

DIGITAL MAGAZINE

ELITE 5



Elite Northern California Chapter

CPUC Small and Diverse Business Expo



CPUC 21st Annual GO 156 Supplier Diversity En Banc September 27, 2023

Handshakes, Not Handouts



Digital Magazine

Nor-Cal Chapter



Chicago ILL Chapter

Elite National SDVOB



Southern-Cal Chapter



Central Corridor Ar,Ky,Tn Chapter



South Carolina Chapter

V VETHELPVET
MILITARY VETS HELPING EACH OTHER



ELITE FIVE

Micro-Mentor Protege DVBE Program



COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS

A GRATEFUL NATION HONORS THE COURAGE AND SACRIFICE OF ALL VETERANS WHO SERVED TO ENSURE OUR LIBERTY

 **VETERANS**
MEMORIAL & SUPPORT
FOUNDATION

VENEFIT AUCTION & FUNDRAISER

LLa Rinconada Country Club

October 6, 2023

5:30 - 9:00 PM

Raffe, Live Auction

Culinary Excellence By Nick Difu

Speaker

American Hero

Chief Warrant Officer 3 (Ret)

A.J Pasciuti



INAUGURAL
Vet Gala
BENEFIT AUCTION & FUNDRAISER
La Rinconada Country Club
October 6, 2023
5:30 - 9:00 PM
Raffle, Live Auction
Culinary Excellence
By Nick Difu
Speaker
American Hero
Chief Warrant Officer 3 (Ret.)
A.J. Pasciuti
The Veterans Memorial & Support Foundation



CALIFORNIA SENATE BILLS

Why Nor-Cal Elite?

What Non-Profit Can Lobby with Congress?

Only 501©19!

Only The Disable Veteran.

Only the Elite Service Disabled Veteran
Owned Business (SDVOB) Network's

CALIFORNIA SENATE BILLS

SB 837 — Driver's Licenses: Veteran Designation

Veterans would no longer be required to pay a fee when requesting the word "veteran" be printed on their driver's license or state-issued ID.

Status: SB 837 has been passed in the Senate and referred to the Assembly Transportation Committee.

SB 1073 — Property Tax: Exemptions: Disabled Veterans

Disabled, partially disabled veterans, or their spouses would receive a partial tax exemption on their principal place of residence.

Update — April 8: [California Senate Committee Advances Two Bills Expanding Property Tax Exemptions for Disabled Veterans](#)

Status: SB 984 has been passed in the Senate and referred to the Assembly Judiciary Committee.

SB 1357 — Property Taxation: Exemption: Disabled Veteran Homeowners

If passed, the bill would mandate the Assembly and Senate's intent to write legislation exempting disabled veteran homeowners from property taxes.

Status: SB 1357 has been passed in the Senate and referred to several Assembly committees.

SB 1478 — Disabled Veteran Business Enterprises

Disabled veteran business enterprises, or DVBEs, would be afforded an alternative bidding method for contracts issued under the Small Business Procurement and Contract Act.

Status: SB 1478 has been passed in the Senate and referred to several Assembly committees.



About 501©19 Veterans Organizations:

occupy a special place in the world of exempt organizations. Not only are veterans' organizations exempt from tax, contributions to them may be deductible, and they are permitted to set aside amounts that are used to pay insurance benefits to members. This combination of tax-exempt status, deductibility of contributions and the ability to pay benefits to members is relatively rare within a category of exempt organizations and is indicative of Congressional intent to provide the widest possible range of beneficial tax treatment for veterans' organizations. When coupled with the ability to engage in both lobbying activities and even political activities, it is fair to say that in many ways veterans' organizations are unequalled in the tax-exempt sector



ELITE FIVE

Micro-Mentor Protege DVBE
Program

5 STEP ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

1. AGREEMENT

MENTEE / MENTOR AGREE TO PARTNERSHIP.

2. MATCHMAKING

ELITE CONSULTING TEAM WORKS WITH
CORPORATE MENTORS TO IDENTIFY
OPPORTUNITIES OVER A TWO YEAR PERIOD.

3. IDENTIFY

SMALL BUSINESS MATCHMAKING TO
IDENTIFY AT LEAST 5 OPPORTUNITIES FOR
EACH SMALL BUSINESS PARTICIPANT.

4. ENGAGE

- POTENTIAL CONTRACTS
- MATCH FIRMS
- CONTRACTING VEHICLES

5. EVALUATE

- CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT TO
IDENTIFY
- STRENGTHS
WEAKNESS
- CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT



ELITE CONSULTING TEAM WORKS INDIVIDUALLY WITH EACH SMALL
DISABLED VETERAN BUSINESS FIRM TO DEVELOP A CONTINUOUS
IMPROVEMENT WORK PLAN THAT ADDRESSES:

ELITE 5 BUSINESS PLAN

- 30 DAY STRATEGY - ENGAGE ACTIONS TO REACH MILESTONE AND DELIVERABLES METRICS.
- 60 DAY STRATEGY TO ANALYZE SUCCESS
- 90 DAY STRATEGY TO MAKE NECESSARY CHANGES
- SIX MONTH STRATEGY - EVALUATE AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT
- ONE YEAR STRATEGY - OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPAND
- TWO YEAR GRADUATION - ENSURE METHODS UTILIZED ARE SCALABLE AND EXPANDABLE TO CONTINUE AFTER GRADUATION

We are only 501(c) 19 in CA



**OVER 20 YEARS
REPRESENTING
SERVICE DISABLED
VETERAN OWNED
BUSINESSES**

Over 20 years ago, a group of veterans who had served their country found themselves struggling as individual business owners. Recognizing the challenges faced by disabled veterans—and grasping the value of teamwork that sets the veteran community apart—they established a network of businesses to serve as advocates and resources for service disabled veteran owned businesses: The Elite Service Disabled Veteran Owned Business Network.

A 501(c)19 non-profit veterans organization, the Elite SDVOB Network is an all-volunteer association comprised of business owners. Our mission is centered on advocacy, education and business opportunities advancement for service disabled veteran owned businesses and their allies.

A national organization, the Elite SDVOB Network hosts events across the country, including a national convention that has been held annually since 2003. We collaborate with business leaders, policy makers, and the general public to provide the means for Service Disabled Veteran Owned Businesses to overcome challenges and prosper in an evolving business environment.

**WHAT WE
DO**

What Nor Cal Elite is Doing!

