THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
3010 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3010

ACQUISITION,
TECHNOLOGY
AND LOGISTICS

OCT 18 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDER, USSOCOM
(ATTN: ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE)
COMMANDER, USTRANSCOM
(ATTN: ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY (ACQUISITION, LOGISTICS & TECHNOLOGY)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (RESEARCH, DEVELOPMENT & ACQUISITION)
ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE (ACQUISITION)
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES
DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: National Disability Employment Awareness Month and the AbilityOne Program

Congress has designated October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM). This year's NDEAM theme, "Because We Are EQUAL to the Task," recognizes that workers with disabilities have tremendous capabilities and skills. NDEAM is an excellent opportunity to recognize the contributions of employees with disabilities and to celebrate the 75th Anniversary of the AbilityOne® Program, which enables nearly 50,000 Americans who are blind or have other significant disabilities to have meaningful employment through Federal contracts. AbilityOne assists more than 3,000 wounded warriors and service-disabled veterans with training and employment, enabling them to continue serving our Nation and the defense mission.

The Department of Defense has a long history of partnering with AbilityOne and remains the largest customer of the Program, procuring more than $1.7 billion of quality products and services in FY 2012. In this environment of budget uncertainty, your continued support of the AbilityOne Program is extremely important and has a direct and positive result of creating job opportunities for individuals with disabilities. I challenge our acquisition professionals to further increase the use of AbilityOne sources to satisfy procurement needs in accordance with the Federal Acquisition Regulation, Subpart 8.7, and to facilitate new prime contract opportunities.

The acquisition professionals identified in the attached list were recognized over the past year for demonstrating commitment in action to increasing business with AbilityOne. On this 75th Anniversary, I congratulate these award recipients and express appreciation to our acquisition workforce for its steadfast support of AbilityOne. My staff specialist for AbilityOne policy is Ms. Susan Pollack, DPAP/CPIC, at 703-697-8336 or susan.w.pollack.civ@mail.mil.

Frank Kendall

Attachment:
As stated

Department of Defense Acquisition Workforce Members
Recognized in Fiscal Year 2013

Awards Presented by the U.S. AbilityOne Commission:

Dr. Carol E. Lowman (Retired), Deputy to the Commanding General, Department of the Army Contracting Command, Army Materiel Command, U.S. Department of the Army – Recipient of the Office of the Executive Director's Enduring Leadership Award. This award recognizes superlative leadership that has and will continue to produce enduring benefits to the AbilityOne Program.

Ms. Nancy Heimbaugh, Director of Acquisition, Defense Logistics Agency – Recipient of the 2013 E.R. "Dick" Alley Career Achievement Award. This award is the highest honor bestowed by the U.S. AbilityOne Commission and recognizes Federal employees who have provided extraordinary achievement and sustained effort to create AbilityOne employment and training opportunities on Federal contracts for people who are blind or have other significant disabilities.

AbilityOne Commitment in Action Award Recipients Recognized by the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics/Defense Procurement Acquisition Policy and the U.S. AbilityOne Commission:

Mr. Michael Canales – Office of the Secretary of Defense, Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics

Ms. Jocelyn Conway – Office of the Secretary of Defense, Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics

Mr. Hoa Ta – Office of the Secretary of Defense, Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics

Washington Headquarters Service

Colonel Timothy Applegate (USAF, Ret.) – Deputy Director, Acquisition Directorate

Mr. D. Wes Bennett, Jr. – Contracting Officer, Branch 3 Chief, Acquisition Directorate

Mr. Brent Brinson – Senior Contract Specialist, Acquisition Directorate

Mr. Brett Clark – Contracting Officer, Acquisition Directorate

Department of the Air Force

Mr. David Jones – Headquarters Air Education and Training Command (Contracting)

Ms. Ynuaka Newsome – Headquarters U.S. Air Force in Europe (Contracting)

Maj John Wodochek – Headquarters Air Mobility Command (Contracting)

Department of the Army

Ms. Elizabeth Cloutier, Senior Procurement Analyst, Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Procurement)

Ms. Karen Cline, Contracting Officer, Mission and Installation Contracting Command

Ms. Cassandra Mora, Procurement Analyst, Mission and Installation Contracting Command

Ms. Tiffany Thompson, Senior Contract Specialist, Army Contracting Command Headquarters

Department of the Navy

Ms. Jun Ji – Naval Sea Systems Command (Headquarters Contracting)

Mr. John Kimener – Naval Sea Systems Command (Headquarters Contracting)

Mr. Michael Allen – Naval Surface Warfare Center Crane (Contracting)

Ms. Rebecca Helton – Naval Surface Warfare Center Crane (Contracting)

Ms. Phyllis Hoggatt – Naval Surface Warfare Center Crane (Contracting)

Mr. Ralph Hughes – Naval Surface Warfare Center Crane (Contracting)

Ms. Donna Jennings – Naval Surface Warfare Center Crane (Contracting)

Ms. Emily Miller – Naval Surface Warfare Center Crane (Contracting)

Ms. Diane Pearson – Naval Surface Warfare Center Crane (Contracting)

Mr. Ron Smith – Naval Surface Warfare Center Crane (Contracting)

