Call to Order
Administrative Remarks

• This official meeting of the U.S. AbilityOne Commission is open to the general public and is being recorded.

• Meeting panelists, such as the members of the Commission and other planned speakers, may un-mute themselves as needed.

• The Zoom setting for public attendees today is listen-only; however, attendees may use the Chat Box to send comments.

• During the Public Engagement presentations, attendees may send questions or comments for the speakers via the Chat Box.

• Meeting materials can be found on www.abilityone.gov.
Introductions and Chairperson’s Remarks
Agenda

• Call to Order – Mr. Jeffrey Koses (Chairperson)
• Administrative Remarks – Ms. Angela Phifer
• Introductions and Chairperson’s Remarks – Mr. Koses
• Guest Speaker – Dr. Mona Minkara
• Strategic Plan Update – Ms. Chai Feldblum
• Subcommittee Reports:
  – Enterprise Risk Management – Ms. Virna Winters
  – Performance Management – Ms. Christina Brandt
  – Regulations and Policy – Ms. Feldblum
• Acting Executive Director Report – Ms. Kimberly Zeich
Agenda (cont.)

• Acting Inspector General Presentation
  – Ms. Stefania Pozzi Porter
• Advancing Nonprofit Agencies’ Purchases of PL Items
  – Mr. Kevin Lynch
  – Mr. Richard Belden
• Break
• Public Engagement: Compliance and Technical Assistance
  – Overview
  – Compliance and Technical Assistance for NPAs
    • Registered Speakers
    • Questions and Chat Box comments
• Closing Remarks – Mr. Koses
Impact of the Americans with Disabilities Act

Dr. Mona Minkara
Northeastern University
Update on FY 2022-2026 Strategic Plan

Ms. Chai Feldblum
Vice Chairperson
Subcommittee Reports

Enterprise Risk Management – Ms. Winters
Performance Management – Ms. Brandt
Policy and Regulations – Ms. Feldblum
• 14(c) Regulation
  – Published on **July 21** with an effective date of 90 days from publication – **October 19**.
  – **Prohibits use of 14(c) certificates** to pay employees on AbilityOne new contracts, extensions of contracts, and options.
  – NPAs may request an **extension of up to 12 months** to come into compliance. Requests for extension must be received by **Sept 19**.
  – During the extension period, the NPA will **not be awarded new PL additions**, absent exigent circumstances and a written request from the Federal customer.

• **Competition Regulation** – next up in the queue.
Policy work stemming from the Strategic Plan for FY22-FY26:

- Ensure **Cooperative Agreements** reflect the direction of the new Strategic Plan.
- Publish a **Request For Information (RFI)** on “good jobs” and “optimal jobs” in the Program and review responses.
- Revise the **Individual Eligibility Evaluation (IEE)** process and form to better enable job customization and employment advancement.
Acting Executive Director Report
Acting Executive Director Report

• Commission staff update
  – Strategic Plan Focus
  – Rulemaking and Policy Updates

• Communication and transparency
  – Town Hall and Advocacy Organization Listening Session
  – Listening sessions with AbilityOne employees
  – Website and social media

• Recent Procurement List (PL) additions - highlights
  – Personal Protective Equipment Distribution
  – Acquisition Support Services
  – Section 508 Compliance Assurance

• Strengthening and enhancing compliance functions
Acting Inspector General Presentation
DUTIES

• Ensure integrity (no fraud or abuse; efficient use of taxpayer dollars)
• Ensure agency and all components related to the agency are carrying out the agency’s stated mission
• Duty to keep Congress and the Head of the Agency fully and currently informed about problems and deficiencies relating to the Commission and its Program

MECHANISMS

• Individual investigations
• Audits in targeted areas
• Overall reports as mandated by statute
• We host a hotline to receive anonymous complaints

• People can also come to us directly and identify themselves

• We receive referrals from the Department of Justice and other OIGs

• We have 28 ongoing investigations

• Areas that come up include misrepresentation of labor ratio, conflict of interest, and employee misconduct
Audits – Recently Completed

• CNA Selection of NPAs for Project Assignment and Allocation of Orders
• Procurement List Addition Process, Procedures, and Practices
• Financial Statement Audit
• Digital Accountability and Transparency (DATA) Act
• Federal Information Security Management Act (FISMA)
• Government Purchase Card Risk Assessment
Audits – Ongoing

