

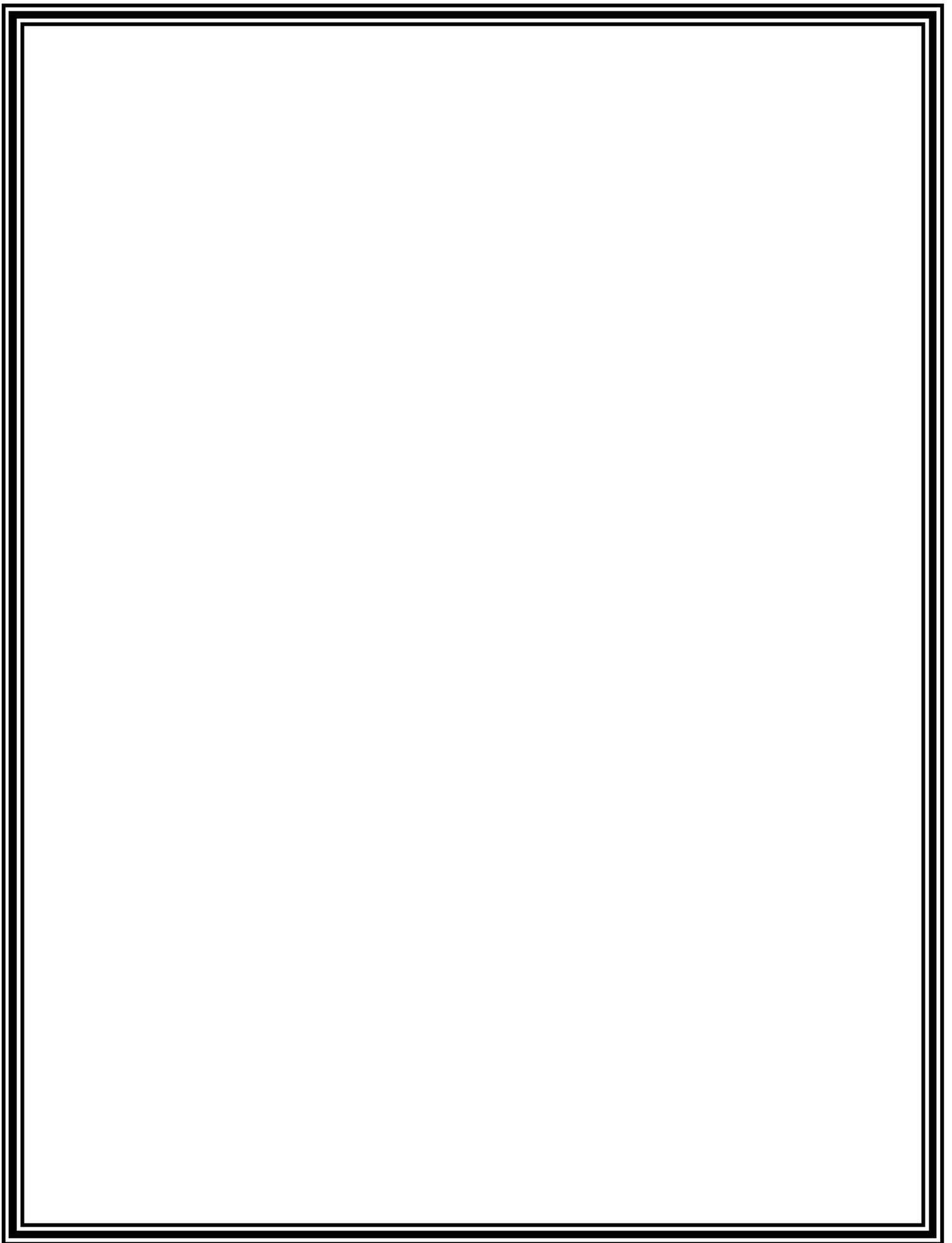
*U.S. Department of Agriculture  
Small Business and Javits-Wagner-O'Day Program  
Award Ceremony*

