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Advocating, Informing and Promoting Small & Minority Owned Businesses



Celebrating 9 Years of Publishing

Franklin County Helps Childcare Providers Step Up To Quality

"Publicity is the very soul of justice" - Jeremy Bentham



Joy Bivens

Franklin County is investing more than \$1 million to help childcare providers become or stay star rated through Ohio's Step Up To Quality (SUTQ) and increase parents' awareness of the program. Why? By July 2020 the State of Ohio will require all childcare providers who receive public dollars to be star rated through SUTQ or lose that funding.

A star rating is important because it is a sign that a provider offers a safe, caring, nurturing environment for children and has staff that are qualified to help them develop verbal and social skills to learn and grow—not only for today but also for their future.

"This issue is critical for providers and parents. Parents know that a pro-
See Franklin County on page 3

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Columbus COMTO named top chapter



The Columbus Chapter of the Conference of Minority Transportation Officials (COMTO) received the highest honor bestowed upon a chapter for its outstanding service, activities, and enhance-

See COMTO on page 3

Registration for Ohio Business and Career Expo opens Aug. 15

Free event targets minorities, women and disadvantaged job seekers and business owners

Job seekers and business owners are invited to register for the Ohio Business and Career Expo being held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sept. 6 at the Ohio Expo Center's Cardinal Hall, 717 E. 17th Ave., Columbus. Registration for the event opens Aug. 15.

The event is free and open to the public. Parking is \$5.

This networking and learning opportunity is geared toward job seekers who are minorities, women, veterans or otherwise socially and economically disadvantaged. Attendees will have the opportunity to connect with employers and procurement officials from the Ohio Department of Administrative Services, Ohio Department of Transportation and other state agencies, as well as the Columbus Regional Airport Authority and more.

The purpose of the expo is to support the efforts of the State of Ohio and its partners to support equal employment opportunities and efforts to expand access to state contracts for small, minority-, women and veteran-owned businesses.

For job seekers, the expo provides the chance to explore career opportunities with nearly 50

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OhioMBE welcomes letters to the editor from readers. Typed letters of 200 words or less are preferred; all might be edited. Each letter must include name, home address and daytime phone number. Some letter may appear on our website.

The 912 Group is an Ohio certified Minority Owned and EDGE business. The 912 Group is a certified FBE with the City of Columbus.

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Ohio Secretary of State Jon Husted announced 9,652 new entities filed to do business in Ohio last month, an increase of 852 when compared to July 2017.

Ohio is currently on track for 2018 to be another record-breaking year for new business filings. Since January, the Buckeye State has seen 76,130 new businesses file, up 4,151 from the same seven-month period last year.

In 2017, Ohio finished with 117,429 new businesses

registering with the Secretary of State's office, surpassing the previous record set in 2016 of 105,009. Last year also marked the eighth consecutive year the state has seen a record number of new business filings. In all, Ohio has seen a rise of 46.3 percent in filings from 2010 to 2017.

JULY OHIO BUSINESS FILINGS

at a glance



A CLOSER LOOK...

DOMESTIC CORPORATIONS	837
FOREIGN CORPORATIONS	202
BUSINESS TRUSTS	3
LLC	6,755
PARTNERSHIPS	25
LP	41
LLP	55
TRADE NAMES	1,152
FICTITIOUS NAMES	545
TRADE/SERVICE NAMES	37

JON HUSTED
Ohio Secretary of State



vider with a star rating is held to the highest quality standards,” says Joy Bivens, director of Franklin County Job and Family Services. “We all win when children receive high-quality early learning.”



Right now, there more than 700 childcare providers in Franklin County receive Publicly Funded Child Care (PFCC) payments, but only about 24% are star rated. This means that if the 2020 mandate went in place today, approximately 23,000 children would need new childcare providers—and more than 10,000 working parents would need to drop everything to find a star-rated provider to care for them.

The economic impacts of the mandate reach further than that. Many home- and center-based childcare operators are small business owners, who would struggle to support their own families— let alone hire and retain staff—if they are barred from accepting children covered by PFCC. So, the 2020 SUTQ deadline is not just an early childhood education issue—it’s a workforce issue.

