

## THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE 1000 DEFENSE PENTAGON WASHINGTON, DC 20301-1000

AUG 1 6 2012

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES DIRECTORS OF THE DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Department of Defense Small Business Contracting

Small businesses are a key component of the Defense industrial base. As the acquisition community works to provide our Warfighters with the tools necessary to accomplish their missions safely and successfully, small businesses significantly contribute to the depth and breadth of products, services, and solutions. It is up to you to take advantage of current opportunities to utilize small businesses as we support our Warfighters.

The FY 2012 small business prime contracting goal for the Department is 22.5 percent. Thus far this fiscal year, we are not meeting our goal and must take immediate action. Throughout the remaining months of this fiscal year and throughout FY 2013, you are to maximize the use of all available authorities to acquire products and services from small businesses in support of our Warfighters and to achieve the Department's goals.

cc:

Directors, Office of Small Business Programs

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