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Ronda Watson Barber—Publisher/Editor-in-Chief

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Advocating, Informing and Promoting Small & Minority Owned Businesses

Celebrating 9 Years of Publishing

OhioMBE Awards to celebrate small businesses and their advocates

The fourth annual OhioMBE Awards will celebrate small businesses and their advocates on Oct. 25 at the Columbus Zoo & Aquarium Africa Event Center. Rob Richardson candidate for State Treasurer and entrepreneur Ron Stokes will speak.

The following businesses have been nominated:

Top MBE: Total Technology Solutions – Columbus; MLII Productions – Akron; Wright Behavioral Health Group – Beavercreek; Corporate Cleaning, Inc. – Columbus; Surefire Innovations – Cincinnati; A-Men Pest



Rob Richardson

Controls – Medina; Ozone Cleaners – Parma; Monique's Events – Middletown; Elevar Design Group – Cincinnati; Final Moments Concierge Services – Cleveland; Flairsoft, ltd – Columbus; SavKon Construction – Columbus; Kay Onukwe, HKI – Columbus; Dove Building Services – Columbus; HM1 Trucking – Columbus; See Columbus – Columbus

Ohioans Can Make History By Electing Melody J. Stewart To The Ohio Supreme Court



Judge Melody J. Stewart

Ohioans deserve a justice system that they can trust and be confident will treat everyone equally under the law, which is a primary motivating force behind the Democratic Party candidacy of Judge Melody J. Stewart.

If elected Nov. 6, Stewart will be the first black woman ever elected to the Ohio Supreme Court. You can check your voter registration, find your polling location and all the other details to help make history this election by visiting <a href="https://www.lwi.ni.gov/lwi.gov/lwi.ni.gov/lwi.ni.gov

Currently, the all-Republican Ohio Supreme Court fails to truly represent the interests of all Ohioans.

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www.OhioMBE.com



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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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Hashtag: #ohiombe

Supreme Court from page 1

"The decisions made at the Ohio Supreme Court affect everybody, either directly or indirectly," Stewart, who sits now on the Eighth District Court of Appeals in Cuyahoga County, said in an interview. "The Supreme Court gets to decide which cases to hear, and so from the very beginning it's important that there are diverse perspectives on the court to decide which issues are of great importance to the state, because that's how cases get in for review."

If you have a group of Supreme Court justices comprised of individuals who are all from the same political party, she said, that lends itself to group-think. It's better, she said, to have justices with diverse perspectives and backgrounds to represent those perspectives and backgrounds on the court when cases are being considered for review as well as when they are being decided.

Stewart is a native Ohioan born and raised in Cuyahoga County who received her baccalaureate from the College-Conservatory of Music at the University of Cincinnati — "What else would I study in college with a name like Melody?" she joked.

Stewart then earned her law degree from Cleveland State University's Cleveland-Marshall College of Law and her Ph.D. from Case Western Reserve University's Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences.

After working as an assistant law director, Stewart began a career in education. She lectured, taught, and worked as an assistant dean at the Cleveland-Marshall College of Law. She later joined the faculty there and taught classes on ethics and professional responsibility, criminal law, criminal procedure, and legal research, writing and advocacy.

Stewart highlighted a number of ways courts can increase trust and confidence in the justice system, first pointing toward the need for more efficiency.

"It takes cases a very long time to wind through our court system," she said. "I think we in the judiciary need to be more responsive to the people we serve. We need to improve our use of technology. Where you live in the state should not dictate whether you can file a court document electronically."

She also emphasized the need to create better access to the justice system regardless of financial means, not only for criminal matters but also for some civil cases like those dealing with consumer matters.

"We need more legal aid and assistance available to help people get out of some dire circumstances that may be remedied simply by having legal counsel, having someone who knows how to help remedy collateral consequences of criminal convictions, credit issues and the like," she said.

She suggested working with groups toward more workshops and clinics throughout the state where legal professionals are available to give consultation and advice.