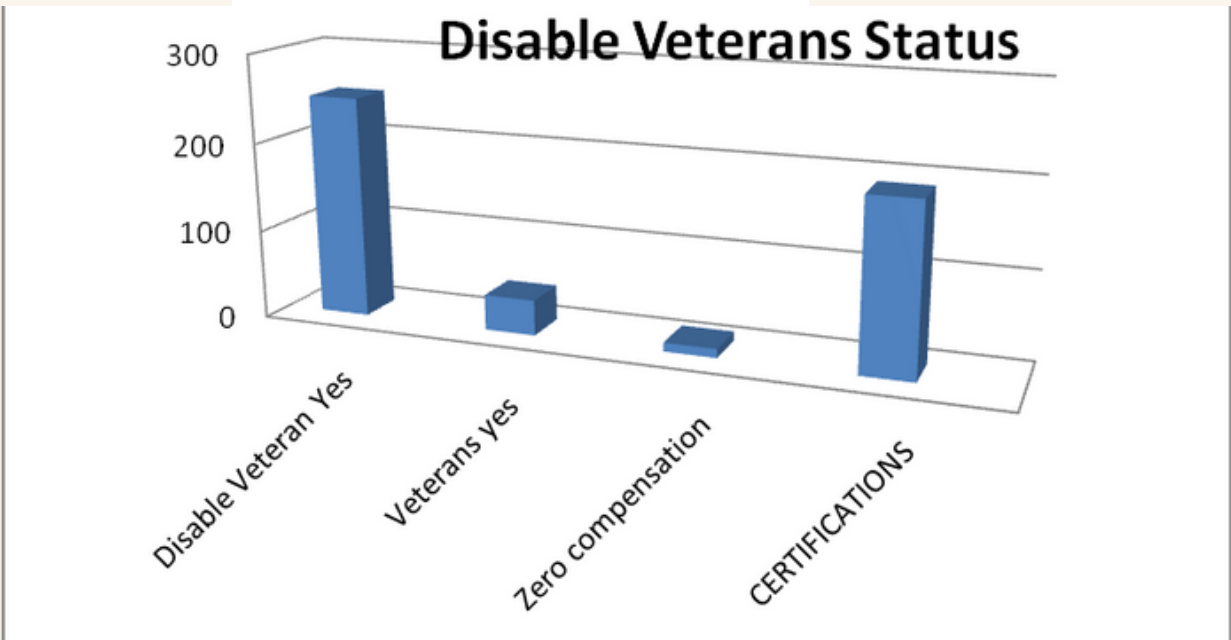
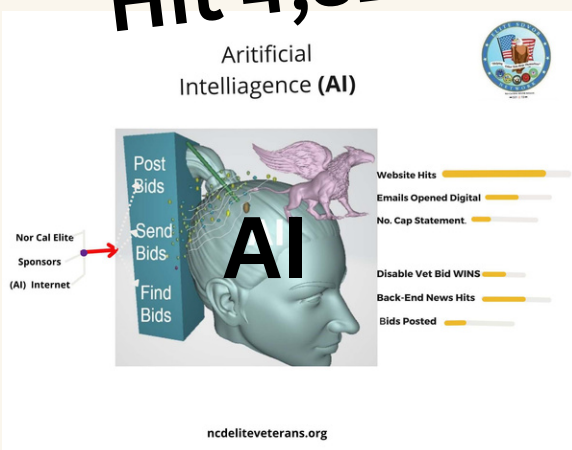


Bids Posted 527

**51,342
visitors
Total website**

Digital Magazine

Hit 4,321



Financial

Construction

Distribution

Energy

Health Care

Manufacturing

Industrial

Industrial

Real Estate

103 Cap-sta recieved

Nor Cal Elite Disabled Veterans

Networking

We Need Your Help!



The next step!

Lorem Ipsum is simply dummy text of the printing and typesetting industry. Lorem Ipsum has been the industry's standard dummy text ever since the 1500s, when unknown printer took a galley of type and scrambled it to make a type specimen

Referral Now





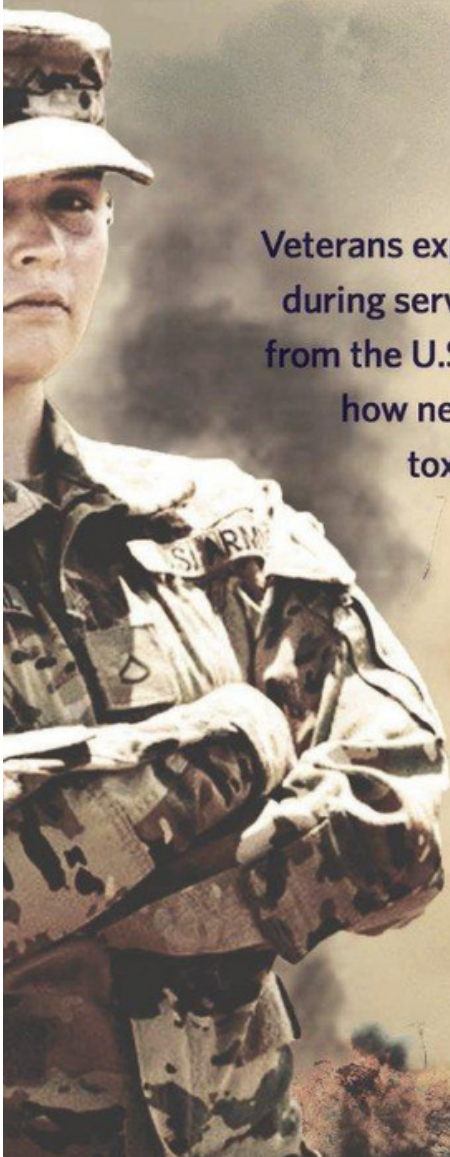
Choose VA

New VA benefits could make a big difference for you and your family.

Veterans exposed to toxic fumes, Agent Orange, or burn pits during service may be eligible for benefits and health care from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Find out how new presumptive conditions and locations for toxic exposure may impact your eligibility.

Learn more and apply today.

Visit va.gov/pact



Top U.S. Cities for Veteran Entrepreneurs

The PenFed Foundation, a national 501(c)(3) founded by PenFed Credit Union, announced the findings of its annual study on the top U.S. cities for veteran entrepreneurs. The PenFed Foundation Veteran Entrepreneur Investment Program (VEIP), which supports veteran-owned startups and businesses through access to networks and capital, conducted the study in partnership with Edelman Intelligence.

According to the 2022 study, for the second year in a row, Washington, D.C., New York, and Seattle proved to be the top cities for veterans to start their businesses. The top emerging cities, or those that made the most progress since the PenFed Foundation's 2021 study, include Sioux Falls, Tampa, Cincinnati and Rapid City. The study analyzed four main categories for each city: livability, economic growth, support for veterans and the ability to start a business. As the nation navigates the economic impacts of inflation, the study focused primarily on how inflation impacts cities differently.

"The military community's resilience and entrepreneurial spirit are invaluable for our nation's business sector. That's why PenFed is proud to commission this study for the third year in a row, highlighting the cities that are making strides to support veteran businesses," said PenFed Credit Union President/CEO and PenFed Foundation CEO James Schenck. "We want to help cities across the United States understand which environments are best suited for military veterans to start and grow businesses and inspire city leaders to take the actions needed to support veteran entrepreneurs."

"Additionally, veteran-owned businesses often hire more veterans, so supporting veteran entrepreneurs provides more jobs and opportunities for the greater military community, who have served as PenFed's base of membership since 1935," added Schenck.

