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Advocating, Informing and Promoting Small & Minority Owned Businesses

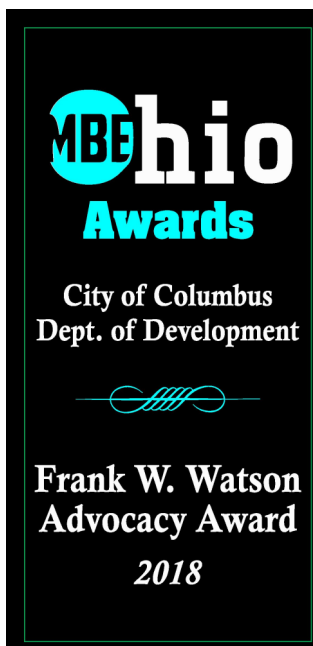
Celebrating 9 Years of Publishing

City of Columbus promotes inclusion in all departments

The Department of Development of the City of Columbus received the Frank W. Watson Advocacy Award at the annual OhioMBE Awards event on October 25. Ronda Watson Barber, publisher/editor of OhioMBE, cited the Department's "small business efforts and procurement outreach to minority and women owned businesses" in presenting the award to the department.

"We are honored to receive this award. The Department of Development has made diversity and inclusion part of how we do our jobs every day—it is truly a part of our department's DNA," said Steve Schoeny, Director of the Department of Development.

Mayor Ginter has made enhancing diversity and inclusion a core city initiative. In the past 12 months, the Department of Development as well as every other City department has creat-



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Honoree: Robert Luft**

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day**

Kim Coleman is ECDI's new Chief Credit Officer



Recently, the Economic & Community Development Institute (ECDI) welcomed Kim Coleman to the team as Chief Credit Officer (CCO).

ECDI provides small businesses, across all 88 counties in Ohio, with lending and business training services. As CCO, Ms. Coleman oversees ECDI's credit underwriting processes, ensuring all policies remain compliant with its enhancement programs.

Ms. Coleman, comes to ECDI with more than 30 years of experience in finance. Her career began at the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), where she became an expert in small business lending, and familiarized herself with the barriers faced by entrepreneurs, when

trying to access funding. After 10 years at the SBA, Ms. Coleman moved into the private sector, working with various finance institutions, as they developed small business lending pro-

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Support
Black Media



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Ronda Watson Barber,
Editor-in-Chief & President
www.OhioMBE.com
rbarber@ohiombe.com

P.O. Box 533
Granville, OH 43023
614-522-9122
news@ohiombe.com

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.

Twitter: ohioambe

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State schedules two public auctions

Public auctions are the last step in the state's surplus program. State agencies declare property as surplus because it is either damaged or at the end of its life cycle for government use. In addition, property may include items seized by law enforcement officials as well as items surrendered to the TSA by airline passengers during security screening. The property is then made available to other state agencies, state higher education facilities, tax-supported agencies, municipal corporations and other political subdivisions of the state, including public schools. Remaining property is sold at the public auctions.

Surplus Warehouse Auction

November 17 at 8 am 4200 Surface Rd., Columbus, OH 43228

The inventory list can be found here: <https://ohio-das.force.com/surplus/s/current-inventory>

Surplus Vehicle Auction

December 8 at 8 am 4200 Surface Rd., Columbus, OH 43228

The inventory list can be found here: <https://ohio-das.force.com/surplus/s/current-inventory>

Great Ohioan Award nominations due Dec. 1

The Award commemorates the significant role of Ohioans in an event or series of events of lasting significance in world.

In 2003, the Capitol Square Foundation (CSF) launched the Great Ohioan Award to commemorate the significant role of Ohioans in an event or series of events of lasting significance in world, American or Ohio history. The foundation's first honoree for this award was a group of individuals which commemorated Ohio's role in the birth and development of aviation: the Wright Brothers, John Glenn and Neil Armstrong. It is fitting these Ohioans were honored in 2003, Ohio's bicentennial celebration as well as the 100th anniversary of powered flight. The foundation hosted a special dinner to pay tribute to these aviation pioneers and celebrated how they have changed our world in so many ways.

