



OFFICE OF THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
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ACQUISITION
TECHNOLOGY
AND LOGISTICS

DPAP/P

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTORS, DEFENSE AGENCIES
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY
(POLICY AND PROCUREMENT), ASA(ALT)
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY
(ACQUISITION MANAGEMENT), ASN(RDA)
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE
(CONTRACTING), SAF/AQC
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ACQUISITION, TECHNOLOGY
AND SUPPLY DIRECTORATE (DLA)
DIRECTOR, ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT
DIRECTOR, ARMY CONTRACTING AGENCY

SUBJECT: National Disability Employment Awareness Month and the Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Program Event at the Pentagon on October 12, 2005

October is National Disability Employment Awareness Month, and the Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Program will be recognized on October 12, 2005, at the Pentagon Concourse. This year's event theme is "JWOD Works for America." This is an opportunity for DoD employees to renew their understanding of the JWOD Program and ensure that JWOD sources are given adequate consideration for satisfying their procurement needs. Each year the President of the United States asks all Americans to recognize the achievements of workers with disabilities and to help create greater employment opportunities for this underutilized labor pool. The JWOD Program currently employs nearly 45,000 Americans who are blind or have other severe disabilities, enabling them to lead more productive and independent lives. It is administered by the Committee for Purchase from People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, in partnership with two national nonprofit organizations, National Industries for the Blind (NIB) and NISH - Creating Employment Opportunities for People with Severe Disabilities. NIB and NISH assist over 600 community-based agencies across the nation in their efforts to employ people with severe disabilities on federal contracts under the JWOD Program.

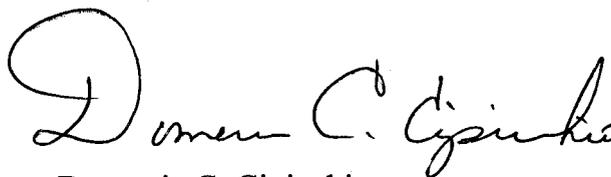
DoD is a major supporter of the JWOD Program and procures a variety of services and products under the program. Today, Americans with disabilities provide vital



support services such as grounds maintenance, custodial service, call centers, laundry operations; digital imaging, and award winning food services at installation dining facilities. The JWOD program also provides a large variety of products including many military unique items such as chemical protective suits, uniforms and first aid kits, as well as a wide range of office supplies. With the ability for prime contractors to receive credit towards small business subcontracting goals by utilizing JWOD resources, it is important that we promote JWOD supplies and services as mutually beneficial actions. For more information about the JWOD supplies or distributors, visit the JWOD Program's Web site at <http://www.jwod.gov> or call Eric Beale of the Committee staff at (703) 603-2119.

The Department sponsored recognition event on October 12, 2005, is an opportunity for JWOD vendors to introduce Pentagon employees to the products and services they provide. There will be numerous exhibits on display from both NIB and NISH vendors. The displays will have sample products to include emergency kits that were provided in support of the Hurricane Katrina relief efforts as well as promotional materials to increase awareness of, and appreciation for, the ways in which JWOD vendors support the Department in meeting mission needs and providing base operations support. We encourage Pentagon employees to stop by and visit the displays and become familiar with the goals of the JWOD Program. The event will last from 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. for vendor displays and members of the Committee staff will be available to answer questions during this timeframe.

Your support of the JWOD requirements is extremely important to the Department and vital to this community. Please share this memorandum with all of your acquisition communities. My point of contact is Ms. Susan Pollack at (703) 697-8336 or susan.pollack@osd.mil.



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