The top 20 cities for veteran entrepreneurs include:

- 1) Washington-Arlington-Alexandria, DC-VA-MD-WV Metro Area
- 2) New York-Newark-Jersey City, NY-NJ-PA Metro Area
- 3) Seattle-Tacoma-Bellevue, WA Metro Area
- 4) Dallas-Fort Worth-Arlington, TX Metro Area
- 5) Houston-The Woodlands-Sugar Land, TX Metro Area
- 6) Austin-Round Rock, TX Metro Area
- 7) Sioux Falls, SD Metro Area
- 8) Cleveland-Elyria, OH Metro Area
- 9) Rapid City, SD Metro Area
- 10) Boston-Cambridge-Newton, MA-NH Metro Area
- 11) Raleigh, NC Metro Area
- 12) Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL Metro Area
- 13) Madison, WI Metro Area
- 14) Kansas City, MO-KS Metro Area
- 15) Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington, MN-WI Metro Area
- 16) Chicago-Naperville-Elgin, IL-IN-WI Metro Area
- 17) Columbus, OH Metro Area
- 18) Cincinnati, OH-KY-IN Metro Area
- 19) Jacksonville, FL Metro Area
- 20) McAllen-Edinburg-Mission, TX Metro Area



The top four emerging cities for veteran entrepreneurs are:

- 1) Sioux Falls, SD Metro Area
- 2) Tampa-St. Petersburg-Clearwater, FL Metro Area
- 3) Cincinnati, OH-KY-IN Metro Area
- 4) Rapid City, SD Metro Area

The study used a custom scoring algorithm based on a robust quantitative data set from existing PenFed partners and openly available data sources. The data painted the complete picture of veteran support, city characteristics and entrepreneurship ability across the U.S.

"The military community's resilience and entrepreneurial spirit are invaluable for our nation's business sector."

-James Schenck, PenFed Credit Union president/CEO and PenFed Foundation CEO

VEIP has a three-pronged approach to create a robust network for veteran-owned startups and businesses:

1. Education through virtual and in-person workshops;
2. Preparation through the master's program, a yearlong fundraising accelerator, and Ignition Challenges; and
3. Investment of seed capital, providing access to other capital investment programs and connecting entrepreneurs to funders.

Since 2018, the PenFed Foundation VEIP has accelerated over 350 veteran-owned startups and helped educate over 4,700 veteran and military spouse entrepreneurs.

To learn more about the PenFed Foundation's work with veteran entrepreneurs or to donate to the Foundation, please visit penfed-foundation.org.

Source: PenFed Foundation

‘Committed to Ending Veteran Homelessness’

With more than 37,000 veterans estimated to be experiencing homelessness, The Home Depot Foundation has granted an additional \$8 million to nonprofit partners as part of its overall commitment of half of a billion dollars to veteran causes. Individuals who have served in the U.S. military continue to be overrepresented in the homeless adult population, based on estimates from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The Home Depot Foundation has been actively working to combat the crisis for the past decade. These latest grants will fund construction and renovation of more than 800 housing units, short-term residential programs, supportive services and other programs aimed at bringing an end to veteran homelessness.

“Over the past decade, The Home Depot Foundation has invested over \$110 million to ensure our nation’s heroes are able to successfully transition out of homelessness through access to housing and supportive services,” said Shannon Gerber, executive director of The Home Depot Foundation. “While the factors leading to the issue are complex, the mission is clear: together, we must end veteran homelessness. We’re proud to partner with organizations committed to bringing this vision to life.”

The Foundation has partnered with leading national nonprofit organizations to ensure our nation’s heroes have access to affordable housing, including the National Coalition of Homeless Veterans, Volunteers of America, Community Solutions and Housing Assistance



Council. New grants to these organizations will:

- Help thousands of veterans experiencing homelessness in major cities move into housing.
- Provide for new construction and rehabilitation of permanent supportive housing units and transitional housing units.
- Make more affordable housing resources and tools available.
- Help low-income veterans at risk of homelessness in rural communities access affordable housing.

across the nation,” said Tanisha Smith, vice president of corporate partnerships for Volunteers of America. “Through emergency and transitional housing, mental health, case management, employment and mentorship services, we’re committed to helping veterans overcome the barriers that stand between them and a stable, secure life.”

Through the Foundation’s Veteran Housing Grant program, more than \$3.7 million will be distributed to nonprofits making a direct impact in their

experiencing homelessness. In Orlando, The Home Depot Foundation’s grant will support Step Up on Second Street, Inc. with the construction of 101 units of permanent supportive housing, with 30 units reserved for veterans and their families. Additional funds have been granted to nonprofits working in Atlanta, San Francisco, Tampa, Florida, Washington, D.C., and Portland, Oregon, among other cities.

The Home Depot Foundation works to improve the homes and lives of U.S. veterans, support communities impacted by natural disasters and train skilled tradespeople to fill the labor gap. Since 2011, the Foundation has invested more than \$400 million in veteran causes and improved more than 50,000 veteran homes and facilities. The Foundation has pledged to invest half of a billion dollars in veteran causes by 2025 and \$50 million in training the next generation of skilled tradespeople through the Path to Pro program. To learn more about The Home Depot Foundation, visit HomeDepotFoundation.org.

Source: The Home Depot Foundation

“Through emergency and transitional housing, mental health, case management, employment and mentorship services, we’re committed to helping veterans overcome the barriers that stand between them and a stable, secure life.”

-Tanisha Smith, Volunteers of America

“Volunteers of America is committed to ending veteran homelessness and preventing others from becoming homeless, and, through this grant of \$1.9 million from The Home Depot Foundation, we’ll be able to provide services and housing to more veterans

local communities. The Foundation’s \$1 million investment in the greater Los Angeles area will help U.S.VETS and Century Villages at Cabrillo, Inc. construct more than 200 new units of housing for low-income veterans and those



\$13 Billion of Opportunity Awaits California State Certified Small Businesses!

Contracting with the state is good for business

- ✓ State can contract directly with a Certified Small Business, Micro or Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise.
- ✓ The SB Option is just one way the state is working to increase the diversity of businesses used in state contracting of goods and services.
- ✓ Get certified and learn more about opportunities to contract with the state!



Get registered, get certified, and sell
your products and services to the
state of California!



caleprocure.ca.gov



Resources

Brochures, videos, and other
resources to help SBs/DVBEs.



dgs.ca.gov/PB-SB-DVBE-Resources

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES



Office of Small Business
and Disabled Veteran
Business Enterprise Services

From Navy to Successful Veteran Business Owner

By Daniel Nichols



Being in the military uniquely prepares you for business ownership, and the structured system of franchising provides veterans with a leg-up. I started to realize this when I saw other veterans opening their own businesses, and of course, opening my own reinforced it even more. Looking back over a decade of owning a FASTSIGNS center puts into perspective how many benefits there are to being a business owner as a veteran.

I served in the Navy for eight years, with two years of active duty and six years in the reserves. I worked in the deck department aboard ship for most of that time and spent the last six months of my service in the post office. After retiring from the Navy, I took advantage of the GI Bill to take some classes in IT and worked in various jobs in that field. At one of those IT jobs, I met the person who would eventually buy the FASTSIGNS in Conroe, Texas, and they were the first to get me interested in business ownership.

