



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

WASHINGTON DC 20330-1060

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

19 NOV 2014

MEMORANDUM FOR ALMAJCOM/FOA/DRU

FROM: SAF/AQC  
1060 Air Force Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20330-1060

SUBJECT: Increasing AbilityOne Contracting Opportunities

October was National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) and I want to personally endorse the AbilityOne Program as a year round program. AbilityOne provides employment opportunities for more than 45,000 people who are blind or severely disabled through federal Government contracts for supplies and services. This workforce also includes more than 3,000 of our wounded warriors.

In a recent memo (attached), the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics) (USD(AT&L)) highlighted the importance of the AbilityOne Program and lauded the FY14 award winners under this program. In the spirit of this memo, I wanted to strongly encourage contracting officers to engage with their customers in proactively seeking contracting opportunities suitable for the AbilityOne Program in order to foster greater opportunities and career paths for people with disabilities. I also wanted to congratulate our FY14 Air Force AbilityOne award winners identified in the attached USD(AT&L) memo.

The prospects for awarding new AbilityOne contracts to meet our supply and operational services requirements are stronger than ever. A recent example last month was an addition to the Procurement List for janitorial, grounds and refuse collection services at Arnold AFB, TN. These services are currently part of a base operation support service (BOSS) contract that is being performed by a large business. Breaking this effort out assures that this work will be performed by a staff that is comprised of at least 75% disabled employees. I believe there are more opportunities out there.

Through our partnership with AbilityOne, we can continue to employ disabled workers who provide vital supplies and services that help us meet the mission of the Air Force, a win-win for all involved. My liaison to the program is Mr. William Sproule who may be reached at 571-256-2419 or [william.g.sproule.civ@mail.mil](mailto:william.g.sproule.civ@mail.mil).

*Thanks for your  
continued support  
of the Program!*

CASEY D. BLAKE, Brig Gen, USAF  
Deputy Assistant Secretary (Contracting)  
Assistant Secretary (Acquisition)

Attachment:  
31 Oct 14 OUSD AT&L Memo



ACQUISITION,  
TECHNOLOGY  
AND LOGISTICS

THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

3010 DEFENSE PENTAGON  
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3010

OCT 31 2014

MEMORANDUM FOR SERVICE ACQUISITION EXECUTIVES  
COMMANDER, UNITED STATES SPECIAL OPERATIONS  
COMMAND (ATTN: ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE)  
COMMANDER, UNITED STATES TRANSPORTATION  
COMMAND (ATTN: ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE)  
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES  
DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

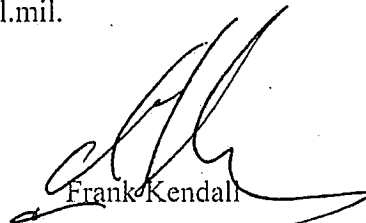
SUBJECT: National Disability Employment Awareness Month and the AbilityOne<sup>®</sup> Program

On September 30, 2014, President Obama proclaimed October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month. "Expect. Employ. Empower." is this year's theme. It provides a tremendous opportunity to recognize employees with disabilities and celebrate the AbilityOne Program, which enables more than 45,000 Americans who are blind or have other significant disabilities to find meaningful employment on Federal contracts. This includes more than 3,000 veterans and service-disabled veterans who perform work on these contracts.

For over 75 years, the Program now known as AbilityOne has provided a wide variety of quality goods and services for the defense mission. The Department of Defense (DoD) remains the leading customer of the Program, procuring more than \$1.7 billion in business during FY 2014, which equates to 62 percent of AbilityOne's sales and an estimated 30,000 jobs for people with disabilities. The Federal Acquisition Regulation, Subpart 8.7, prescribes the policies and procedures for purchasing from AbilityOne sources to satisfy procurement needs. AbilityOne is a procurement program with a purpose. In this environment of reduced budgets, your continued support of AbilityOne is critical to provide individuals with disabilities every opportunity to contribute to our great Nation and lead independent lives.

The DoD workforce professionals identified in the attached list have demonstrated leadership and commitment to increasing AbilityOne business. I congratulate them and express great appreciation to the members of the defense acquisition workforce for providing people with disabilities the opportunity to support our mission.

My staff specialist for disabilities procurement policy is Ms. Susan Pollack, DPAP, at 703-697-8336 or [susan.w.pollack.civ@mail.mil](mailto:susan.w.pollack.civ@mail.mil).

