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Advocating, Informing and Promoting Small & Minority Owned Businesses since 2009

Damita Brown to lead the Office of Diversity and Inclusion

Columbus Mayor Andrew J. Ginther recently announced that he has appointed Damita Brown as Chief Diversity Officer in the Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

Ginther said that Beverly Stallings-Johnson has accepted a position at Wendy's. Her last day with the city was Friday, March 12.

"Damita is particularly suited to take on the role of Chief Diversity Officer," said Mayor Ginther. "She has shepherded the Disparity Study through every step and has been key to keeping minority participation at record levels on many projects including the new Crew stadium. The community has faith and trust in Damita, and so do I."

Brown has been with the Office of Diversity and Inclusion since 2016, serving as deputy director and interim director. Before coming to the city, she was a vice president for supplier diversity with Huntington Bank and has also worked for the Columbus Regional Airport Authority and the United Way of Central Ohio.



"I am grateful to Beverly for her service to our city. Thanks to her leadership, even during the tumultuous last year, we were able to support small, women and minority owned businesses by streamlining our internal processes, connecting them with financial resources and technical assistance, and forging innovative new partnerships," Mayor Ginther continued. "I wish her great success as the new Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer for Wendy's Worldwide."

Brown holds a master's degree in public administration from The Ohio State University and a bachelor's degree in political science, history and ethnic studies from Capital University. She is in the OhioMBE Hall of Fame.

"I am thrilled to lead the Office of Diversity and Inclusion to help the city address some of its toughest challenges," said Brown. "I appreciate Mayor Ginther's confidence in me and look forward to making a lasting difference in how the city addresses minority and gender participation in supplier contracts and the workplace."

Ginther created the Office of Diversity and Inclusion during his first term in office.

Small Business is Good Business



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OhioMBE welcomes letters to the editor from readers. Typed letters of 350 words or less are preferred. Each letter must include name, home address and daytime phone number. Some letters may appear on our website.

Register Today!

April 7-9, 2021



4th Annual

Civil Rights Transportation Symposium

"Inclusion through Innovation"

This year's event will be held virtually. Check our website for more information.

transportation.ohio.gov/odotcivilrights



Rep. Jarrells to introduce legislation that will remove derogatory terminology in the Ohio Revised Code

Says all Ohioans should be treated with kindness, dignity, and respect

COLUMBUS—Rep. Dontavious L. Jarrells (D-Columbus) will be introducing legislation removing additional derogatory language within the state's code. This legislation will be continuation of the work started by House Bill 158 in the 131st General Assembly, which replaced references to "mentally retarded person" in the Ohio Revised Code.

Currently, Ohio Revised Code still includes language such as "idiot," "deaf and dumb," "mentally retarded," "lunatics," "mental defective," "crippled child/children," "derangement," and "handicapped."

"These antiquated terms are rooted in historical trauma, resulting in unnecessary harm for people with disabilities, their families, and advocacy organizations," said Rep. Jarrells. "All Ohioans deserve to be treated with kindness, dignity, and respect. This legislation ensures the Ohio Revised Code reflects those values," Rep. Jarrells explained.

This legislation will replace terms related to people with disabilities and updates statutory provisions relating to assistance dogs, braille teacher standards, the Children with Medical Handicaps Program, and accessible parking spaces.

The implementation of this bill could not have happened without the collaboration and support from advocates in the disability, deaf, mental health, and victim services communities:

Mental Health America of Ohio
National Alliance on Mental Illness Ohio
Ohio Association of County Behavioral Health Authorities



publisher's note

Happy Black History Month!

By Ronda Watson Barber
Publisher



The recent state Girl's Division I Basketball State championship was EPIC! My hometown Newark Lady Wildcats proudly represented. The on the court battle against Cincinnati Mount Notre Dame was legendary. These lady hoopsters got game. There were cross-overs, blocked shots, steals, and three-pointers were raining during the double-overtime 57-55 game won by the MND Cougars.

While the ladies were displaying their skills, leadership, and talents on the court, I didn't observe women in leadership on the sidelines. Both teams were coached by men, men officiated the game and men oversee the high school athletic programs.

I penned a letter to the Ohio High School Athletic Association. I have questions:

1. Why were men officiating the girls' final?
2. Have any women been officiating any boys' top tournament games? If so, how many?
3. Are there any women that coach boys' high school basketball teams in Ohio?
4. How many men lead girl's basketball programs?
5. How many women lead girls' basketball programs?
6. How many athletic programs are led by women?
7. What is the OHSAA doing to foster an environment for women to coach and officiate girls sports?

Title IX of the education amendments was enacted into law in 1972. Title IX prohibits sex discrimination in any educational program or activity receiving any type of federal financial funding.