- Oversight and Compliance Program
- Quality of Products in Support of Meeting Government Requirement
- Third-Party Service Provider Agreements
- Commission’s Contract Administration Process
- Financial Statement 2022
OIG Reports

- Management Challenges Report
- SARs
- Audit Reports

- SAR May 2022

  **Theme: Looking Forward**
  - 3 Audits Completed
  - 1 Investigation Closed
  - NPA visit
OIG FY22 Objectives

• Continued commitment to foster the integrity, economy, and efficiencies through the prevention and identification of fraud, waste, and abuse

• Alignment of OIG goals in support of the Commission's mission and new strategic plan, including through audits and evaluations

• Continued communication with key stakeholders, including: Congress, Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Commission Members, Commission staff, CNAs, NPAs, Program Participants, and fellow federal agencies
OIG Contact Information

AbilityOne Office of Inspector General

https://abilityone.oversight.gov

To SUBMIT a COMPLAINT to OIG:
Please submit complaints using our Portal
https://abilityone.oversight.gov

You may also submit a complaint via our:

Hotline Toll-Free Number: 1-844-496-1536, or
Email: hotline@oig.abilityone.gov
Advancing Nonprofit Agencies’ Purchases of Procurement List Items

Mr. Kevin Lynch, NIB
Mr. Richard Belden, SourceAmerica
U.S. AbilityOne Commission Meeting

Kevin Lynch
President and CEO
National Industries for the Blind

July 21, 2022
NPA Purchasing Initiative

• Working collaboratively with SourceAmerica and NPA reps
• Confirmed many SourceAmerica NPA suppliers are already Authorized AbilityOne Distributors
• Developed preliminary product listing – Custodial, Food Service, JanSan, and Housekeeping Products
• Engaging all stakeholders to raise awareness
  – Hosted virtual training for SourceAmerica NPAs and account reps
  – Providing SourceAmerica NPA contract holders with resource materials including “How to Buy AbilityOne”
  – Informing SourceAmerica suppliers/distributors about the new policy
SourceAmerica NPA Participation
Next Steps

- Create additional outreach materials
- Develop landing page with FAQs and other resources
- Work with SourceAmerica to ramp up outreach
U.S. AbilityOne Commission Meeting Update

July 21, 2022

Richard Belden, SourceAmerica President and CEO
Current Initiatives to Support Policy Implementation

• **Conducting an existing AbilityOne service contract analysis**
  - Line of business
  - Annual contract value
  - Contract renewal dates

• **Working with NIB to analyze and share data on:**
  - Upcoming service contract renewals
  - D.C. area custodial contracts in support of mandatory product
  - Policy implementation considerations (distribution/product access, price impacts, logistics, and NPA customer support)
Future Actions

• **Working with NIB to:**
  
  • Recommend implementation-related priorities
  
  • Develop a joint plan and schedule
  
  • Create stakeholder communications, resources, and trainings
    
    • NPAs, CNA staff, and federal customers
Break
Public Engagement

Compliance and Technical Assistance Overview
Oversight and Compliance Framework

- Commission Staff Compliance Team is currently 6 FTEs (Director, Supervisor, 2 Inspectors, 2 VR Specialists)
- They conduct a combination of on-site and virtual reviews: 122 on-site; 90 virtual reviews in FY 2022 YTD
- They work closely with 19-20 CNA personnel who perform regulatory assistance reviews per Cooperative Agreements
- Inspections focus on regulatory criteria for NPA qualification, ~11 items (see 41 C.F.R. 51-4.2 and 51-4.3)
- Inspectors’ focus is not currently on contract performance, job customization, and placements
NIB Workforce-Related Technical Assistance
SourceAmerica Technical Assistance

U.S. AbilityOne Commission meeting

Shane Kanady, Vice President, Workforce Development
Workforce Development Support for NPA AbilityOne contracts

- Quality Work Environment
- 14(c) Transition
- Department of Labor - NEON
- Customized and Supported Employment
- Productivity Engineering
- Inclusive Certification Programs
- Direct Service Professional Certifications
- SourceAmerica Academy Training
- Resources in Development
Public Engagement
Compliance and Technical Assistance for NPAs
Additional Comments and Discussion
Closing Remarks