

# BuyLines

DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

NOVEMBER 2018

## ***DAS Procurement Co-Hosts 2018 PPAC Education and Vendor Show***

The DAS/Procurement Team and the Public Purchasing Association of Connecticut (PPAC) co-hosted a two day Education and Vendor Show in October at the Hilton Mystic in Mystic, CT. State Agencies Purchasing Officials and Municipal Purchasing Officials made up the 160 attendees.

The event was held right across the street from the world-famous Mystic Aquarium and Olde Mistick Village, and only a short walk from the historic Mystic Seaport, Mystic Museum and charming downtown Mystic, giving attendees the opportunity to see a beautiful part of our great State.

DAS Procurement Director Carol Wilson gave welcoming remarks to the audience, “As government entities with tight budgets and similar operational needs, the towns and State have much in common and we’re excited to be able to pool our efforts through today’s event and allow you the opportunity to network with your public peers to share common issues and solutions, find new contract opportunities, identify ways to save your organization money, and create new efficiencies in your procurement processes.”

Day one consisted of educational workshops for attendees including a course entitled, “Practical Specification Writing Objectives and Intended Outcomes “. Poorly written specifications can lead to lack of competition, purchasing an inappropriate commodity, protests, contract disputes and cost overruns. The course helped the attendees develop problem statements within a specification, build specifications and create strategies to approach specifications for unclear and difficult procurements.

Day two was where DAS Procurement really shined with the Vendor Show and Break-



***DAS Procurement Director Carol Wilson addresses the attendees.***

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out sessions – some taught by our very own DAS staff. This included sessions on using cooperative agreements, state contracts, and our various procurement programs which are free for municipalities.

The Vendor Show was where attendees explored the programs, services, products and expertise of more than 40 vendors who specialize in providing services to municipal, educational, non-profit, and state agencies.

Wilson went on to thank DAS staff and PPAC staff who spent much time creating the event.

She emphasized her appreciation to the National Association of State Procurement Officials, NASPO Procurement University and NASPO ValuePoint who were on hand to share information on procurement educational opportunities and cooperative purchasing opportunities, and whose financial support made the event possible.



# DAS Attends Matchmaker Event

In October, DAS participated in the minority matchmaker event in Bloomfield, CT.

The mission of the Minority Construction Council is to advocate, support, and create development opportunities for minority contractors throughout the State of Connecticut with an added focus to build relationships between our MBE Members, Corporate Members and partners in the public and private construction industries.

This was a construction expo and matchmaker event bringing construction companies (Turner, Skanska, Dimeo, just to name a few) into one room to meet with small and minority businesses. The certified S/MBE's had an opportunity to introduce their product and services to these construction companies.

DAS' Supplier Diversity Unit provided an overview of the certification program and provided a resource table to answer questions and provide information about the program. DAS' Nicola Murray, Kevin Nodwell, Carlos Velez and Meg Yetishefsky participated in the event. Meg was asked to say a few words to the attendees and gave an overview of the State's certification program.

In addition, Carlos Velez was recognized in an awards ceremony for his partnership with the council, providing several training sessions during the year on the State's Prequalification Program.

“These types of events provide an opportunity to stay connected with the issues facing the small businesses community,” said Meg. “It allows us to answer questions specific to the company we are speaking to in a one-on-one environment and really get to know the individual and help them out.”



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# ***Panel Discussion on Contract Compliance with DAS and CHRO***



In October DAS' Meg Yetishefsky, Carlos Velez and Kevin Kopetz participated in the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities information session on Contract Compliance on state funded projects.

This was in conjunction with a week long celebration of CHRO's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration.

Connecticut's Contract Compliance Program provides opportunities for small and minority owned businesses to compete on an equal footing for contracts funded by taxpayer dollars.

The session gave an overview on how to participate in this program, become a certified business, and help grow the state.

"It can't be all websites and social media," said Velez. "You need to get out there and meet people face-to-face, educate them on what's available from DAS, and answer their questions. It was a great panel to be a part of and there was a tremendous amount of experience from everyone who participated in the discussions."

Meg Yetishefsky agreed. "Sometimes the best conversations I have with business owners interested in becoming a certified small business with the state are when we're in the same room and there are many ideas and questions being discussed. A lot of questions get answered when everyone is talking about the same subject."

## ***What is MMCAP?***

The Minnesota Multistate Contracting Alliance for Pharmacy (MMCAP) is a free, voluntary group purchasing organization for government facilities that provide healthcare services. Membership is open to states and their agencies as well as counties, cities, school districts and others. Members receive access to a full range of pharmaceuticals and other healthcare products and services; such as, medical supplies, influenza vaccine, dental supplies, drug testing, and other programs.

Visit [www.mmcap.org](http://www.mmcap.org).

# **Contracts Awarded over the last 14 Days**

*Click on the contract number to see the contract details*

*Adobe Acrobat Required*

**18PSX0231** Trailer Mounted Compressors and Self-contained Portable Light Towers

**18PSX0176** Ice and Snow Removal Services for DESPP Troop C and Troop D

**18PSX0221** Rental of Trucks with Operators 19,500 GVWR and Over

**18PSX0241** Ice and Snow Removal for DAS Facilities at 18-20 and 30 Trinity Street, Hartford, CT

**18PSX0260** Ice and Snow removal Services for 11 Shuttle Road, Farmington, CT

**18PSX0200** Custodial Services for DMHAS's facility located at 3 Quarry Lane, Portland

**18PSX0251** Ice and Snow removal Services for DDS Middlesex County Locations

**18PSX0255** Printing of the 2018 State Register and Manual

**18PSX0224** Rental of Tree Removal, Tree Trimming and Disposal Units and Equipment

**18PSX0147** Complete-In-Place Installation and Removal of Guide Rail and Impact Attenuation Systems

## **State Supplier Diversity Certifications Issued over the last 14 Days**

The State's Supplier Diversity program targets at least 25% of the state's business be transacted with small businesses including those owned by minorities, women and the disabled. To participate, fill out an application with the Department of Administrative Services. Once certified, you can bid on contracts covered by the program as well as all other state contracts.

Use this link to see the companies the DAS State Supplier Diversity program has certified over that past 14 days.

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