What are local school boards and universities doing to create a pipeline for women to become leaders on the sidelines? Almost fifty years since the signing of this federal law, why aren't there more women coaching women and girls? Why aren't there more women athletic directors? What message does this

See Publisher on page 14

3 Ways to Protect Your Credit During The Pandemic

By Kenya Mays

It has been almost a year of living through this pandemic. Many have lost jobs, homes and their normal way of life. Throughout all of the changes that COVID-19 has presented, one thing that has remained important is your credit matters. .

We constantly hear talks about credit reports, credit scores, credit freezes and credit monitoring. But what does it all really mean? Your credit matters, and will affect your ability to live and work comfortably once outside fully opens. It will certainly not look the same, however, you will want to work on your financial foundation as our new normal will begin. Are you fully prepared?



Here are the 3 things that you can do.....

1. Order A Copy Of Your Credit Report. This has become an easy task as you are entitled to a free copy of your credit report from [Annualcreditreport.com](https://www.annualcreditreport.com) from the three major credit bureaus : Experian, Equifax and TransUnion. As of right now, this is good until April 2021.
Make sure to check your reports for errors and be prepared to dispute any inaccurate information. Although credit bureaus have regularly had errors, they are now at an all time high of inaccurate reporting. It is important to review your reports at least once a month to ensure that you are not a victim and your credit report does not suffer.
2. Call Your Lenders and See Programs They Offer. If you are having an issue with making your payments, reach out to the lenders and ask what programs do they have. Many lenders have programs that are catered to those who have been impacted by COVID-19. The names of these programs vary based on the company. They may be referred to as "relief" or "hardship" programs. I would recommend that you have a pen and paper handy to write down your options. It is important to ask the important questions of how will these arrangements affect your reporting to the bureaus. Will making these arrangements change the current contract? Request that the changes be sent to you in writing. Finally, be sure to take down the name of the agent that you spoke with and time of the call. This will be important in the event that you will need to use it in the future.
3. Check Your Credit Card Statements. I will invite you to get

See Credit on page 13



Looking for business news?



GET YOUR FREE SUBSCRIPTION TO OHIOMBE.COM

The 912 Group is pleased to announce the launch of OhioContractorConnection.com. The website and mobile app is a collection of Ohio's top small businesses, resource service providers, and business news. There is a focus on construction contractors.

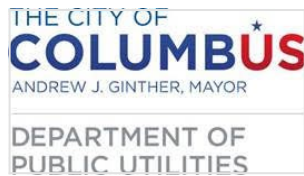
"A lot of people are looking to do business with Black-owned companies. The OhioContractorConnection.com is a vehicle to do that," said The 912 Group owner, Ronda Watson Barber. "I am excited to again provide access to small businesses to contracting opportunities, particularly Black owned businesses."

OhioContractorConnection.com will be available on GooglePlay soon. Small businesses are encouraged to list their businesses.



Advertise your business HERE!

EmployOhio



City of Columbus-Department of Public Utilities
Division of Water- Parsons Avenue Water Plant
Water Plant Manager Position

This full-time position within the Division of Water will oversee the operation and maintenance of the Parsons Avenue Water Plant (PAWP) and will be the operator of record for the water plant. It will manage the PAWP staff by developing and administering policies and budgets. Plan, direct, and review staff work activities, projects, and training. Ensure that appropriate certifications, monitoring, reporting, and water quality are maintained. Also, ensure plant equipment and water supply are properly monitored, operated, and maintained to provide uninterrupted service. Additionally, this position will maintain thorough knowledge of current applicable regulations and compliance requirements. Correspond with local, state, and federal officials regarding water plant issues; and maintain thorough knowledge of state of the art water plant equipment, processes, and operations.

To be considered, candidates must have three (3) years' of experience as an operations or maintenance manager or equivalent in a water plant rated Class III or higher OR six (6) years' experience as a Water Plant Operator II with the City of Columbus or comparable experience. Possession of a valid Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) State of Ohio Class IV Water Supply Operator certificate for water treatment works. And, possession of a valid motor vehicle operator's license. Salary range \$81,306 – \$121,959 annually.

If you are interested, please apply to the Civil Service Commission by applying online at <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/columbusoh> by 04/05/2021. You may also apply by email: DPURecruitment@columbus.gov, fax: 614-645-0050, or by mail to the Recruitment & Selection Office, Attn.: Alana Samuel, 910 Dublin Rd. Rm. 4150, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

Pre-employment drug screening and BCI& I background check are required if selected.

City of Columbus is an equal opportunity employer.

