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State of Missouri
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Celeste Metcalf
Director

January 9, 2014

The State of Missouri's Office of Administration ("OA") is conducting a Disparity Study for its Minority- and Women-Owned Business Enterprise ("M/WBE") Program to ensure that this critical initiative remains legally defensible and administratively successful. As part of the Disparity Study process, we invite you to join us for a public meeting. The meeting will last approximately two hours.

OA is working with Colette Holt & Associates, a nationally-recognized firm that specializes in disparity studies and minority and women business programs, to conduct the Study in conjunction with local subconsultants from St. Louis and Kansas City.

The purpose of the meeting is to gather input from businesses, community organizations and individuals regarding their experiences in doing business or attempting to do business with the State and with its M/WBE program, as well as with any barriers to the full and fair inclusion of all firms in State contracting opportunities. The meeting will also include a presentation on the Study's elements and will provide an open forum for comments and questions regarding the Study process.

Your insight and experiences with the State and its contracting process will help us to identify potential program improvements and support Missouri's strategic objectives to increase collaboration and promote economic growth for all elements of our State. We value your input, and we hope you will participate.

The meeting will be held at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, January 29, 2014, in Room 510 of the Harry S. Truman Building in Jefferson City. Remote access will be available in St. Louis at the Wainwright State Office Building, 111 North 7th Street, Room 923, and in Kansas City at the Fletcher Daniel State Office Building, 615 East 13th Street, Room 503. Seating is on a first come, first serve basis.

In the coming months, business owner and stakeholder interviews will be held in Cape Girardeau, Jefferson City, Kansas City, St. Louis, and Springfield.

If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Holt by email at missouri_study@mwbelaw.com or by phone at 855-692-6529 (855-MWB-ELAW).

We look forward to your participation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Celeste Metcalf".

Celeste Metcalf
Director, Office of Equal Opportunity