One of the most significant benefits of transitioning from the Navy to business ownership is that there are certain qualities that the military helps instill in people. As a veteran business owner, I've seen how those traits gave me a head start and continue to benefit me as a franchisee.

highly structured, a similar model to the military. Between discipline, problem-solving expertise, analytical thinking and the ability to thrive within a structured system, veterans possess valuable skills that are beneficial as owners in a franchise network.

Working long hours — up

“Discipline is perhaps the main asset that veterans bring to business ownership, particularly when it comes to owning a franchise.”

—Daniel Nichols

Discipline is perhaps the main asset that veterans bring to business ownership, particularly when it comes to owning a franchise. I had to be able to manage the business on my own. When problems arise, you must be able to problem-solve and look for solutions, even under pressure. Franchises are

to 10- to 12-hour shifts — was standard in the military. Owning a business requires a lot of hard work and sometimes extensive hours, and having military experience helped me possess the grit needed to own a business. I was no stranger to challenging work after the Navy, which has undoubtedly been an enormous asset

working in an industry that sometimes requires strenuous work.

Not only do these qualities make the transition to ownership easier for veterans, but they also make veterans highly valued in the world of franchising. FASTSIGNS and the VetFran program offer benefits to entice vets to become owners, including reduced royalties, a discounted initial franchise fee of 50%, tax benefits and more. These benefits allowed me to kickstart my business ownership journey, and they are something I'd encourage other veterans thinking of owning a business to take advantage of.

Joining FASTSIGNS allowed me to become a part of a team where I instantly felt valued for my experiences. With over 100 veteran owners, 14% of FASTSIGNS franchises are veteran-owned. You have a built-in support network of others who have gone through similar experiences and can help guide you through the process of being a franchisee. The military is like being part of a family, and joining FASTSIGNS felt no different.

Being in the military taught me skills and qualities invaluable for business ownership, but joining a franchise network that understands my experiences and supports me through my journey is the key element that has helped me thrive in the business world.

Daniel Nichols became a business owner in 2009 in Woodlands, Texas, when he opened a FASTSIGNS location, where his team provides exceptional sign and graphics solutions.

It's Time to Serve Our Veterans

By Kimberly Gladden-Eversley

It takes unprecedented bravery to serve in the U.S. military. It also takes courage to walk away from the commitment to sacrifice, service and the only life you may have ever known. Transitioning into the civilian world means removing the camouflage uniform to enter the uncertainties of the civilian workforce. Fighting for freedom, with the opportunity to finally experience freedom, makes this transition sound like a moment of a lifetime. Instead, for many of our active-duty members, this transition is quite daunting.

As countless programs surface in support of veteran transitions, vets continue to face exasperating fear. According to military-



48%
of veterans found their transition from the military community into the civilian workforce more difficult than expected,

52%
found their transition confusing and

76%
found it extremely stressful.

(military-transition.org)

transition.org, 48% of veterans found their transition from the military community into the civilian workforce more difficult than expected, 52% found their transition confusing and 76% found it extremely stressful. Thankfully, veterans who have successfully transitioned have not ended their commitment to serve their country.

James L. Banks, a veteran who serves as SHRM's (Society for Human Resource Management) General Counsel, key lawyer and legal advisor, continues to offer his unwavering dedication to serve without a uniform. During SHRM's Diversity and Inclusion conference, Banks shared his expertise on transitioning vets and accessibility. "When you want to get out of the military, you're back in your home, but you feel like you're

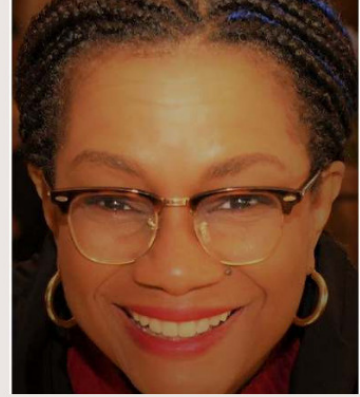
not...because so many people around you don't quite get it," said Banks. "What you've been through, what your perspective is and what you can bring to the table in this new civilian environment," he continued.

Military members are not walking away empty-handed; they walk away with valuable skills that can enhance the civilian workplace. "When I was on active duty, it was only afterward that I began to understand the analytical abilities and skills that I picked up," said Banks. "I can tell you from having both been in the military and lots of different jobs in the civilian sector, how much we would pay to have an employee go through leadership, training, management and develop those skills," he continued. "Like almost everybody coming out of the military already has...

you've been practicing every single day...we would spend good money, in the civilian world to put somebody through that."

SHRM has created a military job translator that will interpret veteran service skills for job opportunities nationwide. Active-duty members can translate the skills they've gathered during their mission-based commitment to the armed forces easier now than ever before. This tool also provides a candidate database for employers who are looking for qualified veterans actively searching for jobs. "We've got lots of excellent toolboxes that will help employers in that regard; the SHRM foundation is sort of leading the effort in that," said Banks. "One of which is as simple as...a translator for military specialties... it will also

Professional Public Administration Support, Workforce Development, and Worker Protection



Lin Rebertson THE LABOR Owner & Executive Director

TLCM is certified by: Bart as a MSBE Caltrans as a DBE, SMBE, & SWBE Dept of General Services as a SBE HUD as a Section 3 Business Port of Oakland Certified SBE



Training

LABOR

COMPLIANCE

ARE YOU COMPLIANT?

Labor Compliance Agreement



Previous and Current Clients Included....

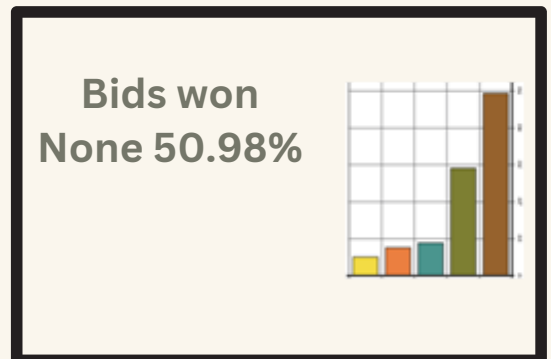
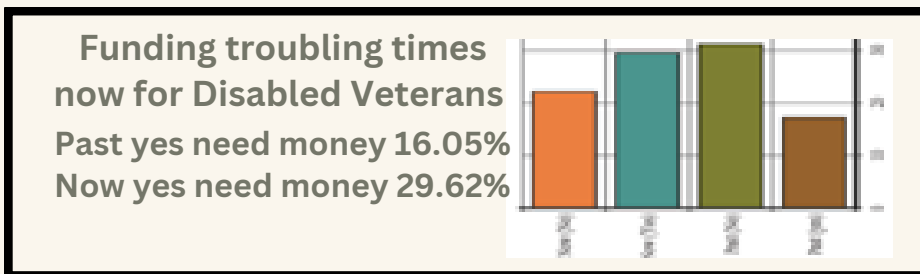


ELITE Nor-Cal SDVOB POLL OF SERVICE DISABLED VETERANS

Introduction

This report documents the corporate profiles of suppliers qualified to support a wide array of local corporations, state, and federal agencies in California. This diverse group of Service Disabled Veteran Owned Businesses (SDVOB) represents a solid cross-section of highly-skilled suppliers experienced in multiple market sectors, including IT and web-based services, construction trades, and administrative support.