City of Columbus- Department of Public Utilities
Division of Water- *Enhanced Meter Project Coordinator (Management Analyst II) Position*

This full-time position within the Division of Water will lead major policy and management projects, productivity studies, and operational and legislative reviews. Develop and recommend strategies for implementing new programs, projects, or policies pertaining to the department or division's mission or division; participate in the implementation and training processes related to the programs, projects, or policies. Prepare and monitor operating and capital improvement budgets and provide expenditure analysis. It will also lead or conduct operational or administrative reviews, program evaluations, and special studies pertaining to various fiscal, operational, and managerial issues. Serve as a resource or specialist on fiscal, operational, or other managerial issues affecting the department or division; and inform management of any current or anticipated situation that may impact budget, operations, or service delivery.

To be considered, candidates must possess a bachelor's degree and four (4) years of professional experience researching, analyzing, and making recommendations, OR providing consultation to management on fiscal or operational matters, or matters pertaining to public or business administration.

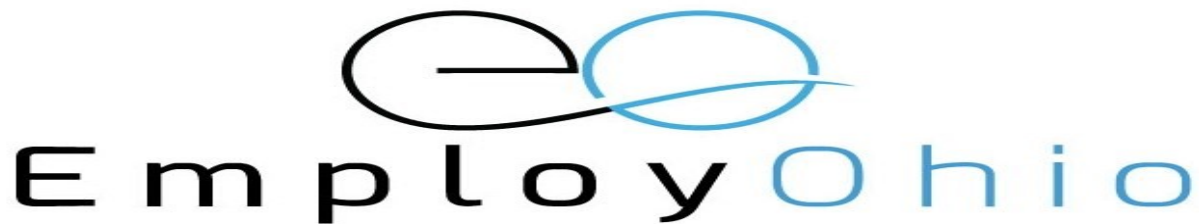
Substitution(s): A master's degree may be substituted for one (1) year of the required experience. The ideal candidate should have strong project management and organizational skills.

General knowledge of a utility (Water, Electric, or Gas) metering system will be beneficial, and automatic meter reading system experience is a plus. Additionally, the ability to effectively communicate and collaborate with stakeholders is important, and general knowledge of implementing and operating information systems (hardware and software) will be helpful. Salary range \$64,839 – \$97,235 annually.

If you are interested, please apply to the Civil Service Commission by applying online at <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/columbusoh> by 04/05/2021. You may also apply by email: DPURecruitment@columbus.gov, fax: 614-645-0050, or by mail to the Recruitment & Selection Office, Attn.: Alana Samuel, 910 Dublin Rd. Rm. 4150, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

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CITY OF COLUMBUS- Dept. of Public Utilities

Division of Power – Engineering Associate III Position

This position will provide paraprofessional work in electric utility distribution engineering, inspection, and project management. It will consult and coordinate with project managers in other city agencies regarding design and construction impacting Division of Power facilities. Plan and coordinate the preparation and review of designs for distribution, transmission, and substation equipment. Plan, coordinate, and inspect the work of projects performed on Division of Power facilities by private contractors. Act as field construction coordinator for both internal and external stakeholders. Assist Customer Development team to identify, design, and implement electrical service to new customers, as needed.

To be considered for this position, candidates must complete twelfth school grade and have five (5) years of experience performing paraprofessional engineering work. Substitution (s): College education in engineering or a related curriculum may be substituted for up to four (4) years of the experience on a year-for-year basis. A certificate of high school equivalence (GED) will be accepted in lieu of the twelfth grade requirement. Possession of a valid motor vehicle operator's license. Salary range: \$57,845- \$86,798 annually.

If you are interested, please apply to the Civil Service Commission by applying online at <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/columbusoh> by 04/01/2021. You may also apply by email: DPURecruitment@columbus.gov, fax: 614-645-0050, or by mail to the Recruitment & Selection Office, Attn.: Lindsay Tartt, 910 Dublin Rd. Rm. 4150, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

Pre-employment drug screening and BCI& I background checks are required if selected.

The City of Columbus is an equal opportunity employer

City of Columbus- Department of Public Utilities

Division of Sewers and Drains- Jackson Pike Wastewater Treatment Plant

Management Analyst II Position

This position will be responsible for managing the storeroom functions, assisting in budget development, analyzing administrative Computerized Maintenance Management System (CMMS) functions, preparing financial and tracking reports for Management and conducting evaluations of various Plant functions to improve productivity. Develop, update and analyze various fiscal, operational, and maintenance reports and provide updates to staff periodically. Coordinate CMMS program updates due to new or additional equipment and/or process changes, prepare comprehensive financial, statistical, technical and narrative reports. Review and coordinate disposal of obsolete inventory, provide daily CMMS work orders and tracking of closeout work orders and maintain technical Operation and Maintenance library and assist Maintenance staff and other City agencies in locating archive data.