***2005  
Small Business and  
Javits-Wagner-O'Day  
Program  
Award Winners***

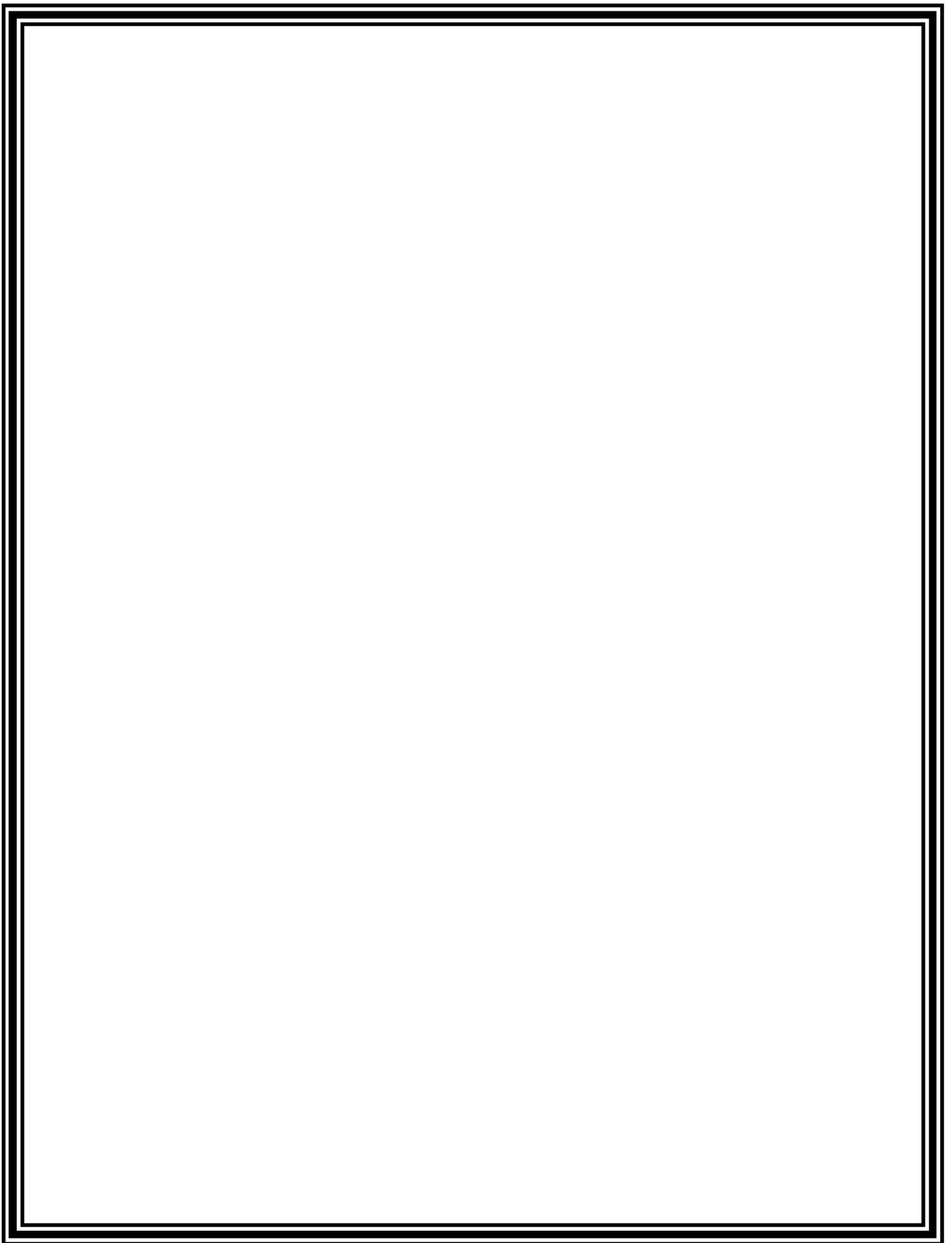
*Profiles*

*Presented by the  
Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization*

*Thursday, June 16, 2005  
Patio, Jamie L. Whitten Building*



***SMALL BUSINESS  
CONTRACTOR  
AWARD WINNERS***



**USDA**  
**2005 SMALL BUSINESS CONTRACTOR**  
**OF THE YEAR**

***POLYTEX FIBERS CORPORATION***  
***HOUSTON, TEXAS***  
***FARM SERVICE AGENCY***

*POLYTEX FIBERS CORPORATION*, established in 1982, produces tubular woven polypropylene bags. This company manufactures the tubular woven polypropylene material, sews, prints and ships empty bags to U.S. ports for shipment with U.S. Government Bulk Grain donations to foreign countries under the Export Humanitarian Food Assistance Programs.

*POLYTEX* was the first U.S. bag manufacturer to use circular woven technology, now the standard in the industry and the first to incorporate extrusion coating. They were also the first U.S. bag manufacturer to offer process print on woven polypropylene bags and the first to introduce a re-sealable closure on the same type of bag. All products manufactured by *POLYTEX FIBERS CORPORATION* are 100 percent recyclable.

Empty circular woven polypropylene bags are required to have specific printing for each individual contract and specific requirements for each country within each contract. Due to the emergency status of the donation programs, the time frame to manufacture and ship the empty bags is often less than two weeks. *POLYTEX FIBERS CORPORATION* has met their schedules every time. This company has also shipped quality bags “on time – every time”.

*POLYTEX* is dedicated to exceeding their customer’s expectations. This company has been a unique asset to the Export Humanitarian Food Assistance Programs because they will offer their bids to allow for partial truck load quantities when other manufacturers offer “full truck quantities only”. “If it had not been for the offers/bids submitted by *POLYTEX*, the cost of the program would have increased. The amount of food aid shipped by the Government to the recipient agencies in the foreign countries would have decreased.”

*POLYTEX*’s products have consistently been processed, trucked, loaded, shipped and used by recipients with no complaints. The company’s willingness to submit partial shipments and thus minimize profits for the company proves they have humanitarian interest in the success of the Government’s programs. *POLYTEX FIBERS CORPORATION* has proven they are willing to provide service to the Agency when they need it – and how they need it. This company has proven to be one of the greatest manufacturing assets to the Government in the circular woven polypropylene empty bag procurement program.

Deanna Smith, General Manager  
[Deanne@Polytex.com](mailto:Deanne@Polytex.com)  
(713) 690-9055

**USDA  
AGENCY SMALL BUSINESS  
AWARD WINNERS**

***ANALYTICAL SOLUTIONS, INC.  
FREDERICKSBURG, VIRGINIA  
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE***

*ANALYTICAL SOLUTIONS, INC. (ASI)* has worked with many USDA organizations since its establishment in 1994. This company offers systems and software engineering, software development, testing and evaluation, and other related professional services.

*ASI* developed the technology for a Cooperative State Research Education and Extension Service (CSREES) grants management system and other CSREES applications. The grants management project has launched USDA ahead of the rest of the Government with the capability to electronically process scientific grant applications. *ASI* also assisted in developing e-Gov applications and e-Gov Program and Project Plans.