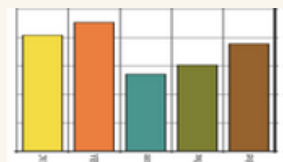
As compiled by the Nor Cal Elite SDVOB Network, this Report summarizes key supplier demographics, identifies market sectors, outlines corporate legal structures, reveals mission-critical findings, and offers recommendations.



Where they go class training
 SBA 22.38%
 Other sources 19.52%
 PTAC 21.9%



Rate Org. 1 - 10
 Vboc 2.73 ---Score 2.47
 SBA and All others are below



3

Supplier diversity member? 74.49% No

NATIONAL VETERAN BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL



NVBDC AT A GLANCE

Following up on 2022 successes and recognition, NVBDC is heading into its 10th year as the leader in helping Certified Service Disabled and Veteran Owned Businesses (SD/VOB) connect with Supplier Diversity Professionals. Our growth is across the board with 150 + corporate members, \$2 billion + in annual spend with NVBDC Certified SD/VOBs and the introduction of our 3rd generation database with the launching of the Veteran Owned Certification System (VOCS).



PROGRAMS

The programs and events offered by NVBDC in the past year also contributed to strengthening the corporate opportunities. NVBDC offers the JROTC program, Services Program, and the MVO Task Force to Veterans, their families, and Corporate Members.



NVBDC GOES LIVE

The NVBDC National Veterans Business Matchmaking Conference held in Grand Rapids, MI, in November was indeed the best event for business opportunities. Over 200 attendees, the perfect mix of SD/VOBs, NVBDC Corporate Members and Resource Partners benefited from networking, learning, and 1:1 matchmaking including; Amazon, CVS Health, Toyota, CBRE, Stellantis, Meta, Comerica, and 20+ more!

YEAR-END GROWTH

2022 proved to be a successful year with over 700 processed applications, including two SD/VOBs with annual revenues of over \$2 billion each. These growth numbers solidify the acceptance of the NVBDC by the Billion Dollar Roundtable (BDR), whose mission is to drive supplier diversity excellence. NVBDC is the original veteran certification organization accepted by the members of the BDR, and demanded by corporate America to capture the spend with SD/VOBs.

SCAN ME



New VA benefits could make a big difference for you and your family.

Apply by August 9, 2023, to receive
benefits paid back to August 10, 2022.

Visit va.gov/pact



Veterans exposed to toxic fumes, Agent Orange, or burn pits during service may be eligible for benefits and health care from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Find out how new presumptive conditions and locations for toxic exposure may impact your eligibility.





QUILTS FOR KIDS

Linda Arye
Founder



MISSION STATEMENT:

QUILTS FOR KIDS IS A NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION DEDICATED TO TRANSFORMING FABRICS INTO PATCHWORK QUILTS TO COMFORT CHILDREN FACING SERIOUS ILLNESS, TRAUMA, ABUSE AND NATURAL DISASTERS.

<https://www.quiltsforkids.org/>

A Letter from the Founder

It seems like only yesterday that I discovered a wealth of discontinued fabric samples from a design center in Philadelphia, being sent to a landfill. It bothered me that they were tossing away usable fabric. so I decided to start this charity, Quilts for Kids.



United Way
of Bucks County

WE ARE PROUD OF THE VOLUNTEER QUILTERS THAT MAKE THIS ALL POSSIBLE AND THE MANY INDIVIDUALS WHO HELP SUSTAIN US. A HUGE THANK YOU TO MANUFACTURERS THAT SUPPORT US BY CREATING AND SELLING PRODUCTS THAT HELP FUND US. MOST FUNDING COMES FROM INDIVIDUALS, LIKE YOU, WHO JUST WANT TO HELP.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
INFO@QUILTSFORKIDS.ORG
<https://www.quiltsforkids.org>
215-295-5484

[Video about Quilts for Kids](#)

QUILTS FOR KIDS, INC. IS A 501-C-3 NON-PROFIT CHARITY THAT CREATES AND DONATES HANDMADE PATCHWORK QUILTS TO CHIDREN IN NEED, GLOBALLY.

Congress Allocates Billions to Support the Needs of Veterans

Every year, Congress puts together its fiscal spending bill where it allocates funds to different organizations and initiatives designed to help the various needs of American life. While it's not uncommon for our military and veterans' initiatives to receive a healthy portion of these funds, the 2023 bill calls for some new programs specifically designed for veterans.

Here is how America will be helping veterans this year:

Honoring our PACT Act

The Honoring our PACT Act will include \$5 billion for the Cost of War Toxic Exposures Fund, which provides additional funding to implement landmark legislation that expands eligibility for health care services and benefits to veterans with conditions related to toxic exposure during their service. Additionally, it fully funds the budget request for accounts critical to implementation of the PACT Act, as outlined below.

VA Medical Care

The bill supports \$118.7 billion for VA medical care in fiscal year 2023, a \$21.7 billion or 22.4% increase over fiscal year 2022, to provide essential health services—including deferred care due to the COVID-19 pandemic—to over seven million veterans. The bill funds critical priorities including:

- **Rural Health**—\$337 million, which is \$10 million more than fiscal year 2022, to support improved access to

care, including expanded access to transportation and telehealth.

- **Caregivers**—\$1.9 billion, or \$493 million more than fiscal year 2022, to help VA implement this critical program consistent with congressional intent.
- **Women's Health**—\$840.5 million, equal to fiscal year 2022, for gender-specific health care services, as well as initiatives and improvements to health care facilities.
- **Veteran Homelessness Prevention**—\$2.7 billion, or \$541 million more than fiscal year 2022, to support critical services and housing assistance for veterans and their families experiencing housing insecurity.
- **Mental Health**—\$13.9 billion, or \$744 billion more than fiscal year 2022. This includes \$498 million for suicide prevention outreach.

Medical and Prosthetics Research

In addition to specific health care needs, the 2023 funding bill includes an entire section devoted to medical and prosthetics research. The bill builds on the Committee's efforts to provide historic levels of

investment into research, providing \$916 million for this fiscal year, \$34 million more than fiscal year 2022. This supports ongoing and new research in areas such as toxic exposures, traumatic brain injury and precision oncology.

Benefits Administration

The bill provides \$3.9 billion, a \$409 million or 11.9% increase over fiscal year 2022, to administer benefits, including disability compensation benefits to over six million veterans and their survivors. These funds will assist VA's effort to support increases in the number and scope of claims, while decreasing the claims backlog.

Related Agencies

In addition to helping the Department of Veterans' Affairs, the bill is also providing extra funding to some of our country's top institutions. The allocations are as follows:

- **Arlington Cemetery:** This bill reflects Congress' unwavering support for Arlington National Cemetery and an investment in its future as an active cemetery. In addition to providing \$93.4 million for

operations costs, which is \$6.4 million more than fiscal year 2022, it also includes \$62.5 million for the southern expansion construction project and Memorial Avenue improvements.