Franklin County Commissioners Kevin Boyce, Marilyn Brown and John O’Grady recognized the issues and took action. They instructed the Department of Job and Family Services, under the leadership of Director Bivens, to develop a multi-pronged strategy – from in-depth data analysis to focus groups with parents and providers – to ensure all home and center-based childcare providers are star rated by the 2020 deadline.

“Although we know the importance of high-quality childcare, many of Franklin County’s families still do not have access to it,” says Bivens. “Most children are within one quarter of a mile of a childcare center accepting Publicly Funded Child Care, but most of those are not star rated. African-American children who live in Linden and East Columbus are significantly less likely to receive care from a star rated provider.”

While all childcare providers want the best for their children, they don’t all know how to attain a star rating. As a result, Franklin County is the first county in the state to offer free training to help center- or home-based providers become or stay star rated. Providers can earn up to 32 hours of free Ohio Approved Professional Development.

For more information about the training or how your organization can help this effort go to www.StepUp2StarRating.com.

FCDJFS is a county, state and federal-supported agency responsible for basic financial, medical and social service programs. These programs are made available to ensure that no one is forced to go without the basic essentials of food, clothing, shelter, medical care and necessary life sustaining services because of a lack of resources. For more information, visit <http://FJS.FranklinCountyOhio.gov>, follow [@FranklinCoJFS](https://twitter.com/FranklinCoJFS) on Twitter and like FCDJFS on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/FCDJFS).

Got a big tax refund? Use IRS Withholding Calculator to boost take-home pay

If you received a large refund in the past, you may be able to get more money in your paychecks by using the Withholding Calculator.

Due to major changes to the tax law, the IRS encourages taxpayers, including those of you who typically receive big tax refunds, to do a paycheck checkup to make sure you’re have the right amount of tax taken out of your pay.

Changes that could affect refunds include:

- Reduced tax rates and changed tax brackets.
- Eliminated personal exemptions.
- An increased standard deduction.
- Expanded and increased Child Tax Credit.
- A new credit for dependents who can’t be claimed for the Child Tax Credit.
- Some limited or discontinued deductions.

Don’t forget to check your state withholding too.

COMTO from page 1

ment of COMTO’s image. The winning chapter aligns with COMTO’s mission through programs that foster membership growth and retention, professional development, and community outreach. The Columbus Chapter has demonstrated an overall excellence and effectiveness in activities, both nationally and locally. The award was announced at the 2018 National Meeting & Training Conference in Baltimore, Maryland. COMTO’s annual conference brings together industry leaders across all modes of transportation for four days of learning, training and networking.

First Amendment:

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the Government for a redress of grievances.



I wish I could say that racism and prejudice were only distant memories. We must dissent from the indifference. We must dissent from the apathy. We must dissent from the fear, the hatred and the mistrust...We must dissent because America can do better, because America has no choice but to do better. — Thurgood Marshall

bid opportunities

To post a bid notice, call 614-522-9122 or email news@ohiombe.com



The Central Ohio Transit Agency (COTA) and the City of Columbus (City) are interested in purchasing a phased deployment of a new application

environment for the execution of multimodal transportation known as the Multimodal Trip Planning Application (MMTPA) for end to end (door to door) multimodal trip execution. The MMTPA will make multimodal options easily accessible to all by providing a robust set of transit and alternative transportation options including routes, schedules, booking, and reserving possibilities. The application will allow travelers to request and view multiple trip itineraries and make reservations for shared-use transportation options such as transit, bikesharing, transportation network companies (TNCs) and carsharing. Using the MMTPA, users will be able to compare travel options across modes, plan and pay for their travel based upon current traffic conditions and availability of services.