Honoree criteria:

- Must be an individual Ohioan or group of Ohioans who have made a significant or lasting contribution to the world, American or Ohio history
- Must have been born in Ohio or lived in Ohio for a minimum of five years
- At least 25 years have passed since the event, in which the nominee participated, is being commemorated
- There is a compelling reason why the Ohio Statehouse, rather than some other location in the state, should be the location of the award or commemorative work

Nomination process

See Ohioan on page 9



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

OhioMBE Shopping Challenge

By Ronda Watson Barber
OhioMBE Publisher

The holiday shopping season has started. Black Friday, Small Business Saturday and Cyber Monday are approaching. Are you ready? I have been posted a Holiday Shopping Sales Guide on www.OhioMBE.com. Articles posted include: How to sell a ton of gift cards; 50 Best Christmas Small Business ideas to Start in 2018; 23 hobbies that make money; Is your business ready for Small Business Saturday? Here's an event checklist; 30 Gift Ideas for the Small Business Owner; How to Market for Small Business Saturday.

Every year I issue a challenge to OhioMBE readers. Please consider spending at least \$50 with Black-owned businesses during the holiday shopping season. Take a picture at the business or of your purchase and post it on our Facebook page. Use the hashtag #shopblack2018. If you are a Black owned business, please let us know about your steals and deals. Consider placing a \$19.99 business card size ad in OhioMBE. Let's promote and support each other.

Thanks for Voting

Take a deep breath. Finally, for most of us, the mid-term elections are over. A historic number of Americans exercised their constitutional right to cast a ballot. For some the process continues, votes are still being counted. If you voted, THANK YOU. Regardless of your political party affiliation, voting is a necessary component of our democracy.

As I stood in line for about 15 minutes. I reflected that I was casting a vote for my enslaved kinfolk, who weren't allowed to write or read. How proud they would be that their "grand" publishes a newspaper and actively voices her opinion. I casted that ballot for my grandfathers who fought for freedoms abroad but were denied basic civil rights at home. I casted that ballot for those within my lifetime who fought and in some cases died so I could stand in to vote. I casted my vote for my sons and our sons. Their Black lives matter. I casted my ballot for my son who is serving in our military. I voted because I want the same opportunities for my daughter that I want for sons. I casted my ballot to make a more perfect union for my precious grandchildren.

Just my thoughts...rwb

Top MBE:

SureFire Innovations – Robert Luft – owner

SureFire Innovations is 100% MBE/EDGE/Service Disabled Veteran has been off to a tremendous start as a young company. Going into their 3rd year in business they are to be a \$2 million dollar company with their specialty in the design and build for network infra-



structure. They have secured business with many of the largest organizations in the State of Ohio - University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati Bell, Turner Construction, City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio, EPA, Neyer Construction, Makino Engineering, Air Force, Army and Veterans Affairs. They are now performing services national services for Electrolux and the federal government in 15 states. SureFire Innovations is poised for tremendous growth and has been able to provide 15 full-time positions to the local area with a full expectation that this number to grow substantially as their level of business continues to grow.

Community Service Activities:

SureFire Innovations CEO Robert Luft is highly involved with the Cincinnati African American Chamber, local SBA office, and Hamilton County Development Center with being invited to speak at multiple events for minority and veteran owned companies on how to navigate the world of entrepreneurship. Also, Robert spoke with 3 different Cincinnati Public School elementary schools in his path to entrepreneurship. SureFire Innovations is currently working with Powernet Communications Services on providing wifi access to Cincinnati Public School children in their home residences in the Avondale neighborhood.

Contact: <https://surefireinnovation.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>



INVITATION FOR BIDS
Sealed bid proposals will be received by the Akron Metropolitan Housing Authority at 1159 Exeter

Road, Akron, Ohio 44306 until 2:00 p.m. local time on TUESDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2018 at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud for:

INDEFINITE QUANTITY CONTRACT FOR ANNUAL UNIT COST CONTRACT TO FURNISH FURNACES, AIR CONDITIONING CONDENSERS, EVAPORATOR COILS AND PARTS COMMONLY USED to the AKRON METROPOLITAN HOUSING AUTHORITY

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

An email link for the above mentioned specifications is available at the Subcontractors Association NEO, 637 Vernon Odom Blvd., Akron, Ohio; Akron Urban League, Minority Business Assistance Center, 440 Vernon Odom Blvd., Akron, Ohio; the Builders Exchange of Canton, 5080 Aultman Rd., North Canton, Ohio; Builders Exchange of Cleveland, 9555 Rockside Road, Suite 300, Cleveland, Ohio; and the Ohio Construction News, 7261 Engle Road, Suite 304, Cleveland, Ohio. A list of plan holders can be obtained from SE Blueprint's website @ www.seblueprint.com

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held by the Housing Authority at the AMHA Service Center, 1159 Exeter Road, Akron, Ohio 44306, on TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2018 at 3:00 P.M.