The ARS has nominated *ASI* as their Small Business Contractor of the Year for three consecutive years. This company is flexible and willing to reallocate resources to get the job done. *ASI* often produces work that is under budget and they will offer additional services to optimize funding. *ASI* consistently “goes the extra mile, year after year”.

Harlin Sutton, President  
[HSutton@asimail.net](mailto:HSutton@asimail.net)  
(504) 273-5940

***EAGLE EYE DISTRIBUTING  
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO  
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE***

*EAGLE EYE DISTRIBUTING* supplies fresh bulk potatoes for the National School Lunch Program. With its own potato-packing warehouse, this company won two competitive contracts last year shipping over 12 million pounds of product to the schools. This was the first time a small business/farmer competed for any contract under the potato pilot program, which has been dominated by large processors who grow their own products.

*EAGLE EYE DISTRIBUTING* has grown from its beginnings in a utility room to a warehouse in Idaho Falls, Idaho, which holds 350,000 cwt. for potato storage, a scale system, and a truck shop. The company’s performance on the Agency’s contracts was exceptional for delivering the product in a timely manner. *EAGLE EYE DISTRIBUTING* has forged a new way of providing potato products to schools and they have set the stage for other small businesses to participate in this commodity program.

Newman Giles, President  
[Newman@eagleeyeproduce.com](mailto:Newman@eagleeyeproduce.com)  
(208) 523-0310

***EAGLE ROCK TIMBER, INC.  
IDAHO FALLS, IDAHO  
FOREST SERVICE***

*EAGLE ROCK TIMBER, INC.*, established in 1995, is a construction company with commercial, industrial, heavy highway, concrete, and underground utility experience. This company has installed bridges and boat docks, renovated warehouses, and performed construction work on many campgrounds. In addition, *EAGLE ROCK* performs forestry work like tree thinning, fuels reduction, planting, and timber harvest.

*EAGLE ROCK* has worked in areas with high sensitivities to Native Americans. They increased water flow to an historic natural spring that was used for centuries by the Nez Pierce Indians. *EAGLE ROCK TIMBER*'s work was outstanding on this project and it will be enjoyed by countless generations in the future.

*EAGLE ROCK* will undertake work from the simple to the complex and their easy to work with attitude has made contracting with them an "absolute pleasure". This is one of the most professional and accommodating construction companies with which to work.

Rick R. Gokey  
[ert@ida.net](mailto:ert@ida.net)  
(208) 529-4925

***ET ENTERPRISES  
MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA  
FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE***

*ET ENTERPRISES* is an independently owned and operated company which supplies a driver and support services for the Food Safety and Education Mobile. The Mobile is covered with food safety messages and travels 10 to 11 months per year throughout the continental United States to educate consumers about the risks associated with mishandling food. It provides information about steps consumers can initiate to reduce their risk of food borne illnesses.

Edward Leonard, the driver, educates all who visit the Mobile and he initiates crowd interest. He developed an innovative program that the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) uses in elementary schools to create interest and excitement about food safety. He often has had to overcome obstacles in order to accomplish the FSIS educational mission, such as equipment or vehicle breakdowns or the lack of volunteers. Mr. Leonard has been so dedicated to the program that FSIS has never had to cancel an event. "Mr. Leonard seems to accomplish the impossible."

Edward Timothy Leonard  
[ETLeonard@aol.com](mailto:ETLeonard@aol.com)  
(651) 292-1972

***INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT RESOURCES GROUPS, INC.  
LANHAM, MARYLAND  
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL***

*INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT RESOURCES GROUPS, INC. (IMRG)* specializes in financial oversight, information technology, benefits administration, pension benefits administration, accounting, auditing and actuarial services, and business support services. This company, founded in 1997, also provides outsourcing support in facility management, administration, data retrieval and much more.

*IMRG* provided temporary staffing support for the Office of the Inspector General (OIG). Their staff provided the best candidates with skills to match the requirements of the Agency. They have demonstrated a reliable track record for locating individuals with unique qualifications and/or professional experience.

*IMRG* continually provided outstanding professional and timely services. Their staff was responsive and always willing to adjust to meet the needs of the Agency. “*IMRG* is courteous, considerate, and very cooperative.” The personal assistance they provided is invaluable and clearly demonstrated their willingness and flexibility to meet everyday challenges.

Myrna Cooks, President  
[myrnacooks@imrg2000.com](mailto:myrnacooks@imrg2000.com)  
(301) 306-0502

***LANDAIR MAPPING  
PEACHTREE CITY, GEORGIA  
FARM SERVICE AGENCY***

*LANDAIR MAPPING* provides aerial photography, photogram metric mapping services, and surveying services primarily in the United States. The company specializes in precision aerial photography with APGPS and IMU capability, and remote sensing. They support their flight operations with a full photographic lab facility with traditional and digital products.

*LANDAIR MAPPING* has had to collect imagery within a short amount of time and cover large geographic areas. They have used the latest digital camera technology and a high performance aircraft to collect an excess of 100,000 square miles of digital imagery in a record 120 flight hours.

*LANDAIR* has implemented programs on quality control and best practices for safety and customer satisfaction. This company has always provided the Agency with exceptional work in a timely manner, with the best customer service.

Tom Olive, President  
[aerial@landairmap.com](mailto:aerial@landairmap.com)  
(770) 631-0903

***QUALITY TECHNICAL SERVICES, INC.***  
***VIRGINIA BEACH, VIRGINIA***  
***NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE***

*QUALITY TECHNICAL SERVICES, INC. (QTS)* provides management consulting services in facilitation, training design/development, vendor development programs, and leadership coaching. This company has experience in leadership, organizational, and performance development and they have developed training programs on national and international levels.

