



CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICE

Bill Grunloh, Department of Transportation - Highway Construction

October 19, 2020

Ms. Janel L. Forde, Director
Department of Central Management Services
401 South Spring Street – Room 715 Stratton Building
Springfield, IL 62706

Re: Report of Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) and
Veteran Owned Business (VOSB)

Dear Director Forde:

Pursuant to Public Act 97-260 (30 ILCS 500/45-57(b)), the Chief Procurement Officer for the Illinois Department of Transportation (Highway Construction) is providing you with the Fiscal Year 2020 report of Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) and Veteran Owned Small Business (VOSB).

My office continues to work with the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT), the Illinois Department of Veterans' Affairs (IDVA), and the Illinois Department of Central Management Services (CMS) to encourage Illinois veterans who own businesses to become certified in the state's Veterans Business Program (VBP).

Currently there are 200 certified businesses in the VOBP. Out of those certified, only 26 firms are prequalified and certified with IDOT. Those 26 consist of the following: 3 prequalified prime contractors, 7 prequalified consultants and 16 registered subcontractors.

- IDOT prequalified prime contractors - 609 (3 certified in the VBP)
- IDOT registered subcontractors - 1202 (16 certified in the VBP)
- IDOT prequalified consultants - 409 (7 certified in the VBP)

Per 30 ILCS 500/45-57 (b), the CPO shall report:

1. Total number of veteran small businesses that submitted bids for contracts = IDOT (**Highway Construction**) - **8**
2. Total number of veteran small businesses that entered into contracts = **5 VOB for a total of 16 contracts.**
3. Total contract awarded amount = **\$7,745,017.93**

Please note that these numbers represent only “construction related” contracts and do not include “supplies and services” which are procured through the General Services CPO.

I continue to work with IDOT executive staff to discuss recommendations on the VBP going forward. IDOT executive staff has interacted with the United States Department of Transportation (USDOT) over the last year regarding the use of the Veterans Business Program on projects that are eligible for federal funding. IDOT has been advised by the USDOT that the use of VOSB goal on federally funded project would be in direct conflict with the federally approved DBE program therefore the department is looking at the possibility of implementing VOSB goals on state funded projects. That remains a work in progress.

My continued recommendation to CMS and IDOT is the importance of vigorous outreach to increase the number of certified firms in the Veterans Business Program so it can become a viable program.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Bill Grunloh', is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Bill Grunloh
Chief Procurement Officer

cc: Omer Osman, Secretary
Georgina Syas, Chief of Staff
Pam Simon, Director of Office of Business and Workforce Diversity
Phil Kaufmann, Office of Chief Counsel