Through this Request COTA and the City hereby solicits proposals from only those MMTPA solutions vendors that meet the requirements outlined in this RFP. This solution is critical to the Smart Columbus program portfolio and envisioned to be interoperable and be tightly integrated to the Common Payment System (CPS), Central Ohio Transit Authority (COTA) payment backend and the Smart Columbus Operating System (Operating System). Due to the tight integration needed for a fully functioning multimodal ecosystem between the MMTPA and the CPS, they will often be referenced together. Included is an overview of the proposed MMTPA/CPS system including its relationship with data sources, Mobility Providers, and related Smart Columbus projects. A definition of the system including representative operational scenarios is provided in the, "Concept of Operations for the Multimodal Trip Planning Application/Common Payment System (MMTPA/CPS) for the Smart Columbus Demonstration Program". This document is available at the City's SharePoint site and will be posted by 5:00 PM Eastern Time on August 8, 2018. Refer to the following link:

<http://bit.ly/2Mfwtn6>

Full complete RFP at www.OhioMBE.com/bid-opportunities



Super Excavators, Inc. is requesting quotes from qualified CSB, MBE, WBE and other Subcontractors & Suppliers for the following project: *E185th*

Street & Marcella Road Relief Sewer Project, Bidding on September 14, 2018 @ 12:00PM EST with the City of Cleveland.

The City of Cleveland will be hosting a Pre-Proposal Meeting on August 27, 2018 @ 10:00AM EST, at the Division of Water Pollution Control (WPC) Red Room, 12302 Kirby Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44108.

We are soliciting quotations for all trades including the following segments of work, and any others that may have inadvertently been left off of this list: Construction surveying and layout stakes, traffic control and maintenance, pre/post construction photos and video, asphalt planing & resurfacing, manhole work, water/sewer laterals and connections, temporary construction fencing, trucking, Geotechnical Instrumentation & Settlement Monitoring, Erosion Control, as needed Seeding / Sodding / Site Improvements; QC Testing, and Engineering. PLEASE CONTACT US TO DISCUSS SPECIFIC OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE.

Where economically feasible, we are willing to divide total contract requirements into smaller portions or quantities to permit maximum participation of CSB/MBE/WBE Subcontractors. Contact us to obtain copies of project plans and specifications, or if you require assistance with obtaining bonding, lines of credit, insurance, technical assistance, etc.

Please contact Pete at (262) 252-3200 or email plans@superexcavators.com for additional information. Complete all negotiations prior to September 12th at 5:00pm.

Super Excavators, Inc.
N59 W14601 Bobolink Avenue
Menomonee Falls, WI 53051

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Visit www.OhioMBE.com and add your email address to our bid notice database.



The white man's happiness cannot be purchased by the black man's misery. - Frederick Douglass

bid opportunities

To post a bid notice, call 614-522-9122 or email news@ohiombe.com



Columbus City Schools issues solicitations on a regular basis for goods & services related to food, construction, technology, curriculum, & transportation. Interested vendors should periodically check our website at <http://www.columbus.k12.oh.us/rfp>



BUILDING CRAFTS, INC.
Contractors | Engineers

Building Crafts, Inc., an equal opportunity employer, is soliciting bids from certified DBE, EDGE, MBE, and WBE

subcontractors and suppliers for the SS0 700 Facility Improvements in Cincinnati, OH which bids on August 28, 2018. Items of work to be subcontracted or supplied include, but are not limited to the following: demolition, saw cutting/coring, concrete paving, reinforcing steel supply/erection, concrete, masonry, miscellaneous metals, roofing, aluminum entrances, joint sealants, painting, instrumentation & controls, fire suppression, process piping, HVAC, and electrical. Bidding documents can be examined at Building Crafts, Inc., [2 Rosewood Dr., Wilder, KY 41076](http://2.Rosewood.Dr.,Wilder,KY.41076) or by calling Brad Miller at (859) 781-9500 to make arrangements to view documents electronically. Submit quotes by 9 AM on August 28, 2018 by email to estimating@buildingcrafts.com or fax at (859) 781-9505. All bids should include a completed Form 6100-3 DBE Subcontractor Performance Form.



COLUMBUS METROPOLITAN HOUSING AUTHORITY
COMMUNITY. COMMITMENT. COLLABORATION.

The Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority is seeking Request for Proposal (RFP) for the procurement of Plumbing Services. The response deadline is Friday August 31, 2018 at

11:00AM. A pre-proposal conference is scheduled for 10:00AM on Wednesday August 22, 2018 at our corporate office. Specifications may be obtained by visiting our website, www.cmhanet.com or by contacting the Purchasing Department of the Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority at 880 E. 11th Ave, Columbus, Ohio 43211 or by calling 614-421-4434, 8:00 AM-4:00 PM, Monday – Friday.