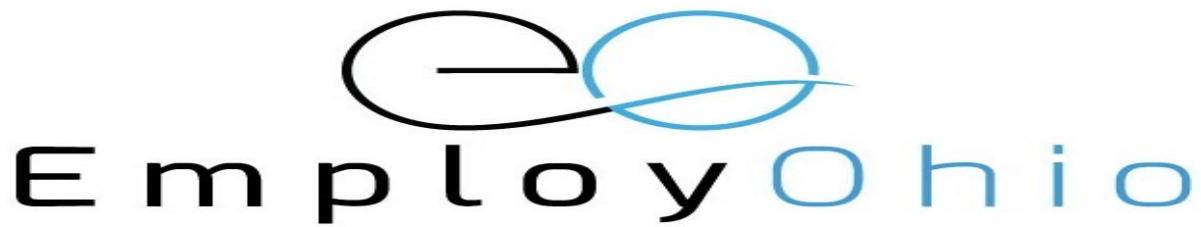
To be considered for this position, candidates must possess a bachelor's degree and four (4) years of professional experience researching, analyzing, and making recommendations OR providing consultation to management on fiscal or operational matters, or matters pertaining to public or business administration. Substitution(s): A master's degree may be substituted for one (1) year of the required experience. Salary range: \$64,839 – \$97,235 annually.

If you are interested, please apply to the Civil Service Commission by applying online at <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/columbusoh> by 03/30/2021. You may also apply by email: DPURecruitment@columbus.gov, fax: 614-645-0050, or by mail to the Recruitment & Selection Office, Attn.: Jessie McCabe, 910 Dublin Rd. Rm. 4150, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

Pre-employment drug screening and BCI& I background check are required if selected.

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Support Black Businesses



CITY OF COLUMBUS- Dept. of Public Utilities

Division of Sewers and Drains –Jackson Pike Wastewater Plant
Wastewater Plant Supervisor II Position

This position will be responsible for operating and monitoring wastewater treatment, sludge processing, and disposal equipment at Jackson Pike Wastewater Treatment Plant, a 68 MGD activated sludge treatment plant with anaerobic digestion. This position will assign wastewater plant personnel work projects, supervise staff in proper treatment methods to ensure NPDES Permits Compliance. Analyze plant operations and recommend changes in the process for optimum efficiency. Supervise staff in daily tasks as well as scheduling of vacations, performance review, and scheduling overtime. Train staff in operating procedures, City policies, and continuous improvement. Implement directives for plant management on plant operations, policies, and directives to ensure conformance to SOP. Cooperate with Consultants and Contractors in the design and construction of Capital Improvement Projects.

To be considered for this position, candidates must complete twelfth school grade and two (2) years of supervisory experience over the maintenance and/or repair of industrial mechanical equipment. Substitution(s): A certificate of high school equivalence (GED) will be accepted in lieu of completion of the twelfth school grade. Possession of a valid motor vehicle operator's license. Salary range: \$64,833 – \$97,240 annually.

If you are interested, please apply to the Civil Service Commission by applying online at <https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/columbusoh> by 04/02/2021. You may also apply by email: DPURecruitment@columbus.gov, fax: 614-645-0050, or by mail to the Recruitment & Selection Office, Attn.: Lindsay Tartt, 910 Dublin Rd. Rm. 4150, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

Pre-employment drug screening and BCI& I background checks are required if selected.

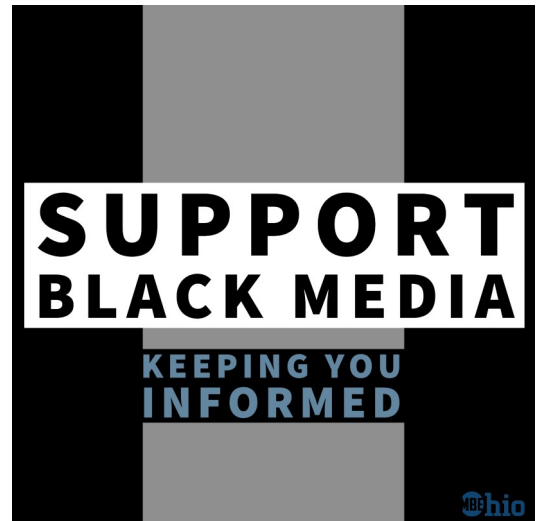
The City of Columbus is an equal opportunity employer.

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Email us at news@ohiombe.com for details.

Keep up-to-date
at OhioMBE.com



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>



LEGAL NOTICE

OPERATION: FIX IT – SECURITY UPGRADES – BEECHCROFT HIGH SCHOOL, COLUMBUS ALTERNATIVE HIGH SCHOOL, MARION-FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL, AND WALNUT RIDGE HIGH SCHOOL – REBID



DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT

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

- Graffiti Removal and Arborist Services. 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).
- Property Maintenance and Miscellaneous Services in November 2019. Contact Audrea Hickman (614-645-8907 or aeickman@columbus.gov).
- Construction trades including: General Construction, Home Improvement, Electrical, HVAC, and Plumbing. Contact Tim Tilton (614- 724-3009 or twilton@columbus.gov).
- Lead abatement. 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>.