- **American Battle Monuments Commission:** Recognizing the important mission of the American Battle Monuments Commission, the bill provides \$87.5 million for operations and to address unfunded needs.
- **Armed Forces Retirement Home:** The bill provides a total of \$152.4 million, which in addition to funding operations and maintenance activities, includes \$77 million for the design and construction phases of a major renovation of a residential facility on the Armed Forces Retirement Home-Washington campus.
- **Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims:** This bill provides \$46.9 million for the Court of Appeals for Veterans Claims, which is \$5.2 million above fiscal year 2022. This increase supports the planned temporary expansion, which will improve the court's capacity to adjudicate appeals in a timely manner. All of the funding listed above will come in addition to other projects supporting the upkeep, construction and reconstruction of military installations throughout the United States and around the world.

Source: appropriations.senate.gov



Starbucks Coffee Event

Nor Cal Elite Disabled Veterans



T-Mobile™

www.T-Mobile.com/Supplier Diversity



We provide Starbucks coffee for free to disabled vets.

We send coffee mugs for free to disabled vets.



Why T-Mobile?



Changing wireless for good.

We're customer obsessed. It's what inspires us and drives us to look for new ways to keep you seamlessly connected to what you love.

Customer-crazed, employee committed.

The moves we've made keep topping the charts in customer and employee satisfaction.

Dedicated to the community.

From disaster relief efforts to renewable energy initiatives, we're involved in our communities.

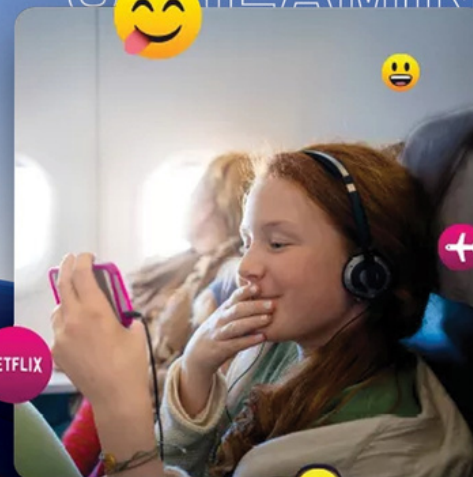
Going beyond wireless.

While our network grows, we're leading innovations that reimagine how you live.

Stream above the clouds.

Watch your favorite shows with full-flight Wi-Fi and streaming options, and get unlimited in-flight texting, with our Magenta plans.

STREAMIN
STREAMIN

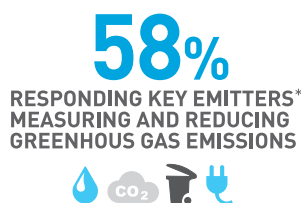
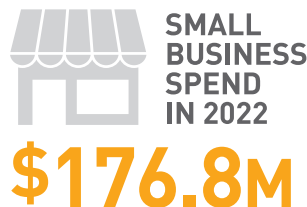
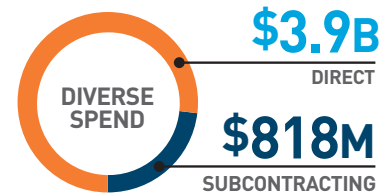
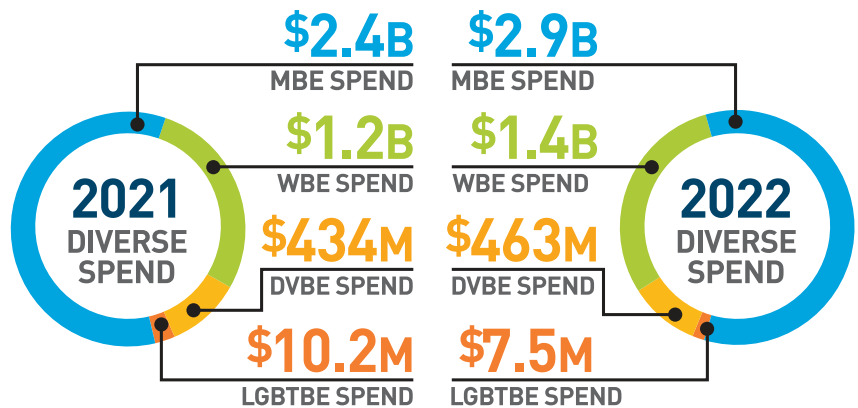


STREAMIN
STREAMIN
STREAMIN



2022 Supply Chain Responsibility Metrics

SUPPORTING PEOPLE, PLANET AND CALIFORNIA'S PROSPERITY



*As benchmarked against the Sustainable Supply Chain Alliance's maturity model.

*Suppliers in construction, vegetation management, manufacturing, and top-tier

Working Together. Achieving Results.

on tap



CALIFORNIA WATER
ASSOCIATION

Working Together.
Achieving Results.

www.calwaterassn.com

California
Water
Association

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

As this year's aggressive wildfire season in California continues at an unprecedented pace, California Water Association (CWA) member companies are mobilizing to support residents and emergency responders to ensure adequate water supplies for firefighters and safe water for evacuated residents returning to their homes. At the same time, the regulated water utilities are investing in infrastructure, including state-of-the-art water treatment plants and leak detection systems, to deliver safe, reliable, and high-quality water to customers.

CWA staff and its members also are monitoring and weighing in on proposed regulations, while educating the public and policymakers on infrastructure investments made by the regulated water utilities and their focus on working with minority business enterprises throughout California.

These efforts and more are highlighted in this edition of On Tap:

- CWA Submits Comments in Two CPUC Rulemaking Proceedings
- CWA Removes Opposition to SB 998
- SJW's System Detects Leaks from Space
- Cal Water Mobilizes for Residents at California's Largest Wildfire
- State-of-the-Art Water Treatment Plant Serves SJW's Customers
- Cal Am Issues Inaugural Supplier Diversity Economic Impact Report
- Water Affordability Takes Center Stage at Transformative Issues Symposium
- New Blog Touts CWA Member Companies' Water Conservation Performance
- Save the Date for CWA's 2018 Annual Conference in Monterey

CWA's website at www.calwaterassn.com.

