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TWELVE NEW JERSEY SMALL, MINORITY AND WOMEN OWNED BUSINESSES GRADUATE FROM SDA'S 2012 CONTRACTOR TRAINING PROGRAM

TRENTON – The New Jersey Schools Development Authority (SDA) is pleased to announce that 12 small, minority and women-owned business enterprises throughout the State of New Jersey have successfully completed the SDA sponsored 2012 SMWBE Contractor Training Program.

“The SDA remains committed to the growth and success of small businesses in New Jersey,” said SDA CEO Marc Larkins. “The SMWBE Contractor Training program has proven to be a vehicle for the SDA to provide the SMWBE community with support and knowledge that will enable them to successfully participate in the State’s school construction program.”

The SMWBE Contractor Training Program culminated with a Graduation Ceremony and Networking Event held at the SDA’s Trenton office today.

“Participating in this program was a great opportunity for my business and other small businesses that attended,” said Rishi Bunsee, President of RB Construction & Electric LLC in Rahway. “The classes provided insight of the SDA and presented useful information that we can apply in all aspects of running and growing our businesses.”

The SMWBE Contractor Training Program is designed to provide small, minority and women-owned business enterprises in New Jersey with valuable knowledge on how to do business with the SDA and provide these firms with the tools necessary to successfully compete for SDA construction projects. The program is comprised of eight 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, 28 firms have successfully completed the SDA’s SWMBE Contractor Training Program.

The 2012 classes were held at the SDA’s Newark location. The sessions were facilitated by SDA staff and industry professionals in a variety of areas. Training sessions covered such topics as:

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

“The SDA has consistently met the goals of our SBE program, awarding 25% of the total dollar value of every publicly advertised contract procured by the SDA to small businesses,” said CEO Marc Larkins.

“The SMWBE Training Program is one more resource available to assist New Jersey’s small, minority and women-owned businesses.”

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

The 12 graduating firms are:

- ABE Home Improvement, LLC of Newark
- Adventus II, Inc. of Newark
- BMC Construction, LLC of Orange
- CDC Masonry Restoration, Inc. of East Orange
- First Class Electric of Cranford
- Hamlett Contractors, Inc. of Hillside
- LJ Associate Contracting, LLC of Newark
- Oveter’s Construction, Inc. of East Orange
- Phoenix HVAC, LLC of Lodi
- RB Construction & Electric, LLC of Rahway
- S&S Property Management of Trenton
- Tri-Con Construction of Randolph

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