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 Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at 10:00 a.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.



COLUMBUS
REGIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Columbus Regional Airport
Authority

Rickenbacker Cold Transfer Facility #21035
JOHN GLENN COLUMBUS INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

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:

www.columbusairports.diversitycompliance.com to register to do business with us and to view new bid opportunities and results.

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

**Be Black
Buy Black
Think Black**

and everything else will take care of itself!
- Marcus Garvey


**Ohio Contractor
Connection**

OhioContractorConnection.com

bid opportunities

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

Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 307.86, 307.87, 307.92, and applicable codes of the Ohio Revised Codes (O.R.C.), public notice is hereby given that submittals will be received by the Franklin County Board of Commissioners, as indicated below: Additionally, public notice is posted online at <http://purchasing.franklincountyohio.gov/>.

Reference Number: 2021-03-12

Title: Franklin County Corrections Center Continuation Phase 2A – Bid Release #4B

Description: The Board of Commissioners, Franklin County, Ohio is seeking bids for Bid Release #4B for all labor and materials to construct the Franklin County Corrections Center following the specifications and procedures in the project manual.

Bid Release # 4B includes: Bid Package #09E Acoustical & Drywall Work, Bid Package #09F Flooring, Bid Package #09G Epoxy Flooring, and Bid Package #09H Painting

Each bid package will be a separate contract.

Opening Date/Time: April 16, 2021 at 2:00 PM

Interested parties are to dial +1 773-917-3504, and enter participant passcode 149 810 560#

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_ZTM2YTNiZWYtNjA1Zi00MTdiLTiNGMtZWNmYzRiY2IxYzMx%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2293c52ce1-0d75-4263-9ab9-9c287e289e18%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%227904ad4e-7c17-4c2b-9a04-1e2a783e2c79%22%7d

Opening Location: Franklin County Purchasing Department – Franklin County Office Tower, 373 South High Street, 25th Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215-6315

Bids delivered in-person: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Bidders will not be permitted to enter the Franklin County Office Tower in order to hand deliver their Bids/Proposals directly to the Purchasing Department on the 25th Floor. However, Bids & Proposals may be delivered in-person to a receptacle box located along the west wall of the Pavilion, 365 South High Street, Columbus, OH 43215. The Pavilion is the main entrance to the Franklin County Court House complex. (See link) <https://facilities.franklincountyohio.gov/Facilities/Facilities/Pavilion>. The Franklin County Purchasing Department Dropbox is now

located along the west wall after you walk through the Security Check Point (next to/near the art exhibit titled "TRASHASAURUS REX"). All visitors are required to pass through the Sheriff Department Security Check Point (metal detectors) in order to access the new location for the Bid/Proposal Dropbox. There are multiple receptacle boxes in this area, so vendors should take care to deposit their Bid/Proposal in the correct mailbox labeled "Franklin County Purchasing Department". The receptacle box is very similar to a postal service mail box found on street corners. It cannot accept large, rigid boxes/containers such as Fed Ex boxes, UPS boxes or other similar containers. Bids delivered in this manner must be in a sealed envelope (non-rigid) and be able to fit into the receptacle box opening.

Obtain Documents By Emailing Request To: www.keycompanies.com. Hard Copy Plans Will Be On File For Viewing Purposes Only At:

Franklin County Public Facilities Management Franklin County Office Tower 373 South High Street, 2nd Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215-4592

Key Blue Prints, Inc. 195 E Livingston Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43215

Ohio MBE 1393 East Broad St., Suite 104 Columbus, Ohio 43205

Submit All Responses To: Franklin County Purchasing Department, Franklin County Office Tower, 373 South High Street, 25th Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215-6315

Conditions of Receipt: All submittals must be received in accordance with the requirements set forth in the bid documentation. All bids will be opened at the noted location.

All Questions Should Be Directed To: All questions must be received in writing on or before April 6, 2021 at 2:00 PM. Direct in writing to Public Facilities Management, Franklin County Office Tower, 373 South High Street, 2nd Floor, Columbus, Ohio 43215-4592. Fax 614-525-3180, or e-mail at PFMConstructionquestions@franklincountyohio.gov.

Franklin County will respond to all questions by April 9, 2021.