Sincerely,

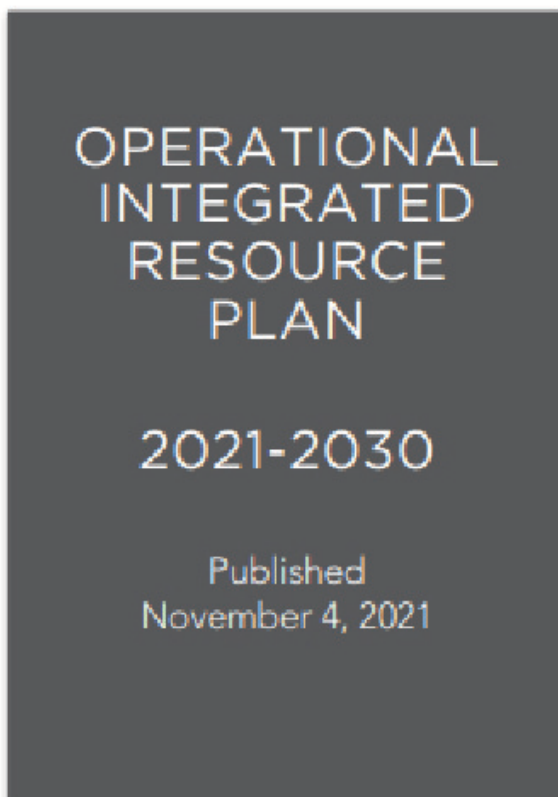
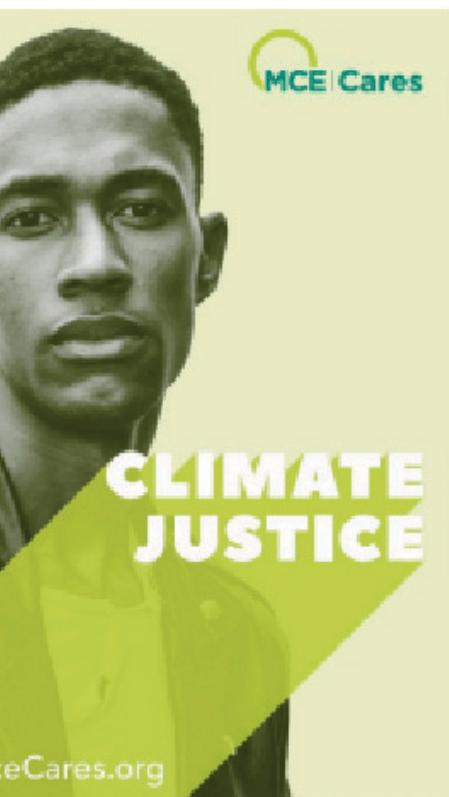
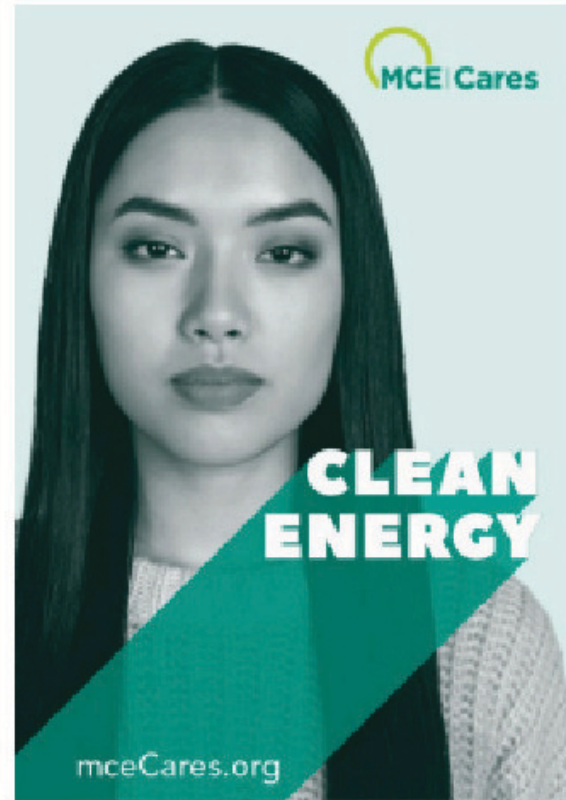
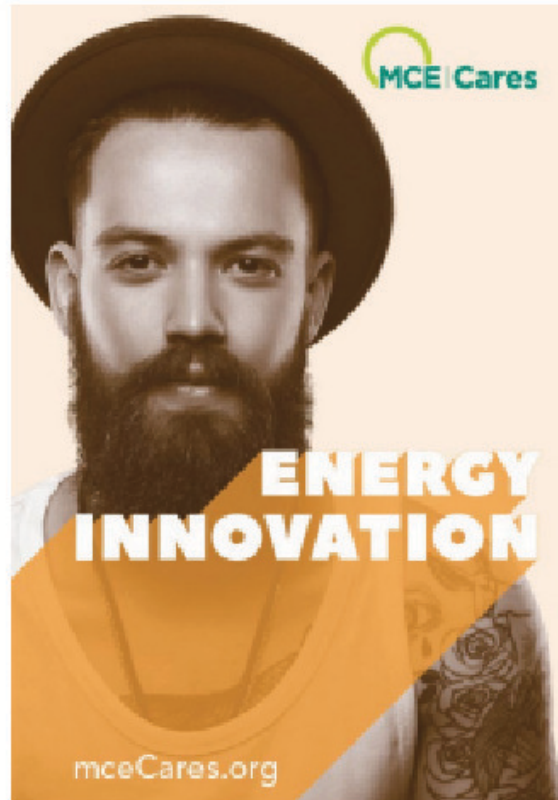
Lawrence M. Morales
East Pasadena Water Company
2017-2018 CWA President

For Instant CWA News:



California
Water
Association







www.ilbinc.com

The VA's top 10 tips for veteran job seekers

1. Network
2. Emphasize character
3. Translate your credentials
4. PACE yourself
5. Use veterans' preference
6. Reduce stress, increase confidence
7. Ready your paperwork
8. Prepare for a new culture
9. Take control
10. Connect to VocRehab



2023: TIME TO GET YOUR PRIORITIES IN ORDER

By Rolande Sumner, ACC, ELI-MP, CEO of Life After Service Transitional Coaching

It's also important to celebrate lessons learned from failures. Failure can feel like a major setback, but looking back at what didn't work can help you gain clarity and direction for how to move forward. Use these moments as an opportunity to reflect on your objectives and re-strategize if necessary.

Making time for celebration throughout the year is key for keeping morale high and setting yourself up for success in 2023. Give yourself permission to pause and recognize the milestones you've achieved and the lessons you've learned. This will help you stay on track with your priorities for the upcoming year.

Awards



2022 Ohio Chamber Award



2022 Alignable Local Business Person of the Year - Raleigh, NC



2020-2021 Alignable Local Business Person of the Year - Raleigh, NC

Publication Contributions



Publication Features



www.lastco.vet

ROLANDE S. SUMNER

Startup Business Strategist
Veteran Retention Consultant





SUPPORT OUR ELITE NETWORK

Because they are disabled not UNABLE...



Sponsor a Service- Disabled Veteran-Owned Business (SDVOB)- Today!

Through monthly workshops and webinars, and annual events, the Elite network helps veterans navigate the maze of paperwork, individuals, and agencies necessary to reach their goal of being self-sufficient and thriving businesses. Veterans deserve the same opportunities as any other business and have earned the right to professionally compete for contracts from the count they've sacrificed their t - .lives to serve. The Eite SDVOB Network is a non-profit 501 (z) 19 corporation.

Sponsors can help in two primary ways:



Support the Elite Network financially and with resources for workshops, webinars, and training.



Support Service- Disabled Veteran Business Owners with contracts.

