

# NOVEMBER 2024 FIRST CALL

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# Want a Trajectory to Success? Harness the Power of the Veteran Business Community



When the uniform comes off, what replaces the camaraderie that once defined our service? For many veterans, the answer lies in entrepreneurship. After my military career, I found my next mission through The Avery Group, a consulting firm specializing in federal contracting. Along this journey, I discovered a new sense of community through the National Veteran Small Business Coalition (NVSBC)—a network committed to support, growth, and shared success.

With the recent increase in the Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) federal contracting goal from 3% to 5% in the 2024 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA), opportunities for veteran entrepreneurs are growing. This expansion offers millions in potential contracts, providing veterans a chance to serve the nation againthis time through business.

The path, however, isn't easy. Every veteran-owned small business (VOSB) faces hurdles. I remember meeting a fellow entrepreneur at VETS 21 who felt overwhelmed by the complexities of contracting. But with guidance from the NVSBC network, his business began to thrive. His story is proof that when veterans support each other, we succeed.

Federal contracting is competitive and complex, but NVSBC offers more than a safety net—it's a launchpad. Through workshops and mentorship, veterans gain the knowledge needed to excel. I'll never forget a session where an expert demystified the bidding process, helping a veteran secure a crucial contract just by understanding the system more clearly.

Events like the VETS conference and the upcoming Awards Gala aren't just networking opportunities they're platforms for growth. I urge fellow veterans: stay engaged, attend events, and tap into our network. Together, we can amplify our voices, build thriving businesses, and create opportunities for future veteran entrepreneurs.

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Author: Akinwande Oshodi, President of <u>The Avery Group, LLC</u>.

## **Around the NVSBC**

### **Welcome New & Renewed Member Organizations**

#### **New Members**

A1C Partners, LLC ABTA, LLC AlliWare Cloud Sloutions Alpha Zulu Transportation, LLC Cal Vet Integrated Consulting Services D2 Consulting Eagle Corps Services Epicus Group ETSI Human Computing Indivior JWJ Construction Services, LLC Metatron, LLC Pacific Coast Contracting Group San Diego, Orange, Imperial APEX Accelerator Secured Site Services, LLC St Michael Enterprises TSC Enterprise, LLC Visentric, LLC

### **Renewed Members**

1DigitalSpace/Lingam Foundation AdGrid USA, LLC Advanced Management Strategies Group, Inc. (AMSG) Alphacat Consulting, LLC Anderson Enginering of Minnesota, LLC Ark Cyber Consultants Bailey Information Technology Consultants, LLC Ballard CLC, Inc Bank of America EMD, LLC IT Veterans, LLC Karing First Solutions, LLC Lightbringers, LLC Mitchtech LLC, d.b.a. Mitchell Technical Sales, LLC Newport News Shipbuilding Pathfinder Consultants, LLC QuickSilver Analytics, Inc RB Consulting, Inc. (RBCI) Relevant Software Corp. Sentry Solutions, LLC Sisters Revitalizing our Future, LLC SPS Industrial, Inc Stony Lonesome Group Terrestris, LLC ThinkForm Architects Thinkform Design Architect, LLC

The National Veteran Small Business Coalition (NVSBC) offers 7 types of organization membership that support our mission and serve our constituents. If you have any questions about membership, please contact members@ nvsbc.org. Click on the "Join NVSBC Today" button below and begin receiving access to the benefits of NVSBC membership.

- Representation as part of the coalition through our advocacy work & legislative agenda
- Exclusive access for members only
  - Strategy & Legislative Newsletters
  - Tailored Presentations & Training Sessions from past and current Engagement events + VetFedAcademies
- Discounted pricing for ALL individuals within your organization's membership at NVSBC Training, Engagement/Networking, and Advocacy events including our DC Metro Engagement Dinners, Annual Awards Gala, and VETS Conference
  - Engagement Dinners: \$20 discount per person, per event
  - VETS Conference: \$200 discount per person

- Access to VetFedConnect Directory, providing access to thousands of contacts within the GovCon ecosystem
- Early access
  - Priority access to resources and information when available
- Voting privileges for membership by-laws, board membership, and more
- Exclusive Partner Deals & Discounts



• Awards Gala: \$25 discount per person

### **Engagement Meetings**

NVSBC hosted the DC Metro Engagement Dinner + VetFedAcademy on 8 October 2024



NVSBC hosted the Huntsville Engagement Breakfast on 3 October 2024.