Board of County Commissioners,
Franklin County, Ohio:
Kevin L. Boyce, President
Marilyn Brown, Commissioner
John O'Grady, Commissioner



OhioContractorConnection.com



*I'd rather go down in history as
one lone Negro who dared to tell
the government that it had done a
dastardly thing than to save my skin by taking back
what I said.* - Ida B. Wells

bid opportunities

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

Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 307.86, 307.87, 307.92, and applicable codes of the Ohio Revised Codes (O.R.C.), public notice is hereby given that submittals will be received by the Franklin County Board of Commissioners, as indicated below: Additionally, public notice is posted online at <http://purchasing.franklincountyohio.gov/businesses/bid-opportunities/>

Reference Number: RFI #2021-52-13

Title: Body-Worn Cameras

Description: On behalf of the Franklin County Board of Commissioners and the Franklin County Sheriff's Office, the Franklin County Purchasing Department is seeking information related to Body-Worn Cameras

Opening Date/Time: March 30, 2021 by 2:00 p.m. at Franklin County Purchasing Department 373 South High Street – Floor 25 Columbus, Ohio 43215-6315

Obtain Documents Online At: <http://purchasing.franklincountyohio.gov/businesses/bid-opportunities/>

Conditions of Receipt: All submittals must be received in accordance with the requirements set forth in the proposal documentation. All proposals will be opened at the noted location.

All Questions Should Be Directed To: Email address: bskamlet@franklincountyohio.gov

Additional Information: All amendments and clarifications will be posted on the County's – Purchasing Department website at: <http://purchasing.franklincountyohio.gov/businesses/bid-opportunities/>

It is the responsibility of interested parties to monitor the Franklin County Purchasing website for any Amendments or Clarifications.

Board of County Commissioners:
Kevin L. Boyce, President
Marilyn Brown, Commissioner
John O' Grady, Commissioner

INVITATION FOR BIDS POST OAK STATION BUILD- ING DEMOLITION

The Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) will receive bids from qualified contractors for the Post Oak Station Building Demolition, 3560 Odonnell Court, Columbus, Ohio. All bids will be accepted and publicly opened on **Friday, April 16, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.**, during a virtual bid opening, via Zoom. Any contractor planning to submit a bid must email Chris Belcastro (cbelcastro@cmhanet.com) to obtain link before the bid opening and **no later than 12:00 p.m. on April 16, 2021**. Since the bid opening will be virtual, bids are preferred to be mailed, however, bids will still be accepted if they are dropped off in person before 1:00 p.m. on April 16, 2021, and time stamped. If you plan to drop off your bid, please notify the security officer at the front door of a "BID," and they will time stamp it. A pre-bid meeting is scheduled on **Wednesday, March 31, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.**, at the address listed above. Contract Documents may be viewed/downloaded at www.cmhanet.com/DoingBusinessWithUs/Development, starting **Monday, March 22, 2021**. Bidders must agree to comply with the 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. Bidders are asked to assist CMHA in meeting their Minority Business Enterprise goal of 20% and Section 3 goal of 10%. A 5% bid bond must be submitted with the bid.



**COLUMBUS METROPOLITAN
HOUSING AUTHORITY**

COMMUNITY. COMMITMENT. COLLABORATION.



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Columbus
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OPEN**

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1 to 4 pm**

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OHBD.org**

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Ohio Business
Development Center**

bid opportunities

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



**COLUMBUS METROPOLITAN
HOUSING AUTHORITY**
COMMUNITY. COMMITMENT. COLLABORATION.

INVITATION FOR BIDS POST OAK STATION BUILDING DEMOLITION

The Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) will receive bids from qualified con-

tractors for the Post Oak Station Building Demolition, 3560 Odonnell Court, Columbus, Ohio. All bids will be accepted and publicly opened on **Friday, April 16, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.**, during a virtual bid opening, via Zoom. Any contractor planning to submit a bid must email Chris Belcastro (cbelcastro@cmhanet.com) to obtain link before the bid opening and **no later than 12:00 p.m. on April 16, 2021**. Since the bid opening will be virtual, bids are preferred to be mailed, however, bids will still be accepted if they are dropped off in person before 1:00 p.m. on April 16, 2021, and time stamped. If you plan to drop off your bid, please notify the security officer at the front door of a "BID," and they will time stamp it. A pre-bid meeting is scheduled on **Wednesday, March 31, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.**, at the address listed above. Contract Documents may be viewed/downloaded at www.cmhanet.com/DoingBusinessWithUs/Development, starting **Monday, March 22, 2021**. Bidders must agree to comply with the 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. Bidders are asked to assist CMHA in meeting their Minority Business Enterprise goal of 20% and Section 3 goal of 10%. A 5% bid bond must be submitted with the bid.



"Attention Certified MBE/
WBE/DBE via DOT, SBA, or
Other"

Kokosing Industrial, Inc. is preparing bids for the Williams Behm Home Sewage Treatment Systems project in Columbus, Ohio which bids March 24, 2021. 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: aggregates, trucking, concrete, asphalt, fencing, clearing, MOT, seeding, paint striping, precast manholes, jack and bore. Bidding documents can be examined online by emailing Sonja Nichols at snichols@kokosing.biz for the link. Please have your quote Steve Ehret by 12:00 PM March 22, 2021: e-mail sae@kokosing.biz or Fax 614-212-5711.