  
Frank Kendall

Attachment:  
As stated

## Department of Defense Acquisition Workforce Members Recognized in Fiscal Year 2014

### *Awards Presented by the U.S. AbilityOne Commission*

- **Ms. Vicki Taft**, Section Chief, Base Support Section, Tinker Air Force Base – Recipient of the **E.R. “Dick” Alley Career Achievement Award**. This award recognizes an individual who has provided extraordinary achievement and sustained effort in utilizing the Federal procurement system which creates AbilityOne employment opportunities.
- **Mr. William G. Sproule**, Senior Procurement Analyst, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force (Contracting) – Recipient of the **2014 Most Valuable Liaison Award**. The Commission’s Most Valuable Liaison Award recognizes Federal employees, who in their roles as liaisons demonstrate valuable effort in creating AbilityOne employment opportunities.
- **Mr. Michael Cowley**, Equal Employment Opportunity Specialist, Defense Logistics Agency, Troop Support – Recipient of the **Outstanding Contributions Award**. This award recognizes a Federal employee for their exceptional efforts in creating AbilityOne employment opportunities on Federal contracts.

### *Awards presented by National Industries for the Blind (NIB) and National Association for the Employment of People Who Are Blind (NAEPB) in FY 2014 and at the 2014 NIB/NAEPB National Conference and Expo*

#### OUSD(AT&L)

- **Mr. Richard Ginman (SES)**, Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy – Recipient of the “Spirit of Independence” Award. This award recognizes an individual in government who, over the course of his or her career, has demonstrated a commitment to advancing economic and personal independence for people who are blind.

#### Washington Headquarters Service – Recipients of the Federal Customer Appreciation Award for Contract Management Support Services

- **Mr. David W. Bennett**, Branch Chief, Contracting Officer
- **Mr. Jonathan Bertsch**, Contract Specialist
- **Ms. Bethanie Healey**, Contracting Officer
- **Ms. Chrissandra Smith**, Contract Specialist

**Defense Commissary Agency (DeCA)**

- **Mr. Joseph H. Jeu (SES)**, Director and Chief Executive Officer – Recipient of an “Outstanding Performance Award” for long time support of the AbilityOne Program. Mr. Jeu accepted the award on behalf of the DeCA team.

**Defense Logistics Agency, Land and Maritime**

- **Mr. Hoa Ta**, Senior Cost and Price Analyst – for distinguished service and contributions to the DoD-AbilityOne Contract Management Services Program.

**Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), Troop Support - Recipients of the Federal Customer Appreciation Award**

- **Mr. Roger Dixon**, Director, Supplier Operations, DLA Troop Support Medical
- **Mr. Dan Ferry**, Lighting and HVAC Division Chief, DLA Troop Support Construction & Equipment
- **Mr. Ralph Lund**, Director, Supplier Operations, DLA Troop Support Construction & Equipment
- **Mr. Abin Mathai**, Contracting Officer, DLA Troop Support Industrial Hardware
- **Ms. Theresa Rucci**, IST Chief, Optical and Laboratory, DLA Troop Support Medical
- **Ms. Nicole Welsh**, Acquisition Specialist, DLA Troop Support Medical
- **Mr. Stephen Wielgosz**, Lighting & Targets IST Chief, DLA Troop Support Construction & Equipment

**Department of the Navy, Naval Supply Systems Command (NAVSUP) – Recipients of the Federal Customer Appreciation Award**

- **Mr. William E. Bickert, Jr. (SES)**, Vice Commander, NAVSUP Global Logistics Support
- **Ms. Pauline Chriscoe**, Southeast Regional Hazardous Material Director and Hazardous Material Program Director, NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Jacksonville
- **Ms. Mattie Washington**, Supervisory Contract Specialist, NAVSUP Fleet Logistics Center Jacksonville
- **Ms. Carolyn Wright**, Hazardous Material Support Representative, NAVSUP Global Logistics Support San Diego

***Awards presented by SourceAmerica in FY 2014 and at the 2014 National Training and Achievement Conference***

**Recipients of the President's Award:** This award recognizes Federal employees who have demonstrated a long-standing, ongoing, and supportive relationship nurturing the AbilityOne Program thereby creating employment of qualified persons with significant disabilities.

- **LTG William N. Phillips** (retired), Principal Military Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology
- **LTG Raymond V. Mason** (retired), U.S. Army Deputy Chief of Staff, G4
- **BG Stephen B. Leisenring** (retired), Deputy Director of Contracting, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

**U.S. Army Human Resources Services Center, Fort Knox, Kentucky; 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 2014:***

- **Ms. Ellen Klotz**, Professor of Contract Management, Defense Acquisition University (Mid-Atlantic Region), California, Maryland
- **Mr. Salvatore M. Cianci**, Professor of Contract Management, Defense Acquisition University (West Region), San Diego, California
- **Mr. John R. Perry**, Professor of Contract Management, Defense Acquisition University (West Region), San Diego, California
- **LTC Warren Seymour**, U.S. Army, Commander, 8<sup>th</sup> Battalion, Army Reserve Careers Division
- **Mr. Joseph C. Timmons**, Professor of Contract Management, Defense Acquisition University (West Region), San Diego, California