*QTS* coordinated the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) National Training Conference. The main focus was to prepare for a cultural shift emphasizing competitive practices in NRCS Grants and Cooperative Agreements. A secondary objective was to introduce a separate handbook focused solely on a new instrument, the Contribution Agreement.

*QTS* faced continually shifting deadlines and changing timelines. Requirements and priorities were constantly changing, often with short due dates and quick turnaround required. “Throughout all of this, *QTS* adjusted, got the work done, and provided an exceptional product.”

Dona A. P. Storey, President  
[Dona\\_storey@qts-trng.com](mailto:Dona_storey@qts-trng.com)  
(757) 490-4710

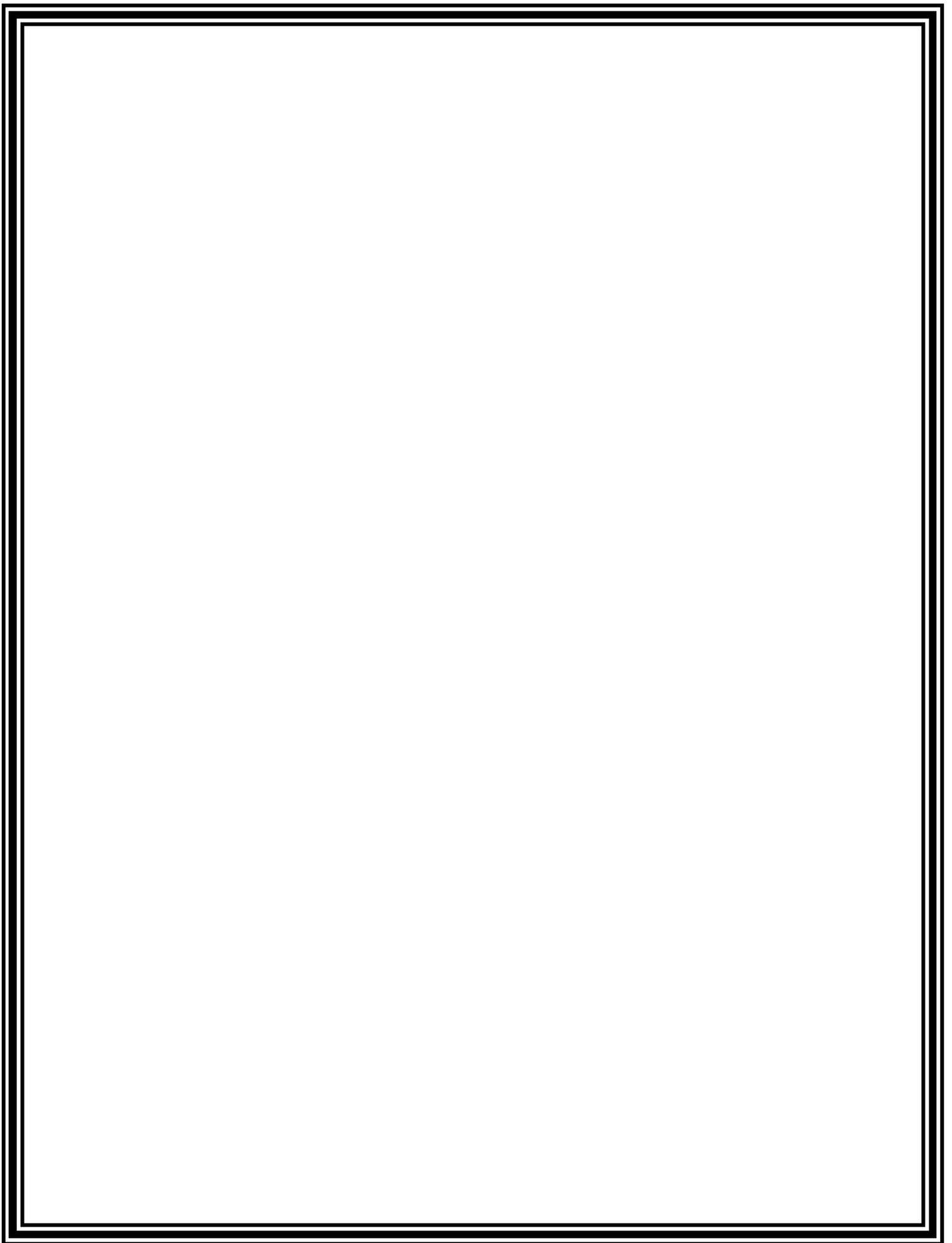
***REI SYSTEMS, INC.***  
***ANNANDALE, VIRGINIA***  
***ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE***

*REI SYSTEMS, INC.*, established in 1988, provides services in planning, development, and implementation of web-based applications. They also have expertise to evaluate business processes, facilitate continued process improvements and streamline business processes for greater operational efficiency. The company is ISO 9001:2000 certified.

