

MEAK SOLUTIONS

U.S. Department of Veteran's Affairs & Service-Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business

- The Veterans Benefits, Health Care, and Information Technology Act of 2006 (Public Law 109-461) provides the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) with unique authority for Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) and Veteran-Owned Small Business (VOSB) set-aside and sole source contracts.
- Consistent with Public Law 109-461 and per VA's mandate and mission, encouraging the participation of SDVOSBs in VA acquisition programs and awarding these firms contracts are highest priority for VA Small and Veteran Business Programs.
- The Vets First Verification Program affords verified firms owned and controlled by Veterans and Service-disabled Veterans the opportunity to compete for VA set asides as well.
 - This procurement authority, and its subsequent implementation, is a logical extension of VA's mission to care for our Nation's Veterans.
- The VA encourages and is mandated to maximize use of VOSBs for participation and contracting priority in the Veterans First Contracting Program. As a complement, VA contract specialists conduct market research to seek out VOSBs that can meet their procurement needs.
 - The VA is the *only* agency that sets a goal and tracks participation of VOSBs.
 - The VA seeks to award at least 15% of its total contract dollars to SDVOSBs and at least 17% to VOSBs, representing a 5% increase in both goals, a significant change not noted since 2010.
 - The VA awarded **\$5.1 billion in contracts to SDVOSBs** and \$5.4 billion to VOSBs. These figures represent 19.5% and 20.6%, respectively, of **VA's total procurement of \$26.1 billion.**

