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Ronda Watson Barber—Publisher/Editor-in-Chief

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Advocating, Informing and Promoting Small & Minority Owned Businesses

# OhioMBE Awards 2019 Honorees

The OhioMBE Awards will pay tribute to area individuals for their contributions to small businesses and efforts to improve the overall community. The OhioMBE Awards, hosted by the Columbus Zoo & Aquarium, OhioMBE is pleased to honor:

**Frank W. Watson Advocacy Award** – *Marlise Wicker*, Franklin County Board of Commissioners; *Lynnette Stevens*, Ohio Department of Transportation; *Terry Bolden*, Ohio Department of Transportation

**Publisher's Award** – *Joy Bivens*, Franklin County Job & Family Services; *Linda Parks*

**Women's Health Advocate Award** – *Dr. Janae Davis*, Licking Memorial Hospital

**Media Legends Award** – *Jerry Revish*

**Hall of Fame** – *Bobbie Bell Barthlomew*, State of Ohio and *Damita Brown*, City of Columbus

The OhioMBE Awards will be held on Oct. 24. Ticket information is online at [OhioMBEAwards.com](http://OhioMBEAwards.com)



Media's responsibility is to challenge government

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## 2019 Frank W. Watson Advocacy Award—*Marlise Wicker*

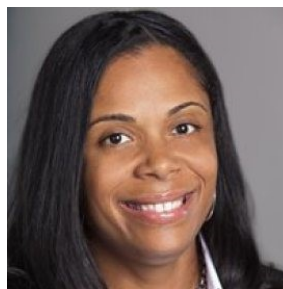
Marlise Wicker is the Small and Emerging Business Enterprise Coordinator with Franklin County, Board of Commissioners. Her primary focus is to provide Small and Emerging Businesses the opportunity to do business with the 13 Board of Commissioner agencies, 42 independently elected officials and 39 appointed boards, commissioners and committees within Franklin County. These agencies purchase



See Wicker on page 9

## Joy Bivens to receive the 2019 Publisher's Award

For her commitment and dedication to Ohio's low-income residents, Joy Bivens will receive the 2019 Publisher's Award at the OhioMBE Awards, hosted by the Columbus Zoo & Aquarium on Oct. 24.



See Biven on page 9

Joy Bivens serves as the director of Franklin County Department of Job and Family Services, the largest agency under the guidance of the Board of Commissioners. Franklin County is the largest county in the state with more than 1.3 million residents.

## Jerry Revish to receive the Media Legend Award



Jerry Revish’s service to the Central Ohio community will be recognized at the 2019 OhioMBE Awards. Revish will receive the Media Legend Award.

Jerry Revish delivers the nightly news to Columbus viewers as anchor of the 5, 6 and 11 p.m. editions of 10TV News.

He has been an award-winning reporter for WBNS-TV since June 1980. He began his broadcasting career in his hometown of Youngstown, Ohio in 1972 at WBBW Radio.

Jerry’s reporting skills have taken him around the world. He was the first Columbus TV reporter to go to Saudi Arabia to cover the Persian Gulf War. Jerry has also reported from Haiti, Barbados, South Africa, Bosnia, Bahrain, Cuba and Japan.

Among his reporting honors: 13 Emmy awards, four Edward R. Murrow Awards and the Silver Circle Award from the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences; Associated Press awards for best feature, best documentary and best spot news coverage; the Carl Day Award for Outstanding Achievement; and, the Best International Reporting Award from the National Association of Black Journalists for a series of reports on the liberation of Haiti and a half-hour documentary on the new South Africa. Jerry has also been inducted in the Ohio Broadcasters Hall of Fame.

Among his most personally-satisfying stories: helping Columbus bodybuilder Walter Smith — wrongfully convicted of rape — win his freedom through DNA testing; and, reporting from Washington on the Inauguration of President Barack Obama.

Jerry is also the founder and senior pastor of Unity Temple Church of God in Christ in Columbus. Jerry and his wife, Danielle, a fashion show producer, model and image consultant, have two children, Nicole and Jerome and four grandchildren, Samuel, Madison, Sydney and Ashton.