Get started! Become a Sponsors today.

NCDELITEVETERANS.ORG

3 SPONSORSHIP

OPPORTUNITIES



Start Here

SPONSORSHIP LEVEL

Platinum Sponsor

1 Page

Digital Magazine Promotion

\$5,000

GOLD SPONSORSHIP

1/2 Page

Digital Magazine Promotion

\$2,000

SILVER SPONSORSHIP PACKAGE

Digital Magazine Promotion

\$1,000

1/8 Size of Silver Sponsor

CONTACT US

408-505-3032

support@ncdeliteveterans.org

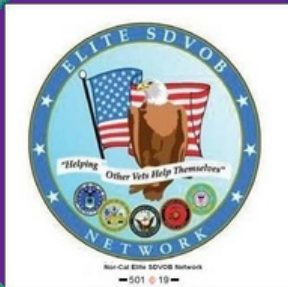


As an entrepreneur or small business owner, there's always something more to learn. Whether it's admin, marketing, branding, product development, e-commerce or something else, developing your skills is essential to improving your business. That's why VethelpVet online entrepreneur workshops, seminars and business trainings are an indispensable tool for any service disabled veteran business owner.

**WORKSHOPS
TRAININGS
WEBINARS
SEMINARS**

**Elite
5**

ONE PURPOSE. ONE GOAL
BOOST KNOWLEDGE..



DEDICATED LEARNING PLATFORM
Veterans,
Service Disabled Veterans (SDVOSBs / DVBEs)
Active Duty Military, &
Reservists
LEARN. GROW. EXPAND.

This collection of resources will teach you everything you need to know about starting and running a successful business. Of course, one of the most important things you need to do right now is contact your local IQVET branch for next steps.



Capability Statement

Company: Cyber Communication Inc.



▶▶ CORPORATE PROFILE

Cyber Communication Inc., is an Sole Proprietorship owned company. Disable Veteran Yes our company is an entrepreneurial business where we assess client's needs finding products or services that are beneficial to their everyday life.

▶▶ Cyber Communication Inc. has been in business for

10 to 30 years

▶▶ Type of company

Sole Proprietorship

▶▶ Employees at Cyber Communication Inc. between

5 to 10



MARKET PROFILE

Cyber Communication Inc. market?

- Private

Contract Bids Cyber Communication Inc.

prepared to receive between Under \$100k

In what sector do you work?

- Financial

Serving Clients needs Cyber Communication Inc. could not do it along!

Are you a member of supplier diversity?

Yes

By becoming a member of a of supplier diversity group, It will build disable veteran business community and help fellow veteran business owners with resources, training and connecting with corporations and government agencies.



CERTIFICATIONS

COMPANY INFORMATION

Name: Jack Orlove

Company: Cyber Communication Inc.

Member: non-member

Email: jorlove@cybercommunication.com

Phone: 9163161375

Jack Orlove - 9163161375 - jorlove@cybercommunication.com

THANK YOU SPONSORS & ELITE MEMBER NOR -CAL ELITE WILL ATTEND



California Public Utilities Commission



California Public Utilities Commission 21st Annual GO 156 Supplier Diversity En Banc

Come and hear the leaders of the California's investor-owned utilities discuss their supplier diversity programs and contracting opportunities. You will also hear from local government, ethnic Chambers of Commerce, community-based organizations, and emerging firms.

Public comments related to the Supplier Diversity Program will be held at the end of the program. Public comments are always welcome at SupplierDiversity@cpuc.ca.gov.

For further information, please contact Drisha Melton at ddm@cpuc.ca.gov or (213) 620-2688.

For more information about the En Banc and the Supplier Diversity Program, please visit www.cpuc.ca.gov/SupplierDiversity.

SAVE THE DATE

CPUC 21st Annual
GO 156 Supplier
Diversity En Banc

September 28, 2023
9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Please join us to learn more!

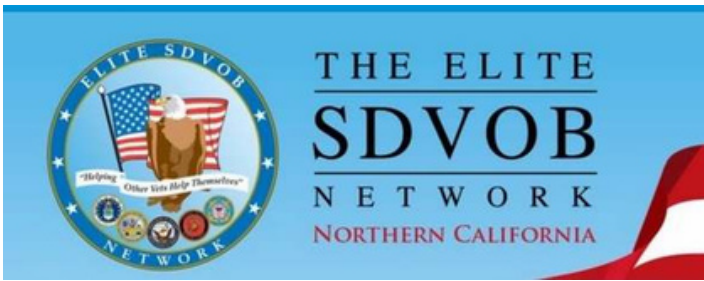
LOCATION:

California Center of Arts,
Escondido
340 N. Escondido Blvd.
Escondido, CA 92025



THE ELITE
SDVOB
NETWORK
NORTHERN CALIFORNIA





Nor Cal Elite Newsletter

Vol.00-990109/17/23



**Cal, Public Utilities
Commission
21th Annual GO 156
Supplier Diversity Eb Banc
Sep 28.2023 9am 3:30pm**

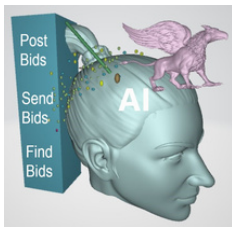
New Business Partners



**BENEFIT AUCTION &
FUNDRAISER**

**La Rinconada Country Club
October 6, 2023
5:30 - 9:00 PM
Culinary Excellence By Nick Difu**

What Nor-Cal Elite is Doing!



**Website visitors 55,342
Digital Mag. Hit 4,321
Bids Posted 52
Users Data Base 2,194**



Linda Arye Founder



**QUILTS FOR KIDS, INC
INFO@QUILTSFORKIDS.ORG
<https://www.quiltsforkids.org>
501-C-3 NON-PROFIT**

Elite 5

1. AGREEMENT **BECOME A MEMBER**
2. IDENTIFY **CAPABILITY STATEMENT**
3. MATCHMAKING **D-VET HELPING D-VETS**
4. ENGAGE **VEHICLES POST BIDS SYSTEM**
5. EVALUATE AUTO CONNECT **CAPABILITY STATEMENT TO BIDS**

Micro Companies = Micro Contracts

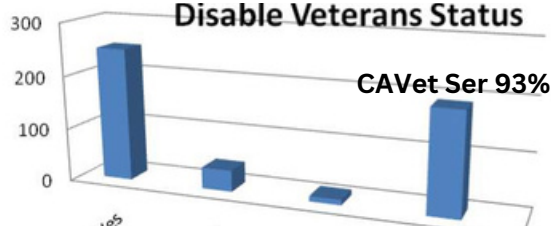


**The Labor Compliance
Managers**

**Lin Robertson
THE LABOR**

**Owner & Executive Director
www.thelaborcompliancemanagers.com**

Nor-Cal Elite Disabled Veterans Disable Veterans Status



Poll 96% are Disabled Veterans



Gentlemen Health

**Gentlemen Health & Fitness using
Stretch Therapy Massage, nutrition, and
education to promote & improve or
maintain total body health!**

www.gentlemenhealth.com



Dig Mag