COLUMBUS METROPOLITAN HOUSING AUTHORITY
COMMUNITY. COMMITMENT. COLLABORATION.

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority – 162 N. Ohio Avenue Renovations

The Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) will receive bids from qualified contractors for the Renovations at 162 N. Ohio Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43203. All bids will be received and publicly opened on **Friday, September 14, 2018 at 1:30 p.m.**, at CMHA Central Office, 880 E. 11th Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43211, Conf. Rm. A, Attn: Mr. Mike Wagner. An on-site pre-bid meeting is scheduled on **Wednesday, August 22, 2018 at 1:30 p.m.**, at the address listed above. Contract Documents may be viewed at www.cmhanet.com/DoingBusinessWithUs/Development. Contract documents may be obtained from Cannell Graphics, 5787 Linworth Road, Columbus, Ohio, 43085; Phone: 781-9760; Fax: 781-9759, starting **Thursday, August 9, 2018**, upon receipt of a **refundable company check or money order for \$50.00**, payable to CMHA. Bidders must agree to comply with Davis-Bacon Labor Standards of the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development, and Section 3 of the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, and are asked to assist CMHA in meeting their Minority Business Enterprise goal of 20%. A 5% bid bond must be submitted with bid.

kokosing
INDUSTRIAL



“Attention City of Toledo Certified MBE/WBES”

Kokosing Industrial, Inc. is preparing bids for the Paine (E-1) and Fassett (E-4) Regulator Modifications project in Toledo, Ohio which bids August 28, 2018. We are seeking quotes for any portion of the project listed that you are qualified to perform or provide supplies for which includes the following: **Trucking, Asphalt Paving, Concrete Paving, Seeding/Landscaping, Reinforcing Steel, Electrical, and Traffic Control.** Bidding documents can be examined at Kokosing Industrial, Inc., 6235 Westerville Rd., Westerville, OH 43081 or by emailing Sonja Nichols at snichols@kokosing.biz. Please have your quote to Steve Ehret by 12:00 PM August 27, 2018: e-mail snichols@kokosing.biz or Fax 614-212-5711.

“Kokosing Industrial is an equal opportunity employer.”

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bid opportunities

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THE CITY OF
COLUMBUS
ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR

The Department of Development is looking for diverse vendors and contractors who are licensed with the City of Columbus working in the following areas:

DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT

- **Graffiti Removal.** Contact Eric Voorhees (614-645-7934 or eavorhees@columbus.gov).
- **Grass Cutting and Solid Waste Removal.** Contact Mike Schwab (614- 645-7122 or mfschwab@columbus.gov).
- **Demolition and Asbestos Abatement.** Contact Mike Farrenkopf (614- 679-5873 or mlfarrenkopf@columbus.gov) or Seth Brehm (614-645-5659 or swhbrehm@columbus.gov).
- **Mowing, Property Maintenance, and Miscellaneous Services.** Contact Audrea Hickman (614-645-8907 or aehickman@columbus.gov).
- **Construction trades including: General Construction, Home Improvement, Electrical, HVAC, Plumbing, and Lead Abatement.** Contact Tim Tilton (614- 724-3009 or twtilton@columbus.gov).
- **Lead Safe Columbus has funding to train contractors for the Lead Abatement and Renovation, Repair and Painting (RRP) Program.** Contact Erica Hudson (614- 645-6739 or ejhudson@columbus.gov).

To register for notifications on upcoming bid opportunities, please visit <http://vendors.columbus.gov/sites/public>.



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
The Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority is requesting proposals for Professional Services to Perform Physical Needs Assessments and Related Work at Various AMHA Properties within Summit County, Ohio. A pre-proposal conference will be held on Wednesday, August 22, 2018, at 2:00 p.m. at 100 West Cedar Street, Akron, Ohio 44307.

Those interested in submitting a proposal for the aforementioned work may obtain the instructions/information package by contacting SE Blueprint, 520 South Main Street, Suite 2411, Akron, Ohio 44311. (330) 376-1689 seblue@seblueprint.com Proposals, to be considered, must be submitted in accordance with the requirements of the RFP and received by AMHA no later than 4:00 p.m. (local time) on Friday, September 7, 2018.

Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority
Anthony W. O'Leary
Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BIDS

Sealed bid proposals will be received by the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority at 100 West Cedar Street, Akron, Ohio 44307 until **2:00 p.m.** local time on **THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2018** at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud for:

**STAIR REPLACEMENT AND RELATED WORK at
MAPLEWOOD VILLA APARTMENTS – 4175 AMERICANA DRIVE,
CUYAHOGA FALLS, OHIO 44224**

Specifications can be purchased at SE Blueprint, Inc. located at 520 South Main Street, Suite 2411, Akron, Ohio 44311 (330) 376-1689. Please email (seblue@seblueprint.com) or fax (330-376-2511) with quantity requests and notice will be provided when documents are available for pick-up.

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held by the Housing Authority at the AMHA Administration Building, 100 West Cedar Street, Akron, Ohio 44307, on **TUESDAY, AUGUST 21, 2018 at 2:00 P.M.**

View complete bid notice at www.OhioMBE.com/bid-opportunities

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Expo from page 2

government agencies, state universities and construction trades. Participants will include contractors who work on state and state-assisted construction projects and are interested in further diversifying their workforces. Representatives from construction apprenticeship programs also will be available to discuss opportunities in their fields. In addition, workshops will be offered on application processes, resume writing and interviewing techniques, including a career lab with one-on-one resume, LinkedIn profile and mock interview reviews with HR professionals. A computer lab also will be available for job seekers to start creating a profile on the State of Ohio job posting site, careers.ohio.gov.

For business owners, the expo provides networking opportunities for businesses certified through the Minority Business Enterprise (MBE), Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE), En-

couraging Diversity, Growth and Equity (EDGE) or Veteran-Friendly Business Enterprise (VBE) programs, as well as those interested in learning more about becoming certified. In addition to networking opportunities with purchasing officials from more than 45 government agencies, universities and private corporations, workshop topics will include networking, growing your social media presence, financing programs, developing a capability statement and elevator speech, registering to do business with the state and how to respond to a state bid request. The expo is sponsored by the Ohio Department of Administrative Services, Columbus Regional Airport Authority and Ohio Department of Transportation.

To register or learn more, visit das.ohio.gov/ohiobizcareerexpo or contact the Equal Opportunity Division of the Ohio Department of Administrative Services at 614-466-8380.

Ohio Diversity Network

Get a weekly email from OhioDiversityNetwork.com notifying you of upcoming events. Sign up online!

Thursday, August 16, 2018 at 1:00pm
[OhioMBE Procurement Fair](#) - Columbus

Saturday, August 18, 2018 at 2:01am
[Certification 101 at the WBC](#) - Columbus

Thursday, August 30, 2018 at 9:15am
[Certification 101 at the Cleveland WBC](#) - Cleveland

Thursday, September 6, 2018 at 10:00am
[Ohio Business & Career Expo](#) - Columbus



Ohio Diversity
Network

Hosting a business event?

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post it on
OhioDiversityNetwork.com

Email: news@ohiombe.com
for login information

*OhioDiversityNetwork.com is
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OFFICE OF DIVERSITY
AND INCLUSION



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614.559.0115

Columbus
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Columbus, OH 43219

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OhioMBE Certification 101 at the WBC

Create new business opportunities. Get your business certified

There are several reasons why you should get your business certified:

1. Some entities have purchasing goals. Only certified businesses can participate.
2. Certification adds legitimacy to your business. You have gone through a process that has determined that your business is owned and controlled by a minority, woman or disadvantaged business.
3. Certification can afford you loan and bonding opportunities. The State of Ohio has loan and bonding programs specifically for certified minority owned businesses.
4. Certification can be a marketing tool for your business. You can add your certifications to your marketing materials, business cards, website, etc. Many consumers like doing business with veteran, minority or woman owned businesses.
5. Certification can be used in the private sector. Many companies don't have a certifying program but in an effort to have supplier diversity, will accept the certifications from some governmental agencies.



www.OhioMBE.eventbee.com

WHY ISN'T

COLUMBUS

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Are you a WBE, MBE or DBE? Then we want to work with you. **The City of Columbus Office of Diversity and Inclusion** can help register your business with the city.