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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.

Twitter: ohiombe

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Hashtag: #ohiombe

## Janae Davis to be honored at OhioMBE Awards



For her dedication and commitment to women’s health care, Dr. Janae M. Davis will receive the Women’s Health Advocate Award at the OhioMBE Awards.

The OhioMBE Awards, hosted by the Columbus Zoo & Aquarium, celebrates Ohio’s small businesses and their advocates. The scholarship luncheon will be held on Oct. 24.

Dr. Davis began practicing at Licking Memorial

*See Davis on page 9*

## Terry Bolden is the 2019 Frank W. Watson Advocacy Awardee



Terry A. Bolden is the Administrator for the Office of Outreach – Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT) Division of Opportunity Diversity and Inclusion (ODI). Terry is responsible to connect businesses to ODOT construction and engineering opportunities and projects while managing outreach activities statewide.

Prior to joining ODOT, as a Business Advisor

*See Bolden on page 9*

# MBE Ohio <sup>2019</sup> AWARDS

OhioMBE is pleased to recognize the following Family-Owned Businesses who were nominated for a 2019 OhioMBE Award

**Tiger Mushroom Farms**

Te'Lario Watkins  
Blacklick

**Resource International**

Todd Majidzadeh  
Columbus

**Just Naturally Yummy Bakery And Catering Company**

Brandi Muhammad  
Columbus

Congratulations to the following businesses for being nominated a Top MBE business in Ohio at the 2019 OhioMBE Awards. Small business is good business!

**A-Men Pest Control**

Angel Soto  
Broadview Hts

**Flairsoft Ltd.**

Dheeraj Kulshreshtha  
Columbus

**K. Zulene Adams**

Z Promotions  
Columbus

**Lao Volunteer Association**

Columbus

**Leia Love Hair and Nail Salon**

Dr. Leia Love  
Akron

**Northeast Ohio Precast**

Tony McCoy  
Salem

**RRightNow Communications**

Regina Carswell Russo  
Cincinnati

**Spotlight of Columbus**

Patrice Morris  
Columbus

**Tra'bian Enterprises**

TJ Johnson  
Dublin

**TrueChoicePack Corp.**

Henna Rathore  
Mason

**Brown Girls Mentoring**

Jamie Blunt  
Columbus

**Phoenix Consulting Company**

Toni Bell  
Columbus

We are thankful for the service of military veterans. The following veterans have been nominated as Top Veteran Business at the OhioMBE Awards

**Mutt's Sauce LLC**

Charlynda Scales  
Dayton

**Jose "Rafi" Rodriguez**

Rodriguez Financial Strategies  
Beavercreek

The following Women-Owned businesses are nominated for Top W/FBE at the 2019 OhioMBE Awards

**TrueChoicePack**

Henna Rathore  
Mason

**City Apparel**

Andrea Kramer  
Findlay

**Ascension Construction Solutions**

Jeanna Hondel  
Columbus

**Essentia Strategy Group**

Sara Lee

Columbus

**Enlightened Financial Group**

Tia Johnson  
Columbus

**Cannell DPS**

Nicole Moore  
Columbus

**Phoenix Consulting Company**

Toni Bell  
Columbus



## Support the Frank W. Watson Scholarship

Donate while you shop with Kroger. Register your shopping card at [KrogerCommunityRewards.com](http://KrogerCommunityRewards.com)  
Our rewards number is YQ115

If you shop Amazon, consider [Smile.Amazon.com](http://Smile.Amazon.com). Select the Ohio Business Development Center as your charity.

Small business is good business!

## Vote! Exercise Your Right

By Ronda Watson Barber  
Publisher

Early voting has started. Ohio has made it pretty easy to cast your vote. You can do it three different ways. You can vote early at a designated location. You can mail your ballot in or you can visit your local polling place on Nov. 5. However you plan on exercising your constitutional right to participate in our democracy, please do so.

