



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

WASHINGTON DC 20330-1060

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY

19 NOV 2014

MEMORANDUM FOR ALMAJCOM/FOA/DRU

FROM: SAF/AQC
1060 Air Force Pentagon
Washington, DC 20330-1060

SUBJECT: Increasing AbilityOne Contracting Opportunities

October was National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM) and I want to personally endorse the AbilityOne Program as a year round program. AbilityOne provides employment opportunities for more than 45,000 people who are blind or severely disabled through federal Government contracts for supplies and services. This workforce also includes more than 3,000 of our wounded warriors.

In a recent memo (attached), the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics) (USD(AT&L)) highlighted the importance of the AbilityOne Program and lauded the FY14 award winners under this program. In the spirit of this memo, I wanted to strongly encourage contracting officers to engage with their customers in proactively seeking contracting opportunities suitable for the AbilityOne Program in order to foster greater opportunities and career paths for people with disabilities. I also wanted to congratulate our FY14 Air Force AbilityOne award winners identified in the attached USD(AT&L) memo.

The prospects for awarding new AbilityOne contracts to meet our supply and operational services requirements are stronger than ever. A recent example last month was an addition to the Procurement List for janitorial, grounds and refuse collection services at Arnold AFB, TN. These services are currently part of a base operation support service (BOSS) contract that is being performed by a large business. Breaking this effort out assures that this work will be performed by a staff that is comprised of at least 75% disabled employees. I believe there are more opportunities out there.

Through our partnership with AbilityOne, we can continue to employ disabled workers who provide vital supplies and services that help us meet the mission of the Air Force, a win-win for all involved. My liaison to the program is Mr. William Sproule who may be reached at 571-256-2419 or william.g.sproule.civ@mail.mil.

*Thanks for your
continued support
of the Program!*

CASEY D. BLAKE, Brig Gen, USAF
Deputy Assistant Secretary (Contracting)
Assistant Secretary (Acquisition)

Attachment:
31 Oct 14 OUSD AT&L Memo