



ST. MARY'S COUNTY GOVERNMENT COMMISSIONERS OF ST. MARY'S COUNTY
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Governor's Office of Minority Affairs*

**Governor's Office of Minority Affairs to Connect Southern Maryland
Small Businesses to State Contracting Opportunities**

Leonardtown, MD – Maryland procurement professionals will help Southern Maryland small businesses connect to state contracting opportunities during the Ready, Set, GROW! Procurement Connection Workshop on Tuesday, February 28, 2017. The Governor's Office of Minority Affairs is conducting the free workshop at the Southern Maryland Higher Education Center, 44219 Airport Rd., California, MD, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"Public procurement can be a difficult process to navigate," said Jimmy Rhee, special secretary of the Governor's Office of Minority Affairs. "We want to help small businesses master the skills necessary to compete with confidence as they go after prime and subcontracting opportunities in the public sector."

The workshop will feature a presentation on how to navigate the state's procurement process with a focus on accessing small procurement opportunities. Local businesses which have made significant contributions in Southern Maryland will also be honored. Participants will be able to meet with buyers from the State Highway Administration, Department of General Services, Maryland Aviation Administration and Maryland Transit Administration. Representatives from the Governor's Office of Minority Affairs expected to be on hand include Deputy Secretary Herb Jordan; Outreach Manager Eduardo Hayden; Minority Business Enterprise Compliance Manager Lisa Sanford and Small Business Reserve Compliance Manager Lisa Sennaar. Members of the St. Mary's County Department of Economic Development and representatives from several small business resource programs will also be available to meet with business owners.

To register for the Ready, Set, GROW! Workshop, visit the Governor's Office of Minority Affairs' website at www.goma.maryland.gov and follow the Ready, Set, GROW! link on the home page. For more information, contact the Minority Affairs' Small Business Outreach Manager Eduardo Hayden at 410-697-9606 or via email to eduardo.hayden@maryland.gov.

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