See full bid notice at www.OhioMBE.com/bid-opportunities



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

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

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



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, DECEMBER 6, 2018** at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud for:

GENERATOR REPLACEMENT AND RELATED WORK at PAUL E. BELCHER NORTH APARTMENTS 400 LOCUST STREET, AKRON, OHIO 44307

Specifications can be purchased at SE Blueprint, Inc. located at 520 South Main Street, Suite 2411, Akron, Ohio 44311 (330) 376-1689. Please email (akron@seblueprint.com) or call with quantity requests and notice will be provided when documents are available for pick-up. A list of plan holders can be obtained from SE Blueprint's website @ www.seblueprint.com

A Pre-Bid Conference will be held by the Housing Authority at the AMHA Administration Building, 100 West Cedar Street, Akron, Ohio 44307, on **THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2018 at 2:00 P.M.**

See full bid notice at www.OhioMBE.com/bid-opportunities

Are you looking to promote your Business, Events, Products or Services?
Then you need to...
ADVERTISE HERE

bid opportunities

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

THE CITY OF
COLUMBUS
ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR

DEPARTMENT OF
DEVELOPMENT

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

- **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 shwbrehm@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>.



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

subcontractors and suppliers for the Mill Creek WWTP Septage Receiving Station Odor Control Project in Cincinnati, OH which bids on December 11, 2018. Items of work to be subcontracted or supplied include, but are not limited to the following: concrete, metals, rebar, painting, frp duct, electrical and instrumentation, and process equipment Bidding documents can be examined at Building Crafts, Inc., 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 8 AM on December 11, 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.



REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS FOR ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES

The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission ("MORPC"), is soliciting Statements of Qualifications ("SOQs") from qualified individuals or firms to provide architectural services for its Space Planning/Renovation Project (the "Project"), located at 111 Liberty Street, Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

This Project is anticipated to include space improvements and renovations to approximately 22,000 square feet of office space at MORPC's current location. The selected individuals or firms will work with MORPC to develop detailed space plans and work with MORPC as well as selected contractors and consultants to implement the space plans in accordance with all ADA Regulations. General contractor, project management, and furniture, fixture, and equipment consultants have not yet been secured.

Our future workplace will be dynamic, collaborative, inclusive, focused, and connected. The total budget for the Project including construction costs (including paint, lighting, carpeting, etc.) and design fees has not been determined but expected to be in the range of \$400,000 – \$800,000. The anticipated Project schedule is: January 2019 – Begin construction. July 2019 – Completion of construction and new furniture installation

SUBMITTAL DEADLINE: SOQs will be received until 1:00 pm, local time, November 19, 2018.

MORPC reserves the right to modify any or all of the dates herein and to waive any defect, irregularity, or technicality in any SOQ received, in its sole discretion.

PRE-SUBMITTAL MEETING: A Pre-Submittal Meeting will be held November 13, 2018 at 3:30 P.M. to provide clarification on any questions regarding the Project. The meeting will be held at MORPC 111 Liberty Street, Suite 100, Columbus, Ohio 43215. Each firm or individual submitting an SOQ will be deemed to have actual knowledge of all information provided or discussed at the pre-submittal meeting.

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

bid opportunities

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



REQUEST FOR QUOTES

Construction and Project Management Consulting Services

DEADLINE: Friday, November

16, 2018

BACKGROUND AND NEEDS:

The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) seeks to obtain price quotes from firms that specialize in construction and project management consulting services. The selected firm will be tasked with representing MORPC (Tenant) throughout the planning, design, pre-construction, construction and post-construction periods of the project in accordance with all ADA Regulations. Plus, the selected firm must create needed RFP's for the project as they relate to MORPC's required guidelines. Examples of such RFP's might include furniture acquisition, data and cabling needs, etc. This firm will also work with MORPC's landlord in setting clear project goals, review and recommend materials, specifications on scope of project and provide guidance related to disadvantages and advantages on all aspects of the project, along with negotiating cost. The selected firm will also help build and drive the architectural relationship of the project, assist with selection of the general contractor, and coordinate with a general contractor for the project to represent the best interests of MORPC.