Stewart said she isn't running for the Ohio Supreme Court to advance her career but rather because she believes in good government and good public service which she has constantly demonstrated throughout her career and have some balance on the Supreme Court. She thinks that it's naive at best and maybe insulting at worst to believe the public can have confidence in the highest level of our judiciary being comprised of justices who all belong to the same political party.

"I'm running because, in addition to my diverse background, experience, education, and perspectives, a value-added component of my candidacy is that I am a nominee from a party that is different from the entire makeup of our Supreme Court," she said. "I am also running because I am committed to improving our judicial system. When you are privileged to have attended some of the best colleges and universities our state has to offer, gain a wealth of work and people experiences, operate in a way that does not abandon common sense and always try to constantly be aware of your own implicit or unconscious bias in making decisions, those things operate together to produce better outcomes all the way around. That's what the people of Ohio deserve — and that's exactly what they'll get with my election to the Supreme Court."

Paid for by the Ohio Democratic Party

Top FBE: Young Achievers - Cleveland; Momentuum, LLC - Cleveland; Swath Design, LLC -Cincinnati; Critical Ops — Westlake; First Invest — Cleveland; Contempo Design & Communication — Cleveland; Colbert Painting and Restoration - Columbus

Top Family Business - Battiste La Fleur Galleria Columbus; Spotlight of Columbus - Columbus; Outreach Promotional Solutions - Columbus; Computer Data Services - Bedford; Hightower Petroleum Company - Middletown; Screenpointe, Inc. - Columbus; LARS Painting - Columbus

The following will be also be recognized:

Supplier Diversity – Kokosing Industrial

Frank W. Watson Advocate Award – City of Columbus Department of Development and Monique Moore – Ohio Secretary of State

The **Publisher's Award** will be presented to Attorney Greg Williams and Fran Fraizer

ECDI will receive the Economic Development Award

The following students will receive Frank W. Watson Scholarships: Asa Burke – Ohio State University; Tylar Willis (Ohio University); KaRayl Flemister (Winston Salem State); Aya-na Lewis (Capital University); Jenelysc Martinez (Bowling Green University) and Zaevius Toran (Central State University)

The OhioMBE Awards are sponsored by the Columbus Airport Authority, Wesbanco Bank, City of Columbus Department of Development, City of Columbus Department of Diversity & Inclusion, Waste Management and the Ohio Business Development Center.

Tickets can be purchased online at OhioMBE.eventbee.com

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.



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Register for Certification 101
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912 THE 912 GROUP

MEDIA | CONSULTING

business advocate

Marleise K. Wicker

Small & Emerging Business Coordinator Franklin County Board of Commissioners

Marleise Wicker is the Small and Emerging Business Enterprise Coordinator with Franklin County, Board of Commissioners. Her primary focus is to provide Small and Emerging Businesses the opportunity to do business with the 13 Board of Commissioner agencies, 42 independently elected officials and 39 appointed boards, commissioners and committees within Franklin County. These agencies purchase goods and services through various sources; Quotes, Invitations to Bid (ITBs), Requests for Proposal (RFP), State-Term contracts, Cooperative Purchasing contracts (Co-Op).

With Marleise's guidance the County SEBE program is geared to improve and enhance the competitive and non-competitive bid process within the County. This program is a commitment to the small and emerging businesses to encourage competition and provide and even playing field for all businesses. Along with the commitment of the Franklin County Board of Commissioners to increase opportunities for Small & Emerging Business Enterprise (SEBE) firms of utilization within three (3) spend categories, Goods and Services, Construction & Professional Services.

Prior to joining the County, Marleise spent over 15 years in small, disadvantaged & minority business enterprise programs with the State of Ohio, Department of Transportation (ODOT) and Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (RTA). During her tenure, Marleise oversaw the supportive services program, contract compliance, goal setting, federal reporting, outreach and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) certification.