Your vote matters. Folks are running for school board and city council. Be an informed voter. Ask questions. Do research. Don't let political parties tell you who to vote for? Are those seeking public office and your precious vote looking out for the best interest of your family and community? Are they going to work to decrease inequities or are they working for a select few? Everyone wants good schools, safe neighborhoods, and economic opportunities. Are those asking for your vote willing to work to bridge educational and economic disparities?

Our votes and dollars have power. We need to use them wisely and collectively. As we embark on celebrating the 5th annual OhioMBE Awards, I salute the entrepreneurs and advocates being recognized. Minority, women, family and veteran-owned businesses are making a difference in Ohio. Not only are the OhioMBE Awards nominated business owners running successful companies, but they are also involved in their communities. Small business is good business. Small businesses give back to their communities. Small businesses hire employees from their communities. Small businesses are the backbone of our economy. Please continue to support small businesses.

### Frank W. Watson Scholarship

My dad had a love for education. In his memory, I have established Frank W. Watson Scholarship. To date, it benefits 10 students with post-secondary education. One scholarship is earmarked yearly for a Columbus East High School student/athlete. I have always heard a bunch of rah-rah about how great East High is? I challenge all Tigers to make a small donation. It can make a big difference in the life of a student.

Donations to The Frank W. Watson Scholarship can be made at any Park National Bank or mail to Park National Bank – 800 S. 30th Street – Heath, OH or by visiting [2019OhioMBEAwards.eventbrite.com](http://2019OhioMBEAwards.eventbrite.com)

Just my thoughts...rwb

## Congresswoman Beatty salutes small business and the OhioMBE Award recipients

Small businesses are the backbone of the American economy, and I am encouraged and excited that the fastest-growing segment of new small businesses are those started by African Americans. In addition to creating two out of every three new jobs, small businesses employ nearly 120 million Americans and make our neighborhoods more vibrant, better-connected communities. As a former small business owner, I know the dedication, courage, and determination it takes to be an entrepreneur.



That is why I am working hard in Congress to support and promote the entrepreneurial spirit, to ensure America's small businesses can thrive, and to keep Main Street strong. In that spirit, I encourage my constituents and all Americans to join me in 'shopping small.'

OhioMBE is an advocate for small and minority-owned businesses, particularly Black-owned businesses. I appreciate the work of the OhioMBE and want to congratulate all of the recipients of the 2019 OhioMBE Awards.

Congresswoman Joyce Beatty is a native Ohioan with a strong history of connecting people, policy and politics to make a difference. Since 2013, Beatty has proudly represented Ohio's Third Congressional District.

She sits on the exclusive House Committee on Financial Services and serves on three Subcommittees: Diversity and Inclusion (Chair), Housing, Community Development and Insurance, and Oversight and Investigations. The Financial Services Committee oversees the entire financial services industry, including the nation's banking, securities, insurance, and housing industries, as well as the work of the Federal Reserve, the United States Department of the Treasury and the United States Securities and Exchange Commission. As Chair of the newly created Financial Services Subcommittee on Diversity and Inclusion, Beatty will lead efforts to ensure the financial services industry works better for all Americans.

She can be reached at 471 East Broad Street, Suite 1100  
Columbus, OH 43215  
Phone: (614) 220-0003



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# bid opportunities

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

subcontractors and suppliers for the Augusta Regional Sewer Authority Contract II – WWTP in Brooksville, KY which bids on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019. Items of work to be subcontracted or supplied include, but are not limited to the following: asphalt paving, seeding and mulching, reinforcing steel supply/erection, concrete, block and brick masonry, joint protection, miscellaneous metals, roofing, wood framing, door & windows, painting, instrumentation & controls, process piping, plumbing, HVAC, and electrical. Bidding documents can be examined at Building Crafts, Inc., 2 Rosewood Dr., Wilder, KY 41076 or by calling Ben Call at (859) 781-9500 to make arrangements to view documents electronically. Submit quotes by 8 AM on October 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019, by email to [estimating@buildingcrafts.com](mailto:estimating@buildingcrafts.com) or by fax at (859) 781-9505. All bids should include a completed Form 6100-3 DBE Subcontractor Performance Form.

