

# OBD&EO **News Alert**

A Delaware River Port Authority/Port Authority Transit Corporation  
Office of Business Development & Equal Opportunity Publication

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Celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month

## SPOTLIGHT

**Simon Public Relations Group, Inc.**

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**S**imon Public Relations Group, Inc. is a dynamic, high-energy public relations and marketing consulting firm. Founded in 1990 by President Lisa Simon, the agency serves a diverse group of clients including local, regional and national companies such as PNC, Cherry Hill Mall, The Gallery at Market East, Shire Pharmaceuticals, Drexel University, Holy Redeemer Home Care, Cathedral Kitchen, and others in the non-profit, retail, financial services and pharmaceutical industries.

Simon PR enjoys an expertise in media, community and employee relations, event planning, spokesperson campaigns, crisis management counseling, writing, design and project management and radio promotions. The accomplished staff of experienced writers and publicists has strong relationships with local and regional media outlets and a distinct drive to produce outstanding results for its clients. Simon PR has earned recognition for outstanding work with many local and national public relations awards.

Also highly regarded among the Philadelphia-region business community, Simon PR is a member of the Philadelphia Public Relations Association (PPRA), the Public Relations Society of America (PRSA) Counselors Academy, the Greater Philadelphia Chamber of Commerce (GPCC), the Chamber of Commerce Southern New Jersey (CCSNJ), and is certified by the Office of Minority and Women Business Enterprise in the City of Philadelphia and the states of Pennsylvania and Delaware and by the Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC).

For additional information about Simon Public Relations Group visit [www.simonpr.com](http://www.simonpr.com) or contact Lisa Simon, President at 215-545-4715 x22 or email [lsimon@simonpr.com](mailto:lsimon@simonpr.com).

**"WE VALUE DIVERSITY"**

## U.S. Department of Labor Announces Drug-Free Work Week 2007 will take place October 14 through 20

**WASHINGTON** — The U.S. Department of Labor today announced that this year's National Drug-Free Work Week will take place October 14 through 20. The purpose of Drug-Free Work Week is to educate employers, employees and the general public about the importance of being drug-free as an essential component of a safe and healthful workplace. Now in its second year, the annual campaign is a collaborative effort between the department and members of its Drug-Free Workplace Alliance; however, all employers and employees are encouraged to participate.

Throughout Drug-Free Work Week, the department and alliance members will conduct various activities to help employers, supervisors and workers understand how to implement effective drug-free workplace programs that focus on detection and deterrence while also offering assistance and support for workers who may have problems with alcohol or drugs.

The themes of Drug-Free Work Week have widespread relevance, according to a recent survey conducted by the Hazelden Foundation, a national nonprofit organization that helps people reclaim their lives from the disease of addiction. The Hazelden research found that while most human resources practitioners recognize substance abuse and addiction as among the most serious problems faced in today's workplace, few companies proactively address these issues with their employees.

"Drug-Free Work Week is a perfect time to remind employers and employees alike that reducing workplace alcohol and drug abuse is a crucial part of keeping workers safe," said Elena Carr, drug policy coordinator at the Labor Department. "Of course, in a safe and healthful workplace, every week should be Drug-Free Work Week."

Employers and employees in all industries can learn more about how to participate in Drug-Free Work Week and ways they can promote drug-free workplace messages — during the campaign and throughout the year — by visiting the department's Working Partners for an Alcohol- and Drug-Free Workplace Program Web site at [www.dol.gov/workingpartners](http://www.dol.gov/workingpartners).

*This article was reprinted with the permission of the US Dept. of Labor.*

## U.S. Department of Labor Hosts Fifth Annual Opportunity Conference for Minority Entrepreneurs, and Community and Faith-based Organizations

**WASHINGTON** — African American, Hispanic and Asian Pacific American entrepreneurs, nonprofit organizations and faith-based leaders gathered in Washington for the fifth annual U.S. Department of Labor **Opportunity Conference**. The conference was established by Secretary of Labor Elaine L. Chao to help traditionally underserved communities grow and access opportunity.

“Traditionally underserved communities are often unaware of the tremendous resources available within mainstream America to help them achieve their dreams,” said Secretary Chao. “A goal of this conference is to bring everyone together to familiarize entrepreneurs, community organizers, and others with a wide variety of resources.”

“This administration recognizes the vital, job-creating role that small and medium-sized enterprises play in our growing economy — representing over 99 percent of employers and providing nearly 83 percent of all private payroll jobs,” Secretary Chao continued. “The Opportunity Conference includes workshops on venture capital for entrepreneurs, marketing and media strategies, and one of the department’s most significant regional grant programs, called **Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development**.”