### **Engagement Meetings** (cont)

NVSBC hosted the San Diego Engagement Dinner on 22 October 2024.



NVSBC hosted the Colorado Springs Engagement Dinner on 29 October 2024



### **Calls to Action**

#### November 2024

### VETERAN SMALL BUSINESS ADVOCATE AWARDS GALA 2024

THR | NOV 7 | 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM ET

### **US MARINE CORPS BIRTHDAY**

Wed | Nov 10

### **VETERANS DAY**

Mon | Nov 11

### HAMPTON ROADS ENGAGEMENT LUNCH

WED | NOV 13 | 11:30 AM - 2:30 PM ET



### December 2024

### DC METRO ENGAGEMENT DINNER & VETFEDACADEMY

TUE | DEC 3 | 4:00 PM - 8:30 PM ET

### TAMPA ENGAGEMENT DINNER

THR | DEC 05 | 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM ET

### PHILADELPHIA ENGAGEMENT DINNER

WED | DEC 11 | 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM ET

### SAN ANTONIO ENGAGEMENT DINNER

TUE | DEC 17 | 5:30 PM - 8:30 PM CT

### **Communities of Interest**





### **November/December Events Calendar**

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| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14          | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21          | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | Alf met set | 29 | 30 |    |
|    |    |    |             |    |    |    |

### **NOVEMBER 2024**

### **DECEMBER 2024**

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|    |    |    |    |    |    | 1  |
| 2  | 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  |
| 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 |    | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    |    |

Engagement Events

Charlie Mike

Conferences

Special Events

Federal Holidays

### **Click on Event Dates to Link to Online Information.**

### **After an Election: What Now?**

Thriving in federal government contracting (GovCon) after an election involves navigating potential shifts in policy, funding priorities, and regulatory environments.

Below are some approaches for you to consider and reflect upon :

- 1. Stay Informed: Monitor election outcomes and their implications for federal spending. Understanding which agencies may see budget increases or decreases can help you identify new opportunities.
- 2. Adapt to Changes: Be flexible in your business strategy. If there are shifts in priorities (e.g., increased focus on cybersecurity, construction, or green technology), consider how your services or products can align with these new demands.
- 3. Leverage Relationships: Maintain strong



### Supplies for your business. Savings on your first order.

Shop for the products & services your business needs from veteran-owned companies you respect.

Walmart > Business



relationships with agency contacts and industry partners. Networking can help you gain insights into upcoming projects and initiatives.

- 4. Focus on Compliance: Stay updated on any changes to regulations or compliance requirements that may arise post-election. This can help you avoid pitfalls and position your business as a reliable partner.
- 5. Diversify Your Portfolio: Consider expanding your offerings to serve a broader range of government agencies or sectors. This can mitigate risks if funding decreases in your primary area.
- 6. Invest in Marketing: Enhance your visibility in the GovCon space through targeted marketing efforts, such as attending NVSBC networking events, industry days and agency forums that can connect you with government officials.
- 7. Prepare for Increased Competition: Elections can lead to shifts in the competitive landscape. Be prepared to articulate your unique value proposition and differentiators.
- 8. Monitor Policy Trends: Pay attention to policy proposals and priorities from the new administration, as they can signal changes in funding and contracting opportunities.

By staying proactive and adaptable, you can navigate the uncertainties that often accompany election cycles in federal contracting.



Marie Myszkier is the Director of Training at NVSBC

## **NVSBC Training Corner**

### The Benefits of Teaming in GovCon

After talking about networking in detail, another program that our members are very interested in is teaming. Teaming in government contracting (Gov Con) offers several strategic advantages that can significantly enhance your ability to win and execute contracts. The benefits that we can speak to can include the following, but are not limited to the following:

- Enhanced Capabilities: By partnering with other companies, you can combine expertise and resources to tackle larger and more complex projects that might be beyond your individual capacity.
- 2. Risk Mitigation: Sharing responsibilities and resources helps to spread financial, operational, and legal risks, making it easier to manage potential challenges.
- 3. Access to New Markets: Teaming allows you to enter new markets or niches that you might not have been able to access on your own.
- 4. Increased Competitiveness: Smaller businesses can pool their resources to compete more effectively against larger firms, enhancing their chances of winning contracts.
- 5. Regulatory Compliance: Teaming agreements can help ensure compliance with government regulations and reduce the likelihood of disputes by clearly defining roles and responsibilities.