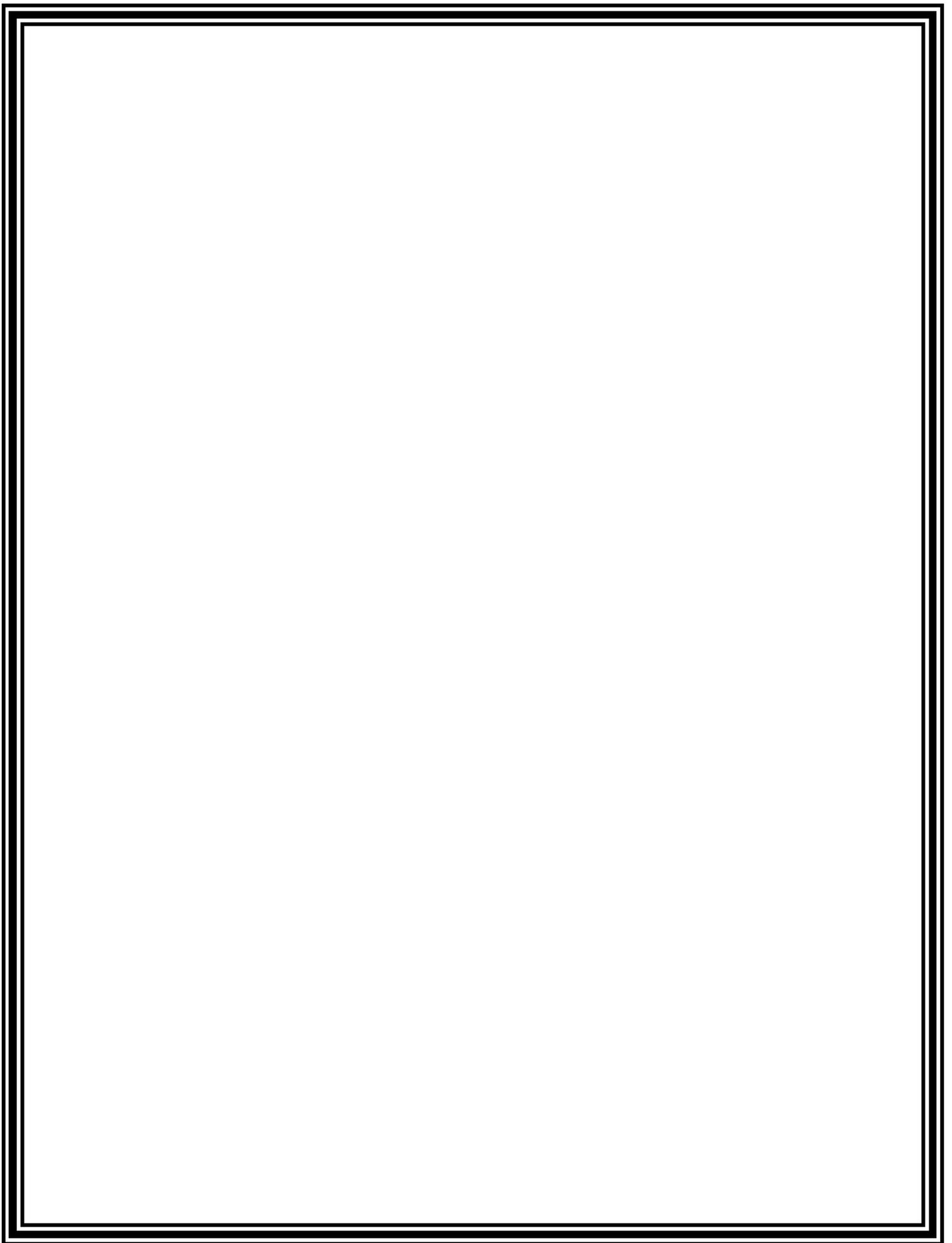
*REI* has a contract with the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) to develop and implement an eradication program and data system. They have consistently met performance-based criteria and received applicable incentives on their Performance Based Contract. During a “Change Order” to increase the amount of the contract, *REI* waived their incentive for the increased portion deciding to rely on their track record of meeting performance standards and excellent technical deliverables. This has proven to be a major discount for the Government.

*REI* has an effective communication methodology. This project has been on target and within cost throughout the contract. *REI* has been “...nothing less than highly professional while interacting with the Government under this contract”.

Veer V. Bhartiya, President  
[veer@reisys.com](mailto:veer@reisys.com)  
(703) 256-2245



***SMALL DISADVANTAGED  
BUSINESS CONTRACTOR  
AWARD WINNERS***



**USDA**  
**2005 SMALL DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS**  
**CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR**

***SLONE ASSOCIATES, INC.***  
***VALDOSTA, GEORGIA***  
***NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE***

*SLONE ASSOCIATES, INC.* is a contractor with capabilities in design/build projects, emergency watershed protections and stabilizations, and small dam, basin and building construction. They also have experience in maintaining housing and land on military bases as well as refuse collection and recycling. This firm was established in 1977.

*SLONE* has completed numerous projects for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) and the Forest Service (FS). They have performed several land rehabilitations for NRCS at Fort Benning, including a rehab at a range used by soldiers to ready them for combat. Using recycled products, *SLONE*'s project involved innovative construction. This job was so successful that it received "kudos" from the Commander (not an easy accomplishment from the military). *SLONE* worked closely with the military and NRCS to assure the needs were met.

*SLONE ASSOCIATES* also performed an emergency watershed protection project in Fulton County, Georgia. This job required the company to work in a very sensitive area and negotiate massive traffic obstacles in the City of Atlanta. "This work was performed correctly, timely, and without a hitch, and the City of Atlanta and the citizens of the exclusive neighborhood of the flood prone Nancy Creek were well satisfied."

Quality and satisfaction are a priority for *SLONE ASSOCIATES, INC.* All the work they have performed has been completed within the performance period. Mr. Slone does not take shortcuts and he honors his commitments. The two agencies in the Department who have contracted with *SLONE ASSOCIATES* have been extremely satisfied.