The free, daylong business conference educated participants about how to benefit from economic development and to work with state, federal and local government to obtain grants and contracts. Attendees learned about a range of subjects including:

How entrepreneurs can locate and gain access to venture capital.

Partnership opportunities for faith-based and community organizations.

Entrepreneurial economic trends.

How to apply for government grants.

How entrepreneurial veterans can apply for loans.

Financial literacy for ethnic communities.

Marketing and media strategies for small enterprises and organizations.

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Conference co-sponsors included the Association of Small Business Development Centers, the League of United Latin American Citizens, the National Urban League and the U.S. Pan Asian American Chamber of Commerce. Conference national partners were Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc.; the Asian Job Services Employer Council; the Chinese Benevolent Association; the Cuban American National Council; the Federal Asian Pacific American Council; the Flushing Chinese Business Association; the Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities; the Korean American Association of Maryland; MANA, a national Latina organization; Minority Roundtable; the National Association of Asian American Professionals; the National Council of La Raza; SER-Jobs for Progress National Inc.; The Latino Coalition; Top Ladies of Distinction Inc.; the U.S. Asian Business Council; the United States Hispanic Leadership Institute; the White House Initiative on Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders; and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc.

*This article was reprinted with the permission of the US Dept. of Labor.*

**DID YOU KNOW....**

## **SBA To Raise 8(a) Net Worth Limit**

The SBA recently announced that it intends to increase the \$250,000 net worth limit for owners of new 8(a) companies. Deputy Administrator Jovita Carranza said the agency is preparing legislation to raise the limit, which has not been changed since 1988. Right now a business owner's net worth is calculated without value of his or her equity in the business or residence.



## **List of Annual Contracts for DRPA**



Most annual procurement for goods (non-professional services) at the **DRPA** are usually for periods of one (1) year with an option to renew for an additional year. At the end of the first year, assuming the vendor's performance has been satisfactory, a **DRPA** Purchasing staff member will contact the vendor to request pricing information for the second year. If all conditions are in the best interest of the DRPA, the DRPA will exercise its option for a second year renewal with the vendor. At the end of the second year, the contract will be rebid on a competitive basis. If you are interested in pursuing any of the contracts identified below, please call Susan Squillace, Purchasing Agent, at (856) 968-2163.

(continued from page 4)

## List of Annual Contracts for DRPA

### Service Products

### Contract Status

One Year Supply, Bottled Water for <b>DRPA/PATCO</b>	Bid Process - This purchase will be up for competitive bid in <b>October 2007</b> .
Lubricants for Bulk Storage Dispensing System for <b>DRPA</b>	Bid Process - This purchase will be up for competitive bid in <b>May 2008</b> .
Emergency Generator Maintenance for <b>DRPA</b>	Bid Process - This purchase will be up for competitive bid in <b>April 2008</b> .
Traffic Cones for <b>DRPA</b>	Bid Process - This purchase will be up for competitive bid in <b>June 2008</b> .
Trash Removal (Solid, Non-Hazardous) for <b>DRPA</b>	DRPA may exercise its 2 <sup>nd</sup> year option in <b>March 2008</b> .
Office Paper Products for <b>DRPA/PATCO</b>	DRPA may exercise its 2 <sup>nd</sup> year option in <b>September 2008</b> .
Prescription Safety Glasses for <b>DRPA</b>	Bid Process - This purchase will be up for competitive bid in <b>September 2008</b> .
Office Supplies for <b>DRPA/PATCO</b>	DRPA may exercise its 2 <sup>nd</sup> year option in <b>May 2008</b> .
Custom Made Police Uniforms for <b>DRPA/PATCO</b>	DRPA may exercise its 3 <sup>rd</sup> year option in <b>September 2009</b> .
Unleaded Gasoline & Auto Diesel Fuel for <b>DRPA/PATCO</b> #2 Heating Oil for <b>PATCO</b>	DRPA may exercise its 2 <sup>nd</sup> year option in <b>June 2008</b> .
Hazardous Waste Removal for <b>DRPA/PATCO</b>	DRPA may exercise its 2 <sup>nd</sup> year option in <b>May 2008</b> .
Exterminating Services for <b>DRPA</b>	Bid Process - This purchase will be up for competitive bid in <b>July 2008</b> .
Moveable Maintenance Platform Maintenance Contract	Bid Process - This purchase will be up for competitive bid in <b>June 2008</b> .



## List of Annual Contracts for PATCO

For your information, we are providing you with a list of annual contracts for **PATCO**, along with their expiration dates. If you are interested in pursuing any of these contracts, please contact Thomas J. Zamorski, Purchasing Agent, **PATCO** at (856) 772-6914 or Stephen Suder, Manager, Procurement, Records and Stores at (856) 968-2142.

