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**COMMITTED TO THE GROWTH OF SMALL BUSINESSES, CHRISTIE
ADMINISTRATION APPLAUDS 21 FIRMS WHO GRADUATED FROM SMWBE
CONTRACTOR TRAINING PROGRAM**

*Nine Week Program Provides Small, Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises with Tools and
Knowledge on How to Do Business with the Schools Development Authority*



SDA Executive Staff, Instructors and 2014 SMWBE Contractor Training Program Graduates

TRENTON – With the culmination of the New Jersey Schools Development Authority’s (SDA) fourth offering of its SMWBE Contractor Training Program, the SDA has announced that 21 small, minority and women-owned business enterprises have successfully completed this year’s program.

“The State’s school construction program offers an excellent opportunity for small businesses to get involved with the construction and repair of New Jersey’s educational infrastructure,” said SDA CEO Charles B. McKenna. “The SDA’s SMWBE Contractor Training Program provides small, minority and women-owned businesses with valuable knowledge and resources to help them develop and expand important skills, tools needed to successfully compete for a piece of the State’s investment in school construction.”

The SMWBE Contractor Training Program concluded with a graduation ceremony and an opportunity for the participants to network at the SDA’s offices in Trenton with some of the State’s most active construction companies. Following a formal presentation of graduation certificates, graduates were afforded an opportunity to speak with these general contracting firms and representatives from other State contracting organizations that can further benefit their growth.

The SMWBE Contractor Training Program is designed to provide small, minority and women-owned business enterprises with valuable instruction in business basics, management practices, and knowledge on how to do business with the SDA. The program is comprised of nine weeks of seminars taught by SDA personnel and industry professionals. The graduating firms are also taking the steps necessary to become prequalified with the Authority, a requirement to do business with SDA. To date, 67 firms have successfully completed the SDA’s SWMBE Contractor Training Program. Previous graduates of the program have become prequalified with the State to do business, have obtained government contracts and increased their professional network.

Participating firms have consistently expressed satisfaction with the program and its ability to help them grow and improve their businesses.

“Not only have I gained valuable knowledge on how to do business with the New Jersey Schools Development Authority, but I have developed business relationships with my colleagues from the program,” said Ana Lucas of Starlite Electric, LLC in Keansburg.

“The SDA provides top-notch resources and excellent material, from which any size company can benefit,” said Caesar Alvarez, President of ERS, LLC in Edison. “The best part is that SDA is helping SBE companies to develop skills that allow us to advance our companies to the next level or improve our business model.”

The 2014 classes, held in Trenton and Newark and facilitated by SDA staff and industry professionals, covered topics including:

- How to Do Business with the SDA
- DPMC Process and Surety Bonding
- Marketing Construction Services
- Construction Cost Estimating
- Basics of Scheduling
- Basics of Budgeting
- Basics of Accounting
- Contract Law
- The Bid Process

The 21 graduating firms are:

- Able Painting Company LLC – Ewing, NJ
- ABM Electrical Company – Jersey City, NJ
- Belmont Construction Corporation – Maywood, NJ
- BMC Construction, LLC – Orange, NJ
- Check Electrical Corporation – Keyport, NJ
- Clyde N. Lattimer & Son Construction Company, Inc. – Berlin, NJ
- Delta Interior Construction – North Arlington, NJ
- Environmental Remediation Solutions, LLC – Edison, NJ
- FEH Global, LLC – Camden, NJ
- GM Data Communications, Inc. – Floral Park, NY
- Grace Enhancement & Landscaping, LLC – Annandale, NJ
- Meka Holdings, LLC – Shrewsbury, NJ
- Miniscalco Construction – Skippack, PA
- Morris Capital Investments, LLC – Newark, NJ
- Nationwide Universal Construction, LLC – Ewing, NJ
- New Road Construction Management Company, Inc. – Cherry Hill, NJ
- Nika Construction Group, LLC – Newark, NJ
- PIM Corporation – Piscataway, NJ
- Precision Builders PC, LLC – Somerdale, NJ
- Starlite Electric, LLC – Keansburg, NJ
- Visual Acoustics, LLC – Maywood, NJ

For more information about the SMWBE Contractor Training Program and other small business programs and opportunities, visit <http://njsda.gov/Business/Compliance/SBE.html>.