

March 13, 2025

Dear Executive Director Allen Garfinkle,

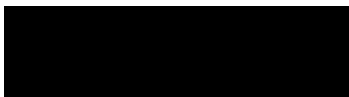
Thank you for your continuous efforts to support Small Business (SB) and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (DVBE) inclusion in state contracting. Your commitment is crucial to fostering a diverse and equitable contracting environment across California.

Supporting small and disabled veteran-owned businesses is a key priority for the State of California, ensuring access to contracting opportunities and fostering economic growth. As state leaders, we play a critical role in driving these efforts forward by prioritizing procurement practices that expand participation and create lasting business opportunities. Meeting the SB and DVBE participation goals is not only a statutory requirement, but also an important step in strengthening California's supplier diversity and economic resilience. DGS is committed to working collaboratively with departments to address challenges, develop strategies, and provide the necessary support to improve participation outcomes.

Assembly Bill 2019 (Chapter 730, Statutes of 2022) tasked DGS/Office of Small Business and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise (OSDS) to apply remedial actions (up to, but not limited to, removal of purchasing authority) to state agencies/departments that do not meet the 25% SB or the 3% DVBE participation goals for 3 out of 5 years starting with year 2022-23. Per our records, your department did not meet the SB and/or DVBE goal for 2022-23 and 2023-24. As such, in November of 2024, Purchasing Authority Unit has emailed your SB advocates and Purchasing Authority Contact (PAC)/Procurement and Contracting Officer (PCO) the information enclosed to alert departments at risk to be subject to remedial actions if goals are not met for a third year. I am extending the courtesy to you so you can support taking appropriate actions.

I am encouraging you to review with your team your department's SB/DVBE improvement plan and monitor the SB/DVBE participation data frequently to determine what additional efforts can be made to course correct and meet the participation goal(s). If your department has not yet met with our Advocacy Support team as part of our agency visit effort, please feel free to request a consultation with OSDS at advocate@dgs.ca.gov to discuss strategies for meeting the SB/DVBE participation goals and improving your department's performance in this area.

Thank you once again for your commitment to this initiative.



Jennifer Osborn
Chief Deputy Director
Department of General Services

Cc: Toks Omashakin, Secretary, Transportation Agency