

**DEPARTMENT OF BUSINESS OVERSIGHT***Ensuring a Fair and Secure Financial Services Marketplace for all Californians***JAN LYNN OWEN****Commissioner of Business Oversight****MEDIA RELEASE****For Immediate Release**

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**Department of Business Oversight Honored For Work with Small Businesses and Disabled Veteran Enterprises**

*Sacramento, November 19, 2013* — The California Department of Business Oversight received the coveted Gold Agency Award at the 14th Annual State Agency Recognition Awards (SARA) ceremony for being an exemplary department in working with Small Businesses (SB) and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprises (DVBE).

The State Agency Recognition Awards is sponsored by the California Department of General Services to recognize outstanding achievements in contract success with Small Businesses and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprises.

The Department of Business Oversight was recognized for the work of the business operations office staff that performs the day-to-day purchasing. Department staff include: Fred Topete, Julie Solomon, Denise Moncus-Gwen, Laurie Cootz, Chad Rohrs, Jennifer Wisniewski, Jasmin Buada, Marilyn Stevens, Bill Hayden, Rachael Brown, Edna Carrasco, Andrea Waclaw, Hyunmee Peters, Jim Teich, Pamela Mosby-Watson, Kelly Moynahan, Leanne Storrie, Reginald Bohanan, Andy Chan and Jose Luis Esparza.

"The Department is proud to support Small Businesses and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprises and honored to receive this acknowledgement from our peers in state service," said Business Oversight Commissioner Jan Lynn Owen. "Receiving this award is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the staff and I am extremely proud of this team."

Annually, state agencies work to meet a goal of doing at least 25 percent of purchasing and contracting with small businesses. Furthermore, California's Veterans and Military Code's goal is to purchase at least three percent of all goods and services from Disabled Veterans Business Enterprises. The Department has successfully met and exceeded the SB and DVBE goals each year since 2001.

The awards were presented at a ceremony on Wednesday, November 13, at the Citrus Heights Community Center. The Department of General Services presented awards to 11 state agencies and 5 state employees for their outstanding work with California Small Businesses and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprises.

*On July 1, 2013, the Department of Corporations and the Department of Financial Institutions merged to become the Department of Business Oversight. California consumers should contact the Department of Business Oversight to check on the licensing and standing of the companies, investments or other financial services they are considering at [www.dbo.ca.gov](http://www.dbo.ca.gov) or at the Department's toll-free Consumer Services Office at 1-866-275-2677.*