"Kokosing Industrial is an equal opportunity employer."



**COLUMBUS METROPOLITAN
HOUSING AUTHORITY**
COMMUNITY. COMMITMENT. COLLABORATION.

INVITATION FOR BIDS JENKINS TERRACE/WORLEY TERRACE – LIGHT FIXTURE REPLACEMENT

The Columbus Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA) will

receive bids from qualified contractors for the Jenkins Terrace/Worley Terrace Light Fixture Replacement, 1100 E. Broad Street, Columbus, OH / 99 S. Central Avenue, Columbus, OH. All bids will be accepted and publicly opened on **Friday, April 16, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.**, during a virtual bid opening, via Zoom. Any contractor planning to submit a bid must email Chris Belcastro (cbelcastro@cmhanet.com) to obtain link before the bid opening and **no later than 10:00 a.m. on April 16, 2021**. Since the bid opening will be virtual, bids are preferred to be mailed, however, bids will still be accepted if they are dropped off in person before 11:00 a.m. on April 16, 2021, and time stamped. If you plan to drop off your bid, please notify the security officer at the front door of a "BID," and they will time stamp it. A pre-bid meeting is scheduled on **Wednesday, March 31, 2021 at 11:00 a.m.**, at 1100 E. Broad Street, Columbus, Ohio. Contract Documents may be viewed at www.cmhanet.com/DoingBusinessWithUs/Development. Bidders may obtain Contract Documents from DC Alpha Graphics, 1254 Courtland Avenue, Columbus, Ohio, 43201 or at www.dcpplanroom.com; Phone: 297-1200; Fax: 614-297-1300, starting **Monday, March 22, 2021**, upon receipt of a **refundable company check or money order for \$50.00**, payable to CMHA. Bidders must agree to comply with the 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. Bidders are asked to assist CMHA in meeting their Minority Business Enterprise goal of 20% and Section 3 goal of 10%. A 5% bid bond must be submitted with the bid.

Jarrells from page 2

Ohio Association of County Boards
Ohio Association of the Deaf
Ohio Peer Recovery Organizations
Ohio Statewide Independent Living Council
People First of Ohio
Pro Seniors, Inc.

Why you should 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.

Attend a class and learn how to get your business certified. Visit OHBDC.eventbrite.com for the upcoming class schedule.



Check out our Buy Black Collection at
ShopLegacyGifts.com

OhioMBE can announce your next business event, employment notice or news item in an exclusive email blast.



We will also post it on our Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn Pages.

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#bidnotices

How to Deduct Bad Debt

Every business owner faces collection challenges at some point in their businesses. Whether the amounts are large or small, when you're trying to grow your business, every dollar counts. Likewise, every dollar you don't get paid means either hours of hunting down the payment, writing it off as bad debt, or both.

To qualify as a bad debt in the eyes of the IRS, the debt must either have been created or acquired in your business, or closely related to your trade or business when it became partly or totally worthless.

Examples of bad debts include:

- **Loans to clients and suppliers.** Sometimes, a supplier or client will ask to get your services on credit or may need some money fronted to complete a deal. If you lend money to a client, supplier, employee or distributor for a business reason and you can't collect, you can consider the amount a bad debt.
- **Goods sold and/or services rendered, but not yet paid for.** If the goods or services have been recorded in your accounts receivable and you have tried to collect the amount due, the amount becomes a business bad debt.
- **Debts of an insolvent partner.** If your business partnership breaks up and one of your former partners turns out to be insolvent, you can claim the portion you have to pay of your partners' share as a bad debt.
- **Debts of a client you put up a guarantee for.** If you paid a portion of a debt to help a client and the client defaults on the loan, you can claim the bad debt only for the amount you paid.
- **Sale of mortgaged property.** If your mortgaged property is sold for less than the debt, the unpaid balance of the debt is a bad debt.

Remember, you can claim a business bad debt deduction only if the amount owed to you was included in your business's gross income or lent out of your cash. If you use an accrual method of accounting, you generally report income as you earn it. If you use the cash method of accounting, you generally report income when you receive payment. With the cash method, you generally cannot claim a bad debt deduction for unpaid wages,

rents, fees, and similar items because you never included those amounts in income.

How long do you have to wait before knowing the debt is a bad one?

You must be able to prove the debt is worthless by showing you have taken reasonable steps to collect the debt. Keep records of every correspondence and collection attempt, and make sure the debt is recorded in your business's accounting system. If the debtor has entered into bankruptcy, make sure you keep documentation from the bankruptcy court.