See Advocate on page 8



Get OhioMBE and
bid notices
delivered to your inbox!
Visit www.OhioMBE.com

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



DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT

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



The Columbus Regional Airport Authority values diversity and inclusion and the impact small and minority-owned firms have on the Central Ohio econo-

my. The Columbus Regional Airport Authority invites you to access the following link: https://columbusairports.com/doingbusiness-with-us/solicitation-opportunities to sign-up for RSS feeds to automatically receive notifications of new bid opportunities and results.

Email <u>BusinessDiversity@ColumbusAirports.com</u> for questions about the Diversity Programs at Columbus Regional Airport Authority.



REQUEST FOR DESIGN/ **BUILD PROPOSALS**

The Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority is re-

questing proposals for Balcony Replacement and Related Work at the Hilltop House Apartments, 303 East Tuscarawas Avenue, Barberton, Ohio 44203. Proposals are to be for the full design and construction of replacement balconies. Those interested in submitting a proposal may obtain the instructions/information package by contacting SE Blueprint, 540 South Main Street, Suite 211, Akron, Ohio 44311. (330) 376-1689 seblue@seblueprint.com

A pre-proposal conference will be held at the AMHA Administration Building, 100 West Cedar Street, Akron, Ohio 44307 on Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at 2:00 p.m.

All 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 Wednesday, November 7, 2018.

Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority Brian M. Gage **Executive Director**

- Graffiti Removal. Contact Eric Voorhees (614-645-7934 or eavoorhees@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.

Get Bid Notices Delivered to your inbox

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





Elections belong to the people. It's their decision. If they decide to turn their back on the fire and burn their behinds, then they will just





bid opportunities

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



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

The Akron Metropolitan questing proposals for

HVAC Preventative Maintenance and Related Work at the AM-HA Administration Building, 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 akron@seblueprint.com A pre-proposal conference will be held on Wednesday, October 24, 2018, at 2:00 p.m. at 100 West Cedar Street, Akron, Ohio 44307.

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 Thursday, November 8, 2018.

Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority Brian M. Gage **Executive Director**



COMMUNITY, COMMITMENT, COLLABORATION.

Legal Notice: RFP 2018-006 Microsoft Technology Stack **Developers**

The Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority is seeking

Request for Proposal (RFP) for the procurement of Microsoft Technology Stack Developers. The response deadline is Friday October 26, 2018 at 11:00AM. 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.

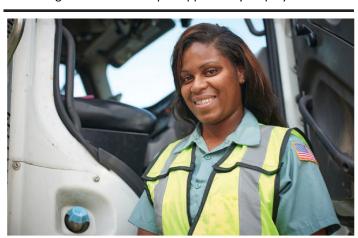




"Attention Certified MBE/ WBE/SBRA Companies"

Kokosing Industrial, Inc. is preparing bids for the High Rate Treatment Facility WWTP Improvements project, in Lakewood, Ohio which bids October 18, 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: Demolition, Dewatering, Excavation, Fencing, Seeding/ Landscaping, Rebar, Preconstruction Video, Caissons, Handling of Contaminated Soils, Chain Link Fence, Insulation, Caulking/Sealants, Masonry, Insulated Translucent Panel System, Overhead Doors, Windows, Gypsum Board, Roofing, Resilient Floor Tile, Painting/Coatings, Electrical, Fire Protection, Plumbing, HVAC, Instrumentation & Controls. Bidding documents can be examined online by emailing Sonja Nichols at snichols@kokosing.biz for the link. Please have your quote to Zach Keller by 12:00 PM October 17, 2018: email snichols@kokosing.biz or Fax 614-212-5711.

"Kokosing Industrial is an equal opportunity employer."



Waste Management is Now Hiring in Columbus, Ohio

Competitive Pay, Great Benefits!

careers.wm.com | Text WASTE to 51893 or call 877-220-5627 for More Information Equal Opportunity Employer: Minority/Female/Disability/Veteran



THINK GREEN:







You can't just sit there and wait for people to give you that golden dream. You've got to get out there and make it happen for yourself. - Diana Ross

Questions to ask those seeking elected office

By Ronda Watson Barber Publisher

As small and minority business owners consider asking the following questions to those seeking public office and your vote.