Service Products	Expiration Date
Industrial Refuse Disposal Services for PATCO..... Lindenwold Maintenance Facility	April 2008
Snow Removal Services for PATCO .....	December 2007
Landscaping Maintenance for PATCO .....	December 2008
Pest Control and Exterminating at PATCO .....	April 2008

## Upcoming Purchases for September - December 2007

### for DRPA

- Unleaded Gasoline & Automotive Diesel Fuel for DRPA & PATCO
- Exterminating Services for DRPA & PATCO



Questions regarding these or any other **DRPA** Purchases should be directed to Susan Squillace (DRPA Purchasing) at (856) 968-2163 or (215) 218-3750 ext. 2163.

### for PATCO

- Design and Installation of a Fire Alarm System at PATCO Center Tower in Camden, NJ
- Reconditioning of DC Circuit Breakers
- Remediate Existing Transformer Sparks
- Traction Substation Rehabilitation



Questions regarding these or any other **PATCO** Purchases should be directed to Thomas J. Zamorski (PATCO Purchasing) at (856) 772-6914 or (215) 992-4600 ext. 6914.



## 2007 Upcoming Events

The African American Chamber of Commerce and  
U.S. Small Business Administration

**Presents:**

### **How to Go into Business and Stay in Business!**

Lucien Blackwell Library @ 52<sup>nd</sup>& Sansom St., Philadelphia, PA

Date		Topic
October 9 <sup>th</sup>	10:30-12 pm	How to Start a Business
November 7 <sup>th</sup>	6-7:30pm	Learn How to Apply for Loans & other funding
January 16 <sup>th</sup>	6-7:30pm	Capital & How to Obtain It
February 13 <sup>th</sup>	6-7:30pm	Guarantee Bond Program- Contractors
March 12 <sup>th</sup>	6-7:30pm	Doing Business w/the Government

Frankford Library @ 4634 Frankford Ave., Philadelphia, PA

Date		Topic
October 17 <sup>th</sup>	1-2:30pm	How to Start a Business
November 14 <sup>th</sup>	1-2:30pm	Learn How to Apply for Loans & other funding
January 9 <sup>th</sup>	1-2:30pm	Capital & How to Obtain It
February 6 <sup>th</sup>	1-2:30pm	Doing Business w/ the Government

***"WE VALUE DIVERSITY"***

The Women's Business Enterprise Council will be hosting the following events:

**Orientation and Business Assessment Workshop** – October 10, 2007, 6:00pm-7:30pm, November 5, 2007, 6:00pm – 7:30pm and December 3, 2007, 6:00pm-7:30pm

Cost: FREE – This workshop is designed for women interested in starting or growing a business.

**Finding Your Funding** – November 15, 2007 6:00 pm– 8:00pm Cost: \$10.00 – Participants will learn valuable information on financing options for their businesses.

**Family Child Care Business Forum** – December 10, 2007, 6:30pm – 8:30pm Cost: \$5.00 – This business forum is designed for Family Child care providers who want to continue to strengthen their business and their professional development.

Pre-registration required for all events listed above, please contact (215)790-WBDC(9232) or fax: (215)790-9231 or visit [www.womensbdc.org](http://www.womensbdc.org)



## OBD&EO Information Corner

- ☞ All interested subcontractors, subconsultants and suppliers are welcome to attend Pre-Bid and Pre-Proposal Meetings for DRPA projects, and briefly introduce yourselves to the contractors and consultants present. Information pertaining to these meetings is made available on our website at [www.drpa.org/obdeo](http://www.drpa.org/obdeo). Information on the project planholders and short-listed firms, can be found on the Bids and Contracts section at [www.drpa.org](http://www.drpa.org). For more information call OBD&EO at (856) 968-2270.
- ☞ Don't forget to visit OBD&EO's web site at [www.drpa.org/obdeo](http://www.drpa.org/obdeo) for contract opportunities and other important information.
- ☞ For upcoming events visit the **Other Events of Interest** section of our website.
- ☞ Our next edition of *News Alert* will be published on or about

● Friday, December 28, 2007

● Friday, March 28, 2008

● Friday, June 27, 2008

### Office of Business Development & Equal Opportunity

#### Mission Statement:

*A group of committed individuals dedicated to pursuing equal employment and contracting opportunities for everyone.*

Questions or comments concerning OBD&EO's *News Alert* may be directed to:

(856) 968-2266 or (215) 218-3750 ext. 2266

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