



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT

Mekdy Alemayehu (DSLBD) 202-741-0813

2015 SMALL BUSINESS SUMMIT – INFORMATION. INTELLIGENCE. IMPACT.

Small business summit to provide District small business owners guidance in successfully navigating the government procurement process.

(Washington, D.C.) – The District of Columbia Procurement Technical Assistance Center (DC-PTAC) hosted the 2015 *Information. Intelligence. Impact. Business Summit* in partnership with the George Washington University (GWU). The collaborative effort provided 250 DC small business owners with resources to improve their government procurement opportunities.

The daylong event, held at the GWU Foggy Bottom Campus, included panels, general and breakout sessions, and oneon-one matchmaking opportunities focused on providing District small business with the tools and resources to better navigate the government procurement process. Session leaders and panelists provided insights on business development and proposal support, access to capital for small businesses, navigating the federal government procurement process, and teaming and subcontracting.

DC-PTAC, a program of the District of Columbia Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD), was relaunched in March 2013 to provide District based businesses with procurement support services, creating opportunities for small businesses to boost the local economy by creating jobs and increasing revenue. Funded in part through a Federal cooperative agreement administered by the U.S. Department of Defense, DC-PTAC is part of a nationwide network of Procurement Technical Assistance Center programs.

"We are excited to offer such valuable services to District small businesses," said Ana Harvey, Director of the Department of Small and Local Business Development. "The DC-PTAC is a great example of the District's ability to leverage strategic partnerships with our Federal neighbors. Government contracting is a key sector for District-based businesses and the DC-PTAC helps ensure DC firms can navigate obstacles that hinder their success at the local, regional, and federal levels."

The businesses owners in attendance today had the opportunity to interact directly with federal and local government representatives and contracting insiders from the Department of Health and Human Services, Department of Veterans' Affairs, DC Department of Transportation, The GWU School of Business, DC Department of Insurances, Securities, and Banking, and the American Small Business Coalition throughout the event.

DC-PTAC services are free to D.C. businesses and residents. For more information, visit <u>dslbd.dc.gov/ptac</u>.

About the District of Columbia Department of Small and Local Business Development

The District of Columbia Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD) fosters the economic growth, development and retention of District-of-Columbia-based businesses, and promotes economic development throughout the District's commercial corridors. For more information, go to dslbd.dc.gov or contact us at dslbd@dc.gov. Follow DSLBD on Twitter at mslblb]@SmallBizDC, or like our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/smallbizdc.