THE CITY OF  
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ANDREW J. GINTHER, MAYOR

The Department of Development has contracting opportunities in the below areas. Please reach out for more information and bidding requirements.

DEPARTMENT OF  
DEVELOPMENT

- Graffiti Removal and Arborist Services. Contact Eric Voorhees (614-645-7934 or [eavorhees@columbus.gov](mailto:eavorhees@columbus.gov)).
- Grass Cutting and Solid Waste Removal. Contact Mike Schwab (614-645-7122 or [mfschwab@columbus.gov](mailto:mfschwab@columbus.gov)).
- Demolition and Asbestos Abatement. Contact Mike Farrenkopf (614- 679-5873 or [mlfarrenkopf@columbus.gov](mailto:mlfarrenkopf@columbus.gov)) or Seth Brehm (614-645-5659 or [swhbrehm@columbus.gov](mailto:swhbrehm@columbus.gov)).
- Property Maintenance and Miscellaneous Services in November 2019. Contact Audrea Hickman (614-645-8907 or [aehickman@columbus.gov](mailto:aehickman@columbus.gov)).
- Construction trades including: General Construction, Home Improvement, Electrical, HVAC, and Plumbing. Contact Tim Tilton (614- 724-3009 or [twilton@columbus.gov](mailto:twilton@columbus.gov)).
- Lead abatement. Contact Erica Hudson (614- 645-6739 or [ejhudson@columbus.gov](mailto:ejhudson@columbus.gov)).

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



## LEGAL NOTICE

OPERATION: FIX IT – RESTROOM UPGRADES – DUXBERRY PARK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, EASTHAVEN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, AND FORT HAYES BUSCOMPOUND

Sealed bids for the above-referenced project will be received by the BOARD OF EDUCATION, City School District of Columbus, Ohio, Office of Capital Improvements, 889 E. 17th Ave, Columbus OH 43211, until Tuesday, October 29, 2019 at 2:00 p.m. More information can be found on the District's web site at <http://www.columbus.k12.oh.us/rfp>. The plans and specifications are on file with Franklin Imaging.

## Get Bid Notices Delivered to your inbox

1. Visit [www.OhioMBE.com](http://www.OhioMBE.com)
2. Click on the Advertise link
3. Add your email address
4. Select your desired list



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# bid opportunities

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## 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, OCTOBER 31, 2019 at which time and place all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud for:

### FURNACE REPLACEMENT AND RELATED WORK at 861-935 NORTH JENKINS BOULEVARD, AKRON, OHIO 44306

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](mailto: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](http://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 WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2019 at 2:00 P.M.

See full bid notice at [OhioMBE.com/archives/13304](http://OhioMBE.com/archives/13304)

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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 a 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.



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Class dates: Oct 19 & Nov. 9

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# #bidnotices

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### 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.

# VOTE!



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.

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

As director, she leads the agency under three guiding principles: Operational Excellence, Leadership and Development and Integrative Partnerships. The agency has a staff of more than 600 full-time workers who serve as the county’s first-line social safety net agency. In addition to determining eligibility for food assistance, Ohio Works First cash assistance, Medicaid and Publicly Funded Child Care, the Agency also provides millions in funding for family supportive services, including youth after-school programs, health-science academies, summer employment opportunities and workforce development services. Roughly one in four Franklin County residents receives assistance from FCDJFS.

Women’s Health – Newark in 2006. She received her Medical Degree from Northeast Ohio Medical University in Rootstown, Ohio. Dr. Davis completed an obstetrics/gynecology residency at Aultman Hospital in Canton, Ohio. She is a member of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and the Central Association of Obstetrics and Gynecology. She is board certified in obstetrics and gynecology.

In 2016 she was named Licking Memorial Hospital’s Physician of the Year.

Dr. Davis recently relocated her practice to downtown Newark in an effort to serve more women, particularly low-income patients and those who have difficulty traveling to the LMH campus.

for the US Department of Commerce Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) located in the Greater Cleveland Partnership, Terry provided business development services for clients throughout the state of Ohio assisting companies with procurement sourcing, access to capital, and marketing plans.