Ms. Jilda Tow – Naval Surface Warfare Center Crane (Contracting)

United States Marine Corps

Ms. Naomi Melendez, Contracting Officer, Marine Corps Systems Command

Awards presented by National Industries for the Blind (NIB) and National Association for the Employment of People Who Are Blind (NAEPB) in FY 2013 and at the 2013 NIB/NAEPB National Conference and Expo:

OUSD(AT&L)

Mr. Shay Assad, Director, Defense Pricing – Recipient of the "Spirit of Independence" Award

Department of the Air Force

Mr. William Sproule, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Contracting) – Performance of Excellence Award for Contract Management Support Services

Department of the Army

Mr. Morris McIllwain, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics – Partnership Excellence Award for the Base Supply Center Program

Ms. Alynne Faughan, Army Contracting Command, G3 Operations Group, Contract Operations Directorate – Customer Appreciation Award for Contract Management Support Services

Ms. Joan Wysocke, Army Contracting Command, Rock Island – Performance of Excellence Award for Contract Management Support Services

Defense Logistics Agency

Mr. Roger Dixon, Troop Support – Customer Appreciation Award "Product Deal of the Year"

Ms. Lisa Flight, Troop Support – Customer Appreciation Award "Product Deal of the Year"

Ms. Terri Nunn, Contracting Services Office – Performance of Excellence Award for NIB Services

Defense Logistics Agency – Recipients of the Federal Customer Appreciation Award:

Mr. Steven Hawkins, Document Services

Ms. Deborah Kemble, Headquarters

Mr. Ralph Lund, Troop Support

Mr. Tyrone Lyles, Troop Support

Ms. Frances Meckel, Headquarters

Ms. Christine Metz, Headquarters

Mr. Howard "Tom" Page III, Troop Support

Mr. Daniel Price, Troop Support

Ms. Theresa Rucci, Troop Support

Mr. Brian Schott, Troop Support

Mr. Michael Smith, Document Services

Mr. Tim Stark, Headquarters

Ms. Susan Williams, Headquarters

Defense Contract Management Agency – Recipients of the Customer Appreciation Award for Contract Management Support Services:

Mr. Timothy Callahan, Executive Director of Contracts

Ms. Loretta Boyce, Administrative Contracting

Ms. Kathy Cavalieri, Administrative Contracting

Ms. Lois Elswick, Contract Specialist

Ms. Leona Fitzpatrick, Contracting Operations Director

Mr. John Klar, Contract Specialist

Ms. Joanne Hamilton Parks, Supervisory Contract Specialist

Mr. Marc Rabinowitz, Contracting Officer Representative

Ms. Roseanne Roche, Administrative Contracting Officer

Ms. Edith Taylor-Sak, Contracting Officer Representative

Ms. Mary Smith, Contracting Officer

Mr. Gabriel Tapia, Internet Support

Defense Finance and Accounting Service – Recipients of the Customer Appreciation Award for Services:

Mr. Kenneth Crocker, Customer Service Improvement Initiative

Ms. Jenna Hase, Customer Service Improvement Initiative

Mr. Joshua Rapke, Customer Service Improvement Initiative

Ms. Lacey Sprang, Customer Service Improvement Initiative

Awards presented by SourceAmerica (formerly NISH) at the 2013 National Training and Achievement Conference:

Defense Logistics Agency Troop Support; Recipient of the Government Award for Products Award. This award recognizes a military organization or civilian federal agency that has provided outstanding support to the AbilityOne Program for Products.

Armed Forces Retirement Home; Recipient of the Government Award for Services (Civilian) Award. This award recognizes an organization that has provided outstanding support to the AbilityOne Program for Services.

NOSTRA Lens Lab at Yorktown Naval Weapons Station; Recipient of the Government Award for Services (Military) Award. This award recognizes a military organization that has provided outstanding support to the AbilityOne Program for Services.

DoD-AbilityOne Procurement Champions Recognized by SourceAmerica in FY 2013:

Mr. Rick Dowling, Contracting Department Chair and Professor of Contract Management, Defense Acquisition University, Huntsville, AL

Ms. Ashley Jenkins, Contracting Officer Mission and Installation Contracting Command, Fort Leonard Wood, MO

Ms. Jackie Johnston, Supervisor Contract Specialist NAVFAC MIDLANT, Public Works Department, Portsmouth Naval Shipyard, Kittery, ME

Ms. Tunissha Marshall, Contracting Officer Mission and Installation Contracting Command, Fort Leonard Wood, MO

Mr. Jeffrey Myhre, Director of Integration, Program Manager-Soldier Clothing and Individual Equipment, Fort Belvoir, VA

Mr. John Perry, Associate Department Chairman and Professor of Contract Management, Defense Acquisition University, San Diego, CA

Ms. Delores Schnell, Professor of Contract Management, Defense Acquisition University, Norfolk, VA

SourceAmerica's Honor Roll for Veterans with Disabilities:

Mr. Edward Johnson, Jr., AbilityOne Employee with Brevard Achievement Center Inc., working at Patrick Air Force Base, FL. This award recognizes a service-disabled U.S. military veteran with a significant disability who has exhibited outstanding achievement in his/her work life.