- 1. What have you done for Black-owned & minority businesses during your career?
- 2. What do you promise to do for Black-owned & minority businesses if elected?
- 3. What Black-owned & minority business do you regularly purchase products or services from?
- 4. Why should Black-owned & minority business owners vote for you?
- 5. How important is Black-owned & minority business development to the overall Ohio economy?
- 6. Are minority business set-asides and goals in city/county/ state government still important and why?
- 7. What can the city/county/state do to improve its purchasing with minority businesses?
- 8. What should minority owned businesses do to get city/county/state contracts?
- 9. Is there anything else, aside from contracting that the city/county/state can do to assist MBE's?
- 10. Who are the major contributors to your campaign?





PV Installation Professional

PV Technical Sales Professional

#PV-102216-013642

#TS-041616-013642







Athletics & Prints

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Ron Donaldson, Jr.

begr8athletics24@gmail.com

Owner



Email news@ohiombe.com to reserve your spot!





Contractors Meet and Greet: Utilizing Labor to Expand your Business

Tuesday, October 23, 201811 a.m. to 1 p.m. (lunch provided)

Sheet Metal Apprenticeship Training Center 3031 Lamb Avenue Columbus, OH 43219

RSVP: dhager@columbusconstruction.org

Come network with other contractors in the construction industry. This event will introduce all contractors to the benefits of being a signatory contractor:

- Access to highly skilled craftspeople
- Apprenticeship and training programs
- Health & retirement programs

This event is hosted by the Community Workforce & Apprenticeship Committee in cooperation with the City of Columbus, and the Columbus/Central Ohio Building & Construction Trades Council.



OHIO DEMOCRATS PUT PEOPLE FIRST













for Auditor of State



Democrats have a Blueprint for Ohio that ensures:





Family economic security



Jobs with a living



Access to quality education and job trainning

Find your polling place and commit to vote at IWillVote.com/OH

October is Energy Efficiency Month

Throughout October, the agencies will provide ways to increase energy efficiency, as well as information on programs to help Ohioans having trouble paying their energy bills.

"As we head into cooler temperatures, it's important for Ohioans to remember the benefits of energy efficiency." said Chairman Asim Z. Hague. "Improved efficiency not only reduces a consumer's monthly bills, but also contributes to a safe and reliable energy future for Ohio."

During October, Ohioans are encouraged to learn about energy efficiency measures and implement them at home. Turning off the lights when you leave a room, washing only full loads of dishes and clothes, are some of the ways to increase your energy efficiency.

Ohioans needing assistance in managing their energy costs can visit

the Ohio Development Services Agency websit e to learn more about programs that are available.

The Ohio Development Services Agency can help Ohio businesses and communities implement energy efficiency measures. By lowering energy usage, businesses and communities can save money too. Program information can be found at development.ohio.gov.

More information on energy conservation also can be found on the PUCO website.

Advocate from page 3

Marleise, a native of Columbus, Ohio and holds a Certified Compliance Administrator certification from Morgan State University and earned her bachelor's degree in management from Ohio Dominican University.

One of her favorite Quotes: "People will forget what you said, People will forget what you did, but People will never forget how you made them feel" - Maya Angelou

Editor's Note: Look for Marliese's County Corner column in further issues of OhioMBE.

Ohio Diversity Network

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

Tuesday, October 16, 2018 at 11:30am
ECDI Capital for Construction Program Lunch and Learn Series:
Access to Skilled Labor—Columbus

Saturday, October 20, 2018 at 10:30am
Certification 101 at the WBC- Columbus

Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at 1:00pm
Akron MBAC Workshop: Doing Business with Akron Area Hospitals - Akron

Thursday, October 25, 2018 at 11:00am 2018 OhioMBE Awards - Powell

Thursday, November 1, 2018 at 1:00pm

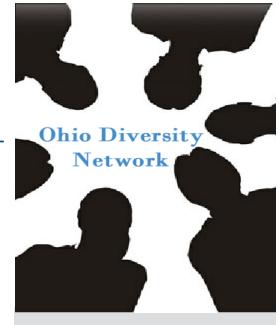
ODOT: Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Workshop – Certification & Opportunities - Delaware