Over 20 years in public service, starting in the public utility industry, Terry performed water and sewer line installation and repair at the City of Cleveland Division of Water. Several roles which included water quality inspection, infrastructure repair, and residential and commercial construction inspection. He later joined Ohio’s largest Sewer Authority, Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS) as a Contract Compliance Officer and was responsible for increasing local vendors to the procurement directory, monitoring subcontractor utilization, and promoting NEORS Business Opportunity Program.

A graduate of Cleveland State University concentrating in Urban Studies, Terry is committed to customer service and has a passion for businesses to thrive and grow in Ohio.

## Shawn Harper to keynote OhioMBE Awards



Shawn Harper is a former NFL player, a successful businessman, and a premier inspirational and motivational speaker. He is, changing lives and minds for the better through his dynamic, upbeat and exhilarating interactive training sessions, seminars and workshops. Shawn will

keynote the 2019 OhioMBE Awards on Oct. 24 at the Columbus Zoo & Aquarium.

Shawn’s parents divorced by the time he was eight years old. Shawn had several documented learning disabilities which caused him to fear academics and suffer low grades. This contributed to an unhealthy self-image and a poor outlook on life. He turned to gangs, violence and drugs in order to gain acceptance from his peers.

In his senior year, even though Shawn’s grades were poor, he was "discovered" playing high school football and given an opportunity to enter junior college. With hard work and determination, Shawn was invited to transfer to Indiana University to continue his studies and his game. Finally, his grandest dreams came true when he was drafted to the NFL as the third pick in the fourth round for the Rams.

Shawn was on top of the world, enjoying all the fruits of his

# Ohio Diversity Network

Get a weekly email from [OhioDiversityNetwork.com](http://OhioDiversityNetwork.com) notifying you of upcoming events. Sign up online!

**Tuesday, October 15, 2019 at 6:00pm**  
**SBDC- Write Bids that Win Contracts**  
Columbus

**Wednesday, October 16, 2019 at 5:30pm**  
**SBDC- B.A.S.E.- Basis of a Successful Enterprise.**  
Columbus

**Wednesday, October 16, 2019 at 5:30pm**  
**SBDC- B.A.S.E.- Basis of a Successful Enterprise.**  
Columbus

**Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 5:30pm**  
**SBDC- B.A.S.E.- Basis of a Successful Enterprise.**  
Columbus

**Saturday, October 19, 2019 at 10:30am**  
**Certification Saturday**  
Columbus

**Tuesday, October 22, 2019 at 5:30pm**  
**SBDC- Go Mobile: Food Truck Style!**  
Columbus

**Thursday, October 24, 2019 at 11:00am**  
**2019 OhioMBE Awards hosted by the Columbus Zoo & Aquarium**  
Powell

**Thursday, October 24, 2019 at 6:00pm**  
**SBDC- Small Business Tax Workshop**  
Columbus

**Tuesday, October 29, 2019 at 4:30pm**  
**OBDC-How to Read The Dodge Report**  
Columbus

**Tuesday, October 29, 2019 at 6:00pm**  
**SBDC- Home-Based to Marketplace**  
Columbus

**Thursday, October 31, 2019 at 4:30pm**  
**OBDC-How to Read The Dodge Report**  
Columbus

**Friday, November 1, 2019 at 10:00am**  
**Franklin County First-Step**  
Columbus



**Hosting a business event?**

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- Franklin County
- Columbus City Schools
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Cathy@hhmohio.com

**Questions to ask those seeking elected office**

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?

**#bidnotices**

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labor—the fame, the fortune, the prestige—until his foundation crumbled under him after a major injury. At this lowest point in his life, he turned to God and asked Jesus into his life—he hasn't been the same since! The Lord even restored him to football; he went on to play with two more NFL teams and had several seasons with NFL Europe.

Shawn has a unique ability to address all types of groups and transcend all social, environmental and economic barriers.

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