Generally, you must claim a business bad debt in the same year the debt became worthless. If you have some *partially* worthless debts, you can use the [Specific Charge-Off Method](#), which allows you to claim parts of the debt over several tax years if the debt's worthlessness is drawn out. There is also the [Nonaccrual-Experience Method](#), for accounts receivable for services you performed in the fields of accounting, actuarial science, architecture, consulting, engineering, health, law, performing arts; or if your business meets the \$5 million gross receipts test. For more on these methods, see the [IRS website](#).

If you mistakenly forgot to deduct a bad debt on your tax return in the year it became worthless, you can file a claim for a credit or refund.

If the bad debt was worthless, you must file the claim by the latter of the following dates:

- 7 years from the date of your original return; or
- 2 years from the date you paid the tax.

If the claim is for a partially worthless bad debt, you must file the claim by the latter of the following dates:

- 3 years from the date you filed your original return; or
- 2 years from the date you paid the tax.

You have longer to file the claim if you were unable to file your taxes and submit the claim due to a physical or mental impairment.

Source: score.org

Credit from page 3

a copy of your latest credit card statement. This includes the ones that you don't use often and do not carry a balance on. You want to make sure that you are aware of the terms of your cards as well as the limits that you have. Lenders have started reducing limits on credit cards without warning in an effort to prevent possible defaults. This could potentially cause a decrease in your

credit score as your available credit will be affected. In the event that you determine that this has in fact happened to you, reach out to your credit card company and request for the limit to be restored.

Kenya Mays
Founder of Allen Mays LLC
www.allenmayscreditrepair.com

COFFEE & CONVERSATIONS: WOMEN IN LEADERSHIP

Join us on Friday, March 26th at 8 am for a webinar discussion on the contributions of these Franklin County Women leaders.

Register in advance for this webinar: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_mMZ5SBb8TK-MAQynL9CQNg

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Women's

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Month



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PIERSON, JP&P



CHARLOTTE
ASHCRAFT, FLEET

Hosted by MBAC,
Jeaneen Hooks



"None of us is as smart as all of us"
Ken Blanchard



Moderated by
Marleise Wicker



Publisher from page 3

send? Why are womens' athletic programs treated differently than mens' programs?

There are reports of female athletes and coaches protesting the disparities in accommodations, food, covid testing, and the swag bag given between the male and female participants of the NCAA's annual March basketball tournament.

This week South Carolina Dawn Staley used her voice and platform to call out the NCAA for its inequity at the women's tournament compared to the men's. She wrote on Instagram, "what we know now is that the NCAA's season-long messaging about 'togetherness' and 'equality' was about convenience and a soundbite for the moment created after the murder of George Floyd."

Every team here in San Antonio has earned and deserves at a minimum the same level of respect as the men. All the teams here dealt with the same issues as the men's teams this season, yet their "reward" is different.

Staley and Georgia coach Joni Taylor meet in the SEC Conference tournament championship earlier this month. It was the first time that two Black head coaches battled for a Power 5 title. "People say, 'You're making it a race thing.' It's not a race thing; it's an opportunity thing," Staley told USA TODAY Sports.

Of the 64 head coaches at the 2021 Women's Championships, only eight are Black women. The NCAA estimates 45% of Division I players are Black.

Legendary coach C. Vivian Stringer, the only women's coach to take three different schools to the Final Four

Stringer counsels young Black assistants to be wary of being labeled just as "recruiters." "Our Black youngsters need to see you at the game," she'd chide coaches. "We're not just recruiters." "I resent that, when they don't give us credit for being bright and smart enough to be able to direct a program," Stringer said.

Just my thoughts...rwb

To the litigious: The First Amendment protects several basic freedoms in the United States including freedom of religion, freedom of speech, freedom of the press, the right to assemble, and the right to petition the government. It was part of the Bill of Rights that was added to the Constitution on December 15, 1791. The U.S. Constitution applies to Black Americans as well. The views expressed in OhioMBE and the media outlets of The 912 Group are solely those of the author and do not reflect the views/opinions of The 912 Group, the editor, publisher, our staff, families, or our advertisers.



What is delayed is not denied. Keep the faith. —Dawn Staley

#BuyBlack

Ohio Diversity Network

Tuesday, March 23, 2021 at 2:00pm
[OBDC – How to Market your Certification](#)

Wednesday, March 24, 2021 at 10:00am
[Cleveland SBA – HUBZone Program Information Session](#)

OBDC WORKSHOP

How to market your certification

You are certified! (Congratulations)
Now What?

Learn next steps to maximize your MBE, FBE,
DBE, EDGE or LEDE certification

- February 24 @ 11 am
- March 23 @ 2 pm

OHBDC.eventbrite.com



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Hosting a business event?

Did you know you can
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OhioDiversityNetwork.com?

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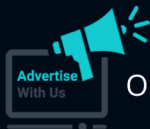
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