William Slone, President  
[wslone@sloneassoc.com](mailto:wslone@sloneassoc.com)  
(229) 244-6709

**USDA**  
**AGENCY SMALL DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS**  
**AWARD WINNER**

**ACE INFO SOLUTIONS, INC.**  
**OAK HILL, VIRGINIA**  
**OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT AND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT**

*ACE INFO SOLUTIONS, INC.* is an information technology consulting firm. The key services this firm provides are financial applications, geographic information systems (GIS), web technologies, and data management. *ACE* is strong in requirements gathering and design document preparation for financial applications. This company was established in 2001.

*ACE INFO*'s first contract for USDA's Chief Financial Officer was so successful that the Department has been encouraged to offer the company additional opportunities. A mandate by the U.S. Congress to perform a feasibility study of non-federal data centers to use as host for Food Safety Inspection Service applications was required under short notice. This study was submitted to Congress on time and on budget.

*ACE INFO* has been willing to accept extremely difficult assignments, which have had to be completed within short time frames. This company has worked almost around-the-clock to meet unique schedule and quality constraints and they still have provided quality products.

Jay Challa, President  
[jay@aceinfosolutions.com](mailto:jay@aceinfosolutions.com)  
(703) 464-1282

**ENTERPRISE INFORMATION SERVICES, INC.**  
**VIENNA, VIRGINIA**  
**FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE**

*ENTERPRISE INFORMATION SERVICES, INC. (EIS)* provides services in systems engineering, software development, product assurance, communications engineering, electronic commerce, and operations and administrative support. This firm was founded in 1994.

*EIS* provided quality assurance and configuration management support for the full systems lifecycle for the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). Their quality assurance activities included revising and enforcing development and implementation standards, ensuring requirements tractability, performing independent verification and validations and reviewing development document deliverables. Configuration management activities included managing and controlling changes to test environments and production environments.

*EIS*'s services are an integral part of all information software development projects at FNS. This company's work is always timely and deliverables have always been of high quality.

Vinod Goyal  
[eis@goeis.com](mailto:eis@goeis.com)  
(703) 749-0007

**MAYA ADVERTISING AND COMMUNICATIONS**  
**WASHINGTON, D.C.**  
**FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE**

*MAYA ADVERTISING AND COMMUNICATIONS*, established in 1990, specializes in advertising and communications services. This company provides advertising, internet/online services, writing/translation services, market research, broadcast production, special events planning, marketing materials and media and public relations in English and Spanish.

*MAYA* has worked with the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) on a campaign to educate consumers about food safety and advise them about precautions they can take to reduce the risk of food borne illnesses. Their focus was to develop an approach that would meet the needs of the Spanish speaking community. This company provided a range of strategic approaches and marketing plans and developed prototype broadcasts and print Public Service Announcements to assist the FSIS get their message to Spanish and other non-English speakers.

*MAYA* has provided innovative creative design and experienced media placement. They have handled all the details to create powerful ads for the FSIS. *MAYA* has always displayed a commitment to excellence and attention to detail.

Luis Vasquez-Ajmac, President  
[luis@mayadc.com](mailto:luis@mayadc.com)  
(202) 530-0566

**S & K TECHNOLOGIES, INC.**  
**ST. IGNATIUS, MONTANA**  
**FARM SERVICE AGENCY**

*S & K TECHNOLOGIES, INC. (SKT)*, owned by the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation, has two major groups-- the Information Technology Group and the Aerospace Group. Each group has multiple lines of business, which include GIS information services, development, and sustainment of interactive electronics technical manuals, systems management, logistical support services, web site design, software development, and various telecommunications services. This company was incorporated in 1999.

SKT worked with the Farm Service Agency (FSA) Service Centers to create scanned digital images of hardcopy aerial photomaps. Common Land Use boundaries were also digitized and converted into geospatial data files. In addition, the company delivered seamless compressed imagery produced from quarter-quadrangle tiles.

SKT is ISO 9001:2000 certified. They have consistently met all deliverables on or before schedule. They have provided the highest possible quality products and services to meet FSA requirements. "SKT truly provides an extra measure of effort to meet the quality and timeliness requirements of the FSA project."

Greg DuMontier, President  
GregD@SKTcorp.com  
(406) 745-7500

***SPECPRO, INC.***  
***ANCHORAGE, ALASKA***  
***OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL***

*SPECPRO, INC.* is an Alaska Native Corporation (ANC) that provides survivability and vulnerability analysis and systems engineering services. This company's focus is environmental services, engineering services, and information technology support. *SPECPRO, INC.* and its predecessor company, Vista Technologies, Inc., was founded in 1989. It is a subsidiary of the Bristol Bay Native Corporation.

The Office of the Inspector General (OIG) contracted with *SPECPRO* to upgrade its Information Technology infrastructure. They coordinated the ordering and distribution of file servers and storage networks for OIG to provide the Agency updated, state-of-the-art essential equipment.

*SPECPRO* completed their work on time despite fluctuating delivery schedules. "This company worked diligently and relentlessly to ensure that the needs of the Government were met." *SPECPRO* is committed to providing high-quality, responsive support services.

Bob Reeder, President  
[JReeder@SpecPro-inc.com](mailto:JReeder@SpecPro-inc.com)  
(210) 494-4282

***USMAX CORPORATION, INC.***  
***GAMBRILLS, MARYLAND***  
***AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE***

*USMAX CORPORATION, INC.* is an information technology firm that offers complete system lifecycle support through planning, design, implementation, and management and support services. Established in 1995, *USMAX* provides network and systems engineering, facilities management services, and administrative support.

