



ACQUISITION,  
TECHNOLOGY,  
AND LOGISTICS

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MAR 23 2017

MEMORANDUM FOR SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS  
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES  
PRESIDENT, DEFENSE ACQUISITION UNIVERSITY  
DIRECTOR, HUMAN CAPITAL INITIATIVES  
DIRECTORS, COMPONENT OFFICES OF SMALL BUSINESS  
PROGRAMS

SUBJECT: Announcement of the Fiscal Year 2016 Department of Defense Small Business  
Vanguard Awards Program Winners

The Department of Defense (DoD) Small Business Vanguard Awards Program recognizes the exemplary contributions of DoD small business professionals and members of acquisition teams that influence small business participation in defense procurement. In Fiscal Year (FY) 2016, the Department procured 22.95 percent of all DoD prime contracting with small businesses and exceeded the Department's goal of 21.26 percent for the third consecutive year. This is a reflection of excellent performance by members of the acquisition workforce. The following five awards go to DoD individuals, teams, and components that demonstrated exceptional commitment to improving the health of the defense industrial base.

The *Vanguard Award* goes to the Department of the Navy, recognized as the DoD Component that best exemplified a commitment to Small Business Programs across a variety of activities, such as exceeding assigned goals, outreach, and senior leader commitment.

The *Revolutionary Leadership Award* goes to Mr. William E. Harrison III, Department of the Air Force, as the DoD individual whose leadership best advocated for the inclusion of small businesses in DoD procurements, overcame substantial challenges to small business participation in DoD contracting, and brought innovation to the Department through small business utilization.

The *Ms. Tracey L. Pinson Small Business Professional of the Year Award* goes to Ms. Sharon L. Jones, Defense Information Systems Agency, as the DoD individual who best embodied the small business mission to ensure a healthy and modernized industrial base by tirelessly advocating for small businesses in the spirit of the award's namesake.

The *Small Business Innovation Research Award* goes to the Department of the Navy's Naval Air Systems Command Small Business Innovation Research Program Office, as the individual or team that best exhibited innovative approaches and outstanding support, and implemented processes that significantly advanced the Small Business Innovation Research/Small Business Technology Transfer programs.

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The *Verdure Award* goes to the Defense Logistic Agency's Land and Maritime Office of Small Business Programs, as the team that best demonstrated innovative approaches to balancing the development of efficient buying methods and the utilization of small businesses.

The awardees will receive formal recognition for their achievements during the DoD Small Business Innovation Training Week on April 6, 2017, at the Sheraton Atlanta in Atlanta, Georgia. I am honored to recognize the FY 2016 Vanguard Awardees and appreciate the advocacy and dedication of the entire acquisition community in support of achieving our small business procurement goals.



James A. MacStravic  
Performing the Duties of the  
Under Secretary of Defense  
for Acquisition, Technology,  
and Logistics