Small, minority-owned, or woman-owned businesses are strongly encouraged to apply.

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

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COLUMBUS METROPOLITAN HOUSING AUTHORITY

COMMUNITY. COMMITMENT. COLLABORATION.

INVITATION FOR BIDS

SUGAR GROVE
PHASE II FIRE PROTECTION

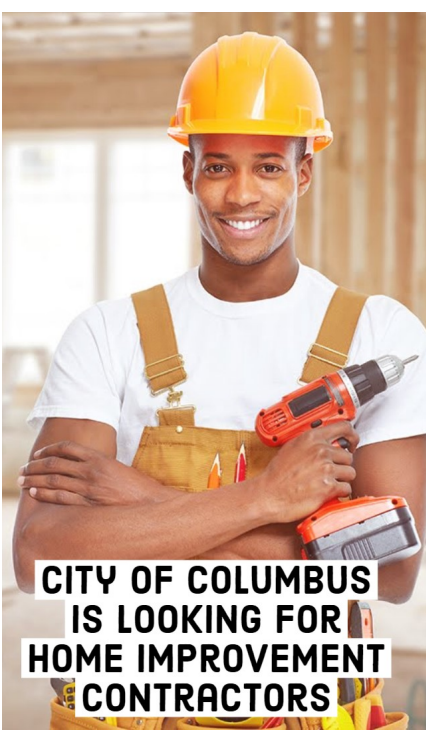
The Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) will receive bids from qualified contractors for the Phase II Fire Protection at Sugar Grove, 530 South State Street, Columbus, Ohio. All bids will be received and publicly opened on **Friday, November 30, 2018 at 1:30 p.m.**, at CMHA Central Office, 880 E. 11th Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43211, Conf. Rm. A, Attn: Mr. Mike Wagner. A pre-bid meeting is scheduled on **Friday, November 16, 2018 at 1:30 p.m.**, at Sugar Grove, 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 **Friday, November 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.



"Attention Certified City of Cleveland MBE/FBE/CSB Companies

Kokosing Industrial, Inc. is preparing bids for the Baldwin Improvements – A project in Cleveland, Ohio which bids November 16, 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: Excavation, Demolition, Landscaping, Concrete Repair, Masonry, Doors, Painting/Coatings, Plumbing, HVAC, Electrical, Roofing, Damp-proofing, Asphalt, Concrete, Misc. Metals, Overhead Doors, Instrumentation and Controls. Bidding documents can be examined online by emailing Sonja Nichols at snichols@kokosing.biz for the link. Please have your quote to Kyle Kuhlman by 12:00 PM November 15, 2018: e-mail snichols@kokosing.biz or Fax 614-212-5711.

"Kokosing Industrial is an equal opportunity employer."



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

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Lecole Daniels Co-Owner



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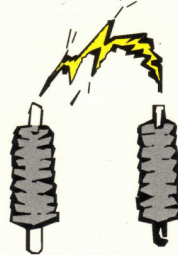
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There are still many causes worth sacrificing for, so much history yet to be made. - Michelle Obama

Join Us

Office of Diversity and Inclusion Community Update Meetings

ECDI from page 1

grams, and streamlined processes for loan approval.

“As the third largest SBA intermediary micro-lender in the country, ECDI is continuously looking for ways to innovate. Ms. Coleman’s experience and procedural expertise will help modernize our processes, ultimately providing our clients with more seamless and efficient service,” says Inna Kinney, CEO and Founder of ECDI.

Ms. Coleman, was a member of the Finance Fund’s financing team, that helped ECDI establish their current location. Over the years, she remained acquainted with ECDI, even as she transitioned back into the private sector, providing small business referrals, and championing ECDI’s programs.

“It’s exciting to get back into mission-based work, where a client’s story provides the same value as the business numbers. It’s inspiring to play a small role in shaping the economic landscape across the state,” says Ms. Coleman.

To learn more about ECDI’s services, please visit www.ecdi.org or call 614.559.0115.

OLBC STATEMENT ON THE HOUSE PASSING H.B. 228 “STAND YOUR GROUND”

The Ohio Legislative Black Caucus is deeply disappointed in the Ohio House of Representatives vote in favor to pass H.B. 228 in addition to the behavior of how this vote was called. “What type of message are we sending to our communities, our children, even our law enforcement? We’ve seen the repercussion of bills like this with the legislative justification of the murder of Trayvon Martin.”

