

## DBE Program Objectives

- To ensure non discrimination
- To create a level playing field
- To ensure the program is narrowly tailored
- To ensure that only firms that fully meet the eligibility standards are permitted to participate as DBEs
- To help remove barriers to participation

## Mission Statement

The VIDPW as a recipient of USDOT funds is mandated by USDOT to establish an annual territory goal for the utilization of DBEs on USDOT-assisted contracts. The territory's goal is expressed as a percentage of all Federal-aid payments going to prime contractors and subcontractors performing USDOT-assisted contracts that is paid to DBEs. This territory goal is based on demonstrable evidence of the availability of ready, willing, and able DBEs relative to all businesses ready, willing and able to participate on USDOT-assisted contracts.

## Virgin Islands Department of Public Works (VIDPW)

Gustav James, P.E., Commissioner



## Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Program

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## Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) Program



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## ABOUT OUR PROGRAM

Transportation contracts funded with federal dollars and awarded by the following agencies must comply with Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) participation goals. The DBE Program applies to contracts awarded by:

- Federal Highway Administration
- Federal Transit Administration
- Federal Aviation Administration

## DBE PROGRAM SERVICES

The DBE Program sponsored by VIDPW provides three major services:

1. **DBE Certification**
2. **DBE Directory Listing**
3. **DBE Support Services**

## DBE Certification

The VIDPW is the lead agency to coordinate the establishment of the Uniform Certification Program (UCP) within the territory. The UCP is a one-stop certification process for DBE. The Virgin Islands Port Authority and Waste Management Authority are the other components that utilize DBE Program provisions in their contracts

An applicant firm seeking certification must meet the requirements of 49 CFR Part 26. The firm must meet small business size criteria. The majority owner (s) must be determined to be socially and economically disadvantaged.

## Social Disadvantaged Criteria

Members of the following groups are presumed to be socially disadvantaged:

- Women
- Black Americans
- Hispanic Americans
- Native Americans
- Asian-Pacific Americans
- Subcontinent Asian Americans
- And those found to be Socially and Economically Disadvantaged by the SBA.

## Economic Disadvantaged Criteria

The Personal Net Worth of the person claiming social disadvantage cannot exceed \$1,320,000.00 (excluding residence and the value of the business)

## Additional Criteria

DBE firms must also meet the following certification criteria:

- Ownership—Firm must be at least 51% owned and operated by socially and economically disadvantaged individual (s).
- Management Control—Firm must be managed on a day-to-day basis by the individual (s) determined to be socially and economically disadvantaged.
- Business Size—Firm must be a Small Business. (As defined by SBA standards)

## DBE Directory

VIDPW publishes a DBE Directory identifying all firms which have been certified as DBEs and are eligible to participate in the Program. The Directory is update monthly.

## DBE SUPPORT SERVICES

The following support services are provided to VIDPW certified DBEs.

- Referral Services
- Training & Development
- Business Cards
- Free Workshops/Seminars

## VIDPW DBE Staff

DBE Program Director: Shelton Shulterbrandt

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