Overall, teaming can be a powerful strategy to leverage strengths, mitigate weaknesses, and enhance your competitive edge in the government contracting space. How do we mix what we have learned about networking with what we are learning about Teaming?

Navigating a networking event to find teaming partners requires a mix of preparation and strategy. Try this on for size, before the event research the attendees. If you have access to an attendee list, identify potential partners. You should also set objectives to know what you're looking for—expertise, resources, or specific industries. Lastly, prepare Your Pitch and have a clear, concise explanation of who you are and what you're looking for.

During the event think about a strategic way on how you approach people. Start with people who are alone or in small groups; they're usually more open to conversations. Ask open-ended questions that may encourage longer discussions and provide more insights into their needs and capabilities. Actively listening will show genuine interest in their work and objectives.

Identify common goals and look for alignments in your objectives to propose potential collaborations. Finally, exchange contact information, and ensure you have a way to follow up after the event.





Author is John Cochran who is the Consulting Manager at NVSBC

### VetFedConsult

NVSBC has provided consultations (GovCon best practices, referrals, and more) to member organizations to support their business growth and development to increase federal marketplace success since 2022. VetFedConsult, our new and formal program provides consultation for veteran small business government contract professionals from all stages of success (emerging, small, and mid-size) as part of a generous grant from JPMorgan Chase & Co.

#### **CONSULTATIONS ARE :**

- ☆ FREE
- 🖈 VIRTUAL
- Provided by trained experts in Government Contracting
- Provided to ALL GovCon Professionals (owner, operations, business development, and more)
- Backed by the NVSBC network of distinguished subject matter experts
- ☆ 45 minutes with Q&A
- Followed up with GovCon resources, referrals, and more

### **Other Events**

### **November Partnership Deals**

NVSBC member organizations can take advantage of benefits where NVSBC has created partnerships that bring value to your business. If you would like NVSBC to consider a partnership with your business, please contact <u>members@</u> <u>nvsbc.org</u> with respective details.

### **Featured Partner Deal**

#### NVSBC members, receive:

- Annual subscription billing at the 20% discount rate
- Exclusive lower rate at time of subscription renewal, too.
- Set-Aside Alert is the leader in contract alerts, news and information for small business federal contractors.
- Set-Aside Alert provides daily contract opportunity alerts, bi-weekly news and information reports, webinars and seminars covering topics like mentor-protege and government marketing tips.
  - **NVSBC Members**: Login to your VetFedConnect account to access the exclusive membership deal from Set-Aside ALERT.

Set Aside Alert - Federal Contract News and Information for Small, Minority, and Woman Owned Businesses

### Membership and Sponsorship Supports NVSBC Programs

Did you know that NVSBC is a **non profit organization** that relies on membership and sponsorship to provide our programs and services? **If you benefit from our Training, Networking, and Advocacy, join the coalition or sponsor NVSBC today and strengthen our voice!** 

## **Other Events** (cont)

### **Federal Procurement Events**

Grow your business through events provided by agencies within the Federal government including outreach, matchmaking, networking, training, and additional activities. If you have a Federal Procurement Event you'd like NVSBC to consider adding to this page, please contact <u>members@nvsbc.org</u> with respective details.

### CONGRATULATIONS!!!



The NVSBC would like to recognize and celebrate your GovCon success!

### 2025 NVSBC Events (cont)

### **Other NVSBC Events**

NVSBC Events are specially designed to provide networking and training for those VOSB & SDVOSB ready to take their business to the next level! These include: Let us help you get "Procurement Ready!" Click on the on the button below to learn more and register.

- Charlie Mike Webinar Training Series
- VetFedAcademies
- Communities of Interests (Engagement Lunch/ Dinner Events)
- Training Symposiums & Conferences

### **VETS25 Sponsorship & Exhibit Booth Registration Open**