The passage of this bill sends a clear message based on the recent national narrative in stand your ground cases that black lives don’t matter, our children’s lives don’t matter, and our community’s safety does not matter. “Rather than pass legislation to eliminate the public education resource deficit or improving job opportunities for Ohioans, our republican colleagues would rather fulfill their own agenda and create an open season like environment for everyone in our communities, particularly for our children as they go to

See OLBC on page 9

Join Mayor Andrew J. Ginther and Interim Chief Diversity Officer Damita Brown for one of the following events. We will share our 2018 accomplishments, provide a status update on current projects, including the Disparity Study and the department reorganization, and preview our plans for 2019. Attendees will also have the opportunity to share their experiences with department directors and other decision makers about doing business with the City of Columbus.

Saturday, November 17, 2018
10-11:30 a.m.
Glenwood Community Center
1888 Fairmont Ave.
Co-Hosted by the
Columbus Hispanic Chamber
of Commerce and the
Ohio Latino Affairs Commission

Wednesday, November 28, 2018
4-5:30 p.m.
Driving Park Community Center
1100 Rhoads Ave.
Co-Hosted by the
Women’s Small
Business Accelerator

Monday, December 10, 2018
2-3:30 p.m.
Linden Community Center
1254 Briarwood Ave.
Co-Hosted by the
Columbus NAACP

RSVP: www.columbus.gov/rsvpodi or 614-645-7787



Take the OhioMBE Shopping Challenge

Ohio Diversity Network

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

Saturday, November 17, 2018 at 10:30am
[Certification 101 at the WBC](#)—Columbus

Saturday, November 17, 2018 at 11:30am
[Columbus NAACP Election](#)—Columbus

Thursday, November 29, 2018 at 6:00pm
[INCREASE CDC Graduation & Networking Event](#)—Columbus

Friday, November 30, 2018 at 10:00am
[Capital Crash Course 2019](#)—Columbus

Tuesday, December 4, 2018 at 1:00pm
[IRS Racing Towards Year End: Employment Tax Updates & Reminders](#)—Columbus

Tuesday, December 4, 2018 at 1:00pm
[IRS Racing Towards Year End: Employment Tax Updates & Reminders](#)—Columbus

Thursday, December 6, 2018 at 1:00pm
[ODOT: Disadvantage Business Enterprise \(DBE\) Workshop – Certification & Opportunities](#)—Jacksontown

Monday, December 10, 2018 at 7:00pm
[Columbus Branch NAACP – General Membership Meeting](#)—Columbus

Ohioan from page 2

The CSF Great Ohioans Committee will select nominees from the list of nominations to submit up to the full Board for approval. The Capitol Square Review and Advisory Board (CSRAB), the oversight body for the Ohio Statehouse, will select the final award winners with a majority vote. The Great Ohioan Award recipients will be announced and recognized in January by the CSRAB and the CSF.

(OLBC from page 8

what is supposed to be a safe haven in school.” This isn’t stand your ground this is “kill at will.”

Furthermore, during a passionate testimony against HB 228, Representative Stephanie Howse was gavelled out of order and had her microphone cut off during her testimony as the speaker called an immediate vote. Repre-

sentative Howse had the following comment as a part of her response. “Black voices will not be silenced. We belong here, we deserve to be heard, and have a seat at the table. Republicans have been unwilling to have an honest conversation about race and the disproportionate affects their extreme policies have had on minority communities across Ohio, and sadly, we saw that payout firsthand in the ‘People’s House.’”



Hosting a business event?

Did you know you can post it on OhioDiversityNetwork.com

Email: news@ohiombe.com for login information

OhioDiversityNetwork.com is sponsored by:

THE CITY OF COLUMBUS
ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR

OFFICE OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

How to Market for Small Business Saturday

Small Business Saturday is bigger than ever—and despite what you may think, it’s not just for retailers or even just for brick-and-mortar businesses. Here’s what you need to know and how to take advantage of small business’s big day.

Held on the Saturday after Thanksgiving each year and spear-headed by American Express, Small Business Saturday launched in 2010 as a day to support small, local businesses nationwide.

Who can benefit from Small Business Saturday? Physical retail stores, obviously, but also:

- Restaurants/bars
- Fitness studios
- Salons/spas
- Home services businesses (maid services, landscaping, handyman, etc.)
- Automotive services
- E-commerce businesses
- Photography studios
- Caterers
- Educational services (tutoring, extracurricular classes, etc.)
- Professional services (accountants, tax preparation, financial advisor, etc.)