Monday, November 5, 2018 at 1:00pm

ODOT: Disadvantage Business Enterprise (DBE) Workshop –
Certification & Opportunities - Columbus

Monday, November 12, 2018 at 7:00pm Columbus Branch NAACP – General Membership Meeting -Columbus

Wednesday, November 14, 2018 at 11:30am ECDI Capital for Construction Program Lunch and Learn Series: Contracting Opportunities for 2019 - Columbus



Hosting a business event?

Did you know you can post it on OhioDiversityNetwork.com

Email: news@ohiombe.com for login information



October 25, 2018

Columbus Zoo & Aquarium Africa Event Center
Tickets available at www.OhioMBE.eventbee.com

OhioDiversityNetwork.com is sponsored by:



OFFICE OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

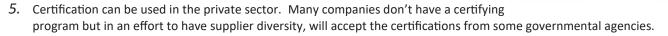
OhioMBE Certification 101 at the WBC

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 during business with veteran, minority or woman owned businesses.



www.OhioMBE.eventbee.com

Next class: Oct. 20 at the Columbus WBC



OHIO STATE

2018 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Date

Week

13

Opponent

Michigan

		• •
1	Sat. Sept. 1	Oregon State
2	Sat. Sept. 8	Rutgers
3	Sat. Sept. 15	at TCU
4	Sat. Sept. 22	Tulane
5	Sat. Sept. 29	at Penn State
6	Sat. Oct. 6	Indiana
7	Sat. Oct. 13	Minnesota
8	Sat. Oct. 20	at Purdue
9	Sat. Oct. 27	Bye
10	Sat. Nov. 3	Nebraska
11	Sat. Nov. 10	at Michigan State
12	Sat. Nov. 17	at Maryland

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

Clip, Complete, Return to your county board of elections

Form No. 11-A Prescribed I	•		print clearly	
R.C. 3509.03	Salic	ot Application		
Voter Name		Picca Middle		
D	1	First Middle		
		Last Suffix		
Date of Birth Required	2	Date of Birth (do not write today's date here)	MM/DD/YYYY	
Address at Which you are Registered to Vote Required	3	Street Address (no P.O. boxes)	County	
	.	City/Village	ZIP	
Mailing Address Required only if you wish to have your ballot mailed to a		Street Address (or P.O. box)		
different address than the	4	City/Village		
		State ZIP		
Identification Required	I Your Ohio driver's license number (2 letters followed by 6 numbers)		y 6 numbers)OR	
You must provide <u>ONE</u> of the following.		☐ Last four digits of your Social Security number	OR	
		□ Copy of a current and valid photo identification, military identification, or a current (within the last 12 months) utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other government document (other than a notice of voter registration mailed by a board of elections) that contains your name and current address.		
Election		Date of Election (do not write today's date here)	MM/DD/YYYY	
Required You must complete a separate application for each election.	6	☐ General Election ☐ Special Election		
	6	☐ Primary Election For a PARTISAN primary election only, you must choose the type of ballot:		
		☐ Political party ballot Name of Political Part	y	
Affirmation Required		I wish to have an absentee ballot mailed to me at th	e address listed above.	
		 I understand this request must be received by my board of elections no later than noon on the Saturday before Election Day if by mail or by 2 p.m. the day before the election if in person. 		
		 I understand that if an absentee ballot is mailed to me and I change my mind and go to my polling place to vote on Election Day, I will be required to vote a provisional ballot that cannot be counted until at least 11 days after Election Day. 		
	7	 I understand that, if I do not provide the required information, my application cannot be processed. 		
		I hereby declare, under penalty of election falsification, that I am a qualified elector and the statements above are true.		
		Signature X		
		Today's Date		
To assist the boa	ard of ele	ction in contacting you in a timely manner if your application is incomp		
Telephone Number		E-mail Address		