*USMAX* supported the Agricultural Research Service with help desk and system and data base administrators. They led an implementation team to deliver a seamless cutover of a new Cisco switch, completed upgrades to workstations, and successfully researched, tested and evaluated new software. *USMAX* also successfully provided performance tuning of an e-grants application.

*USMAX* has exceeded the user's expectations. This company was able to work harmoniously with the Government and they supplied bottom line solutions to USDA's day-to-day needs. "At *USMAX*, customer service, coupled with unparalleled technical support is the viable fiber that makes this company a growing success."

David S. Pak, President  
[DPAK@USMAX.com](mailto:DPAK@USMAX.com)  
(301) 912-1166

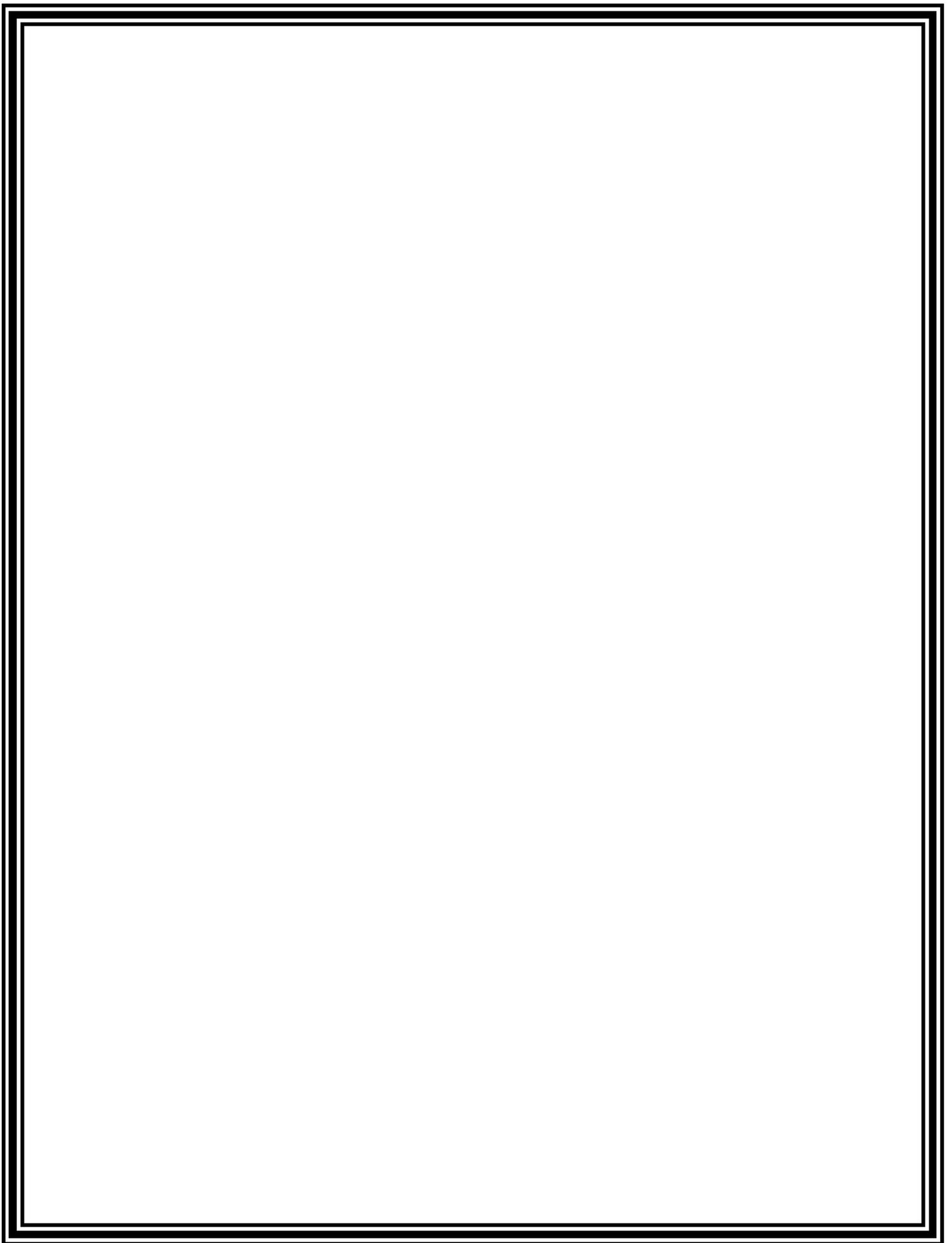
***VERAZ CONSTRUCTION, INC.***  
***TUALATIN, OREGON***  
***FOREST SERVICE***

*VERAZ CONSTRUCTION, INC.* performs heavy construction. They work on roads, excavations and embankments, underground pipes, concrete structures and demolitions, aggregate placement and much more. This company was established in 1989.