With a little creativity, almost every type of independent business can tie into Small Business Saturday and take advantage of the many marketing opportunities it offers. Since its launch, Small Business Saturday has become more popular every year. Last year, 112 million consumers spent an estimated \$15.4 billion at independent businesses on Small Business Saturday. Awareness of the movement is growing. Here’s how you can be a part of it.

Find (or become) a Neighborhood Champion. This is a person or organization that takes charge of organizing support for Small Business Saturday, such as planning events or promotions to spread the word to businesses and consumers. If your community was part of Small Business Saturday last year, you may already have a Neighborhood Champion. If not, see if your local business association, Chamber of Commerce or other community organization is interested—or take charge yourself. Learn more about Neighborhood Champions at <http://amex.co/2yCjgcT>

Find out what you’re eligible for. Any independent business can get a wide range of free, customizable marketing materials at <http://amex.co/2hxs7JW> for Small Business Saturday, such as flyers, posters and templates for email messages and social media posts. If you are a qualifying merchant accepting Ameri-



NEED MBE, FBE OR EDGE?

ATTEND CERTIFICATION
101 AT THE WBC ON NOV. 17 OR DEC. 15

REGISTER AT WWW.OHIOMBE.EVENTBEE.COM

Support the Frank W. Watson Scholarship

Donate while you shop with Kroger Rewards at <http://bit.ly/2maJa4t> Our rewards number is 24581.

If you shop Amazon, consider Smile.Amazon.com. Select the Ohio Business Development Center as your charity. Thanks for the consideration and helping a student grow.

Have a Great Holiday Season!

Support Black Media

Keeping you informed

can Express cards, you're eligible for additional free benefits. For example, you can get listed on the Shop Small Map so local consumers can see at a glance that your business is participating in Small Business Saturday.

Plan your promotions. It's not too early to get started letting consumers know that your business will be part of Small Business Saturday. After all, you want them to budget some of that Black Friday weekend spending money for you! Send out a marketing email to everyone on your email list to "save the date" and start posting and advertising on social media to spread the word. Remind prospects that money spent in the local community stays in the community.

Aside from retailers, here's how some of the other types of businesses mentioned above could promote Small Business Saturday:

- Caterer: Let us handle your holiday parties!
- Accountant: Get a head start on taxes! We can take the headaches off your hands.
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- Education: Is your child falling behind in school? Get a head start on 2019: Sign up for tutoring services today.

For more ideas, check out Small Business Saturday® 101 at <http://amex.co/2zAWlSo> which features short how-to videos and articles to help you make the most of November 24

Inclusion from page 1

ed comprehensive supplier diversity and workforce diversity plans. The Department's supplier diversity plan included the creation of a contracting guide for businesses that are interested in working with the Department. The Department also held its own supplier diversity procurement fair in conjunction the City's Office of Diversity and Inclusion last November. The fair was attended by nearly a hundred attendees and promoted by OhioMBE. This year's Development procurement fair will take place on December 14 at

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After the fair, the Department saw the benefit of a greater partnership with OhioMBE. Since early 2018, the Department has run regular advertisements in OhioMBE and has attended nearly every OhioMBE procurement fair.

A central component of the Department's workforce diversity plan is the formation of the Department's Diversity and Inclusion Committee. The committee's mission: "The Development Diversity and Inclusion Committee exists to promote a culture of awareness, understanding, respect and value. Everybody in, nobody out." The committee is comprised of staff members who have volunteered to promote inclusiveness by helping to guide the Department's annual diversity and inclusion plan, sponsoring educational activities such as quarterly Lunch and Learn events about diversity and inclusion topics, and organized a department-wide "Heritage Potluck," where participants brought in food relative to their background.

The Department is also responsible for guiding the City's small business and entrepreneurship efforts. The Office of Small Business and Entrepreneur Development assists aspiring and existing entrepreneurs to start, grow, and expand viable businesses through the use of economic development tools such as grants, loans, and specialized technical assistance while aiding in the stabilization and revitalization of our traditional urban neighborhoods and corridors. In 2019, the Department is working on an exciting effort to create a new comprehensive small business agenda, policy framework, and action plan.

OHIO STATE

2018 FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Week	Date	Opponent
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
13	Sat. Nov. 24	Michigan

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