the AbilityOne team (Commission, NIB, SourceAmerica, nonprofit agencies, Federal customers).

**Nomination applications can be found at [www.AbilityOne.gov](http://www.AbilityOne.gov).**

**NOTE:** Nomination submissions (including additional recommendations) **must be received via electronic mail in an accessible file format** (i.e., WordPerfect, Word, or ACCESSIBLE Adobe PDF, etc.). Signed hard-copy originals are allowed but will only be accepted in conjunction with the appropriate electronic files.

Persons submitting nominations must complete the fillable PDF or Word file nomination form and address each of the evaluation requirements with examples of accomplishments cited whenever possible, including number of years the nominee has worked with the AbilityOne Program and number of people who are blind or have significant disabilities who are employed as a result of the nominee’s accomplishments. An award selection committee will review and rate all nominations and reach a decision by May 2016.

Send nomination with all attachments electronically in an accessible format to Stephanie Lesko via email at [slesko@abilityone.gov](mailto:slesko@abilityone.gov) or [awards@abilityone.gov](mailto:awards@abilityone.gov) by **February 24, 2016**.

\*Commission staff is ineligible

## Award History



The E.R. “Dick” Alley Career Achievement Award was established in 1998 in honor and recognition of Dick Alley, who provided more than 25 years of dedicated service to the AbilityOne Program as the Deputy Executive Director of the U.S. AbilityOne Commission.\*

The award is the highest honor bestowed by the Commission and is intended to recognize individuals who have provided extraordinary achievement and sustained effort in utilizing the Federal procurement system to create AbilityOne employment and training opportunities for people who are blind or have significant disabilities. One award may be given annually to one Federal employee.

\*The U.S. AbilityOne Commission is the operating name for the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, the independent Federal agency that administers the AbilityOne Program.



Left to right: Then-Commission Chairperson J. Anthony Poleo, 2015 Dick Alley Award recipient Richard T. Ginman and Commission Executive Director Tina Ballard

## Previous Recipients

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**1999**

**Paul Denett**

Department of the Interior

**2000**

**Stephen Arginteanu**

General Services Administration

**2001**

**Donna Hutchens**

General Services Administration

**2002**

**Richard Holcombe**

Department of Agriculture

**2003**

**Mark Lumer**

Department of the Army

**2004**

**James Edwards**

Department of the Army

**2005**

**Linda Wright**

Department of the Navy

**2006**

**Dennis Dudek**

Department of Defense

**2007**

**Cynthia Maltby**

Office of Management and  
Budget

**2008**

**Peggy Thames**

Department of Veterans Affairs

**2009**

**Shay Assad**

Department of Defense

**2010**

**Michael McCall**

Department of Defense

**2011**

**Thomas Bouchard**

Department of the Army

**2012**

**Col. Roger Westermeyer**

Department of the Air Force

**2013**

**Nancy Heimbaugh**

Department of Defense

**2014**

**Vicki Taft**

Department of the Air Force

**2015**

**Richard Ginman**

Department of Defense

Across the Federal Government, strong supporters and advocates of the AbilityOne Program, and its employees who are blind or have other significant disabilities, work tirelessly to award contracts, purchase products and services, and educate fellow co-workers about the value of the AbilityOne Program. These Federal personnel are committed to the program and are worthy of distinction.

Celebrate and recognize their achievements by nominating them for the program's highest honor - the E.R. "Dick" Alley Career Achievement Award.



**U.S. AbilityOne Commission**  
An Independent Federal Agency



**U.S. AbilityOne Commission**

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