Visit our website or call **(614) 645-2203** for more information.

columbus.gov/odi

Save the Date

MBE **Ohio** Awards 2018

October 25, 2018

Sponsored by:

- Columbus Regional Airport Authority
- The City of Columbus
- Wesbanco Bank
- Waste Management
- Ohio Business Development Center
- The Columbus Zoo & Aquarium

Tickets on sale at

www.OhioMBEAwards.com

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[www.ohiombe.com/
bid-opportunities](http://www.ohiombe.com/bid-opportunities)



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www.OBDC.org

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CEO Now, LLC

Nominate a business for an OhioMBE Award

The 2018 OhioMBE Awards are accepting nominations for Top MBE, Top FBE and Top Family Business from Cleveland, Columbus, Toledo, Dayton and Akron/Canton.

The OhioMBE Awards will recognize the state's top small businesses and their advocates during a scholarship luncheon on Thursday, October 25 at the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium Africa Event Center. The preminent business networking event is attended by small business owners, bankers, elected officials, construction companies, corporations, government representatives and others.

A portion of proceeds benefits the Frank W. Watson Scholarship. The renewable scholarship is presented to students who are pursuing post-secondary education or training opportunities. One scholarship is earmarked for a Columbus East High school student-athlete. To date, there are six Frank W. Watson Scholars.

The nomination form is online at www.OhioMBEAwards.com

The deadline for submitting is Sept. 30.

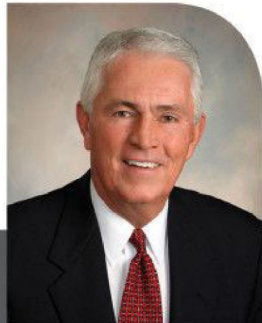
View bid notices online at www.OhioMBE.com/bid-opportunities

JOIN US! WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 29, 2018
11:30 am - 1:00 pm



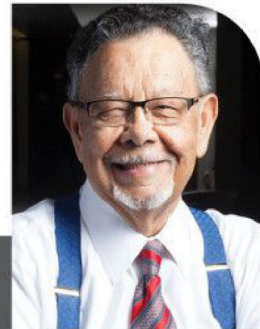
KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Joyce Beatty

US Congresswoman,
3rd District of Ohio



HONOREE
Jerry Wray

Director, Ohio
Department of
Transportation



HONOREE
Lewis R. Smoot, Sr.

President & Chairman,
Smoot Construction
Company

4TH ANNUAL SCHOLARSHIP LUNCHEON

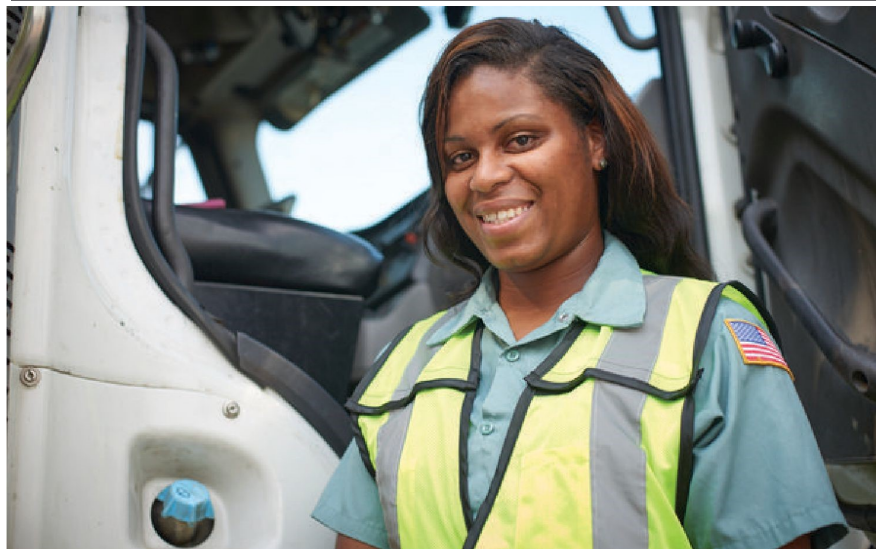
21ST CENTURY SMART

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