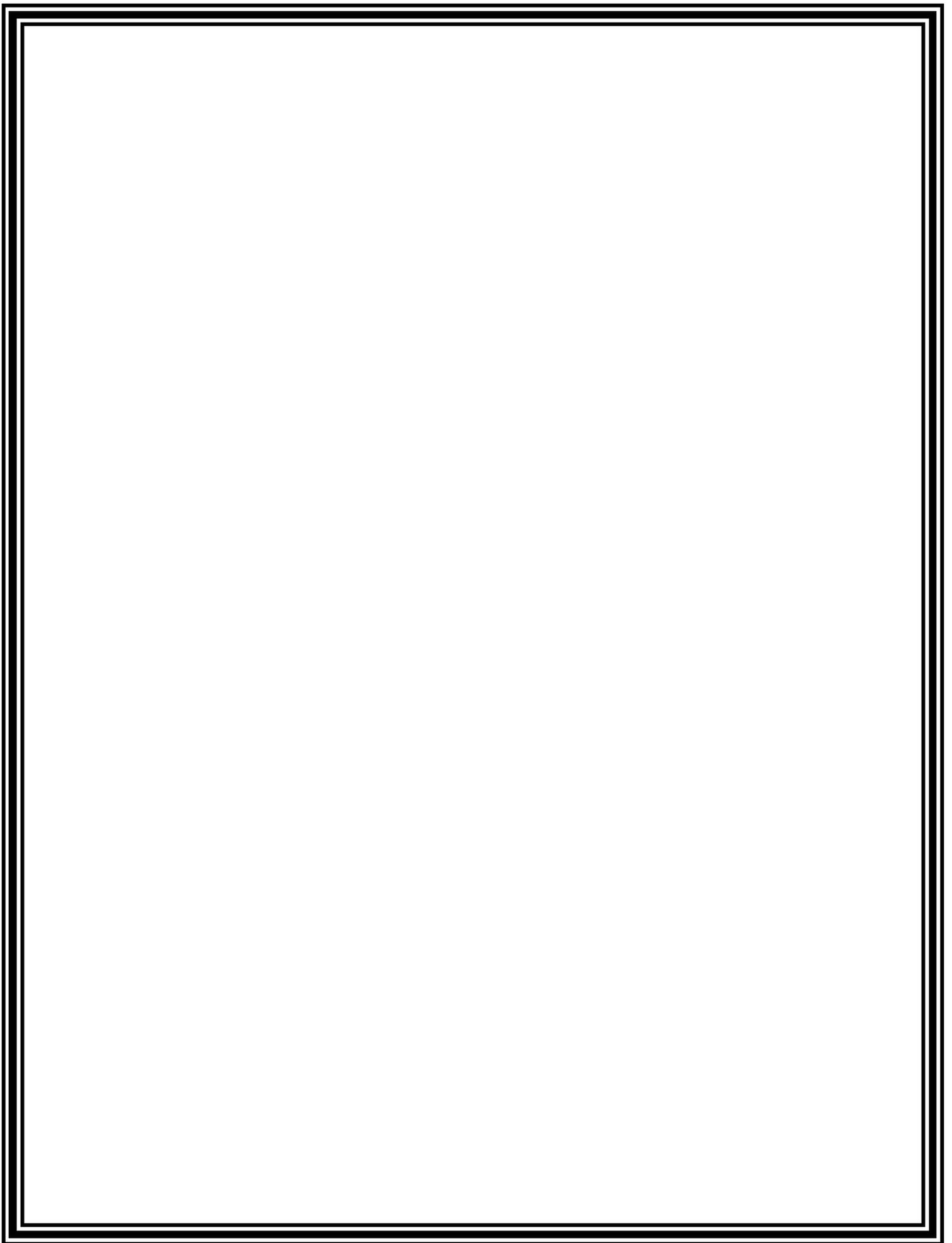
*VERAZ* has worked on several projects for the Forest Service for the Western Oregon Acquisition Group and the Willamette and Siuslaw National Forests. They have completed road construction projects, culvert replacements and boat ramp work. This company has been so successful that they have greatly assisted the Forest Service meet their targets and accomplish emergency work that may not have otherwise been completed.

The Forest Service has been pleased with *VERAZ*'s professionalism, quality work, and timeliness in completion of projects. *VERAZ* does superior work on major structures and their staff is experienced in planning and resolving unforeseen problems. The Forest Service believes this company's quality of work is superior.

Jeffery B. Bengé, President  
[Jeff@Benge.com](mailto:Jeff@Benge.com)  
(503) 682-2111



***SMALL WOMAN-OWNED  
BUSINESS CONTRACTOR  
AWARD WINNERS***



**USDA**  
**2005 WOMAN-OWNED BUSINESS**  
**CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR**

***SYSTEM ENGINEERING AND INTEGRATION DEFENSE CONTRACTOR, INC.***  
***SAN MARCOS, CALIFORNIA***  
***ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE***

*SYSTEM ENGINEERING AND INTEGRATION DEFENSE CONTRACTOR, INC. (SEIDCON, INC.)* provides information assurance and certification and accreditation (C & A) support services to the Federal Government. This company's competencies include security engineering and information assurance, systems engineering and integration, information systems, data warehousing and decision support systems, and advanced technologies. They were originally formed in 1983.

*SEIDCON* has implemented measures to meet security directives and policies for the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). Their work included information security support, compliance assessments of field sites, and configuration and settings review and documentation. *SEIDCON's* work allowed APHIS to pro-actively and quickly address the Agency's security requirements while meeting Departmental mandates for security assessments.

This company has the capability to store up to TOP SECRET (TS) materials and processing capabilities up to SECRET. Staffing has SECRET, TS, and Sensitive Compartment Information (SCI) clearances.

*SEIDCON* had all the required security clearances to put APHIS at ease on the sensitivity of information being evaluated. This company was well educated and sensitive to the Agency's position to provide the Department with quick and highly accurate security assessments. Every task order was performed within negotiated performance schedules. "There was a 200 % commitment from *SEIDCON* to perform over and beyond the contract and provide the Government with the best quality response possible."

*SEIDCON's* impressive professionalism and contract administration skills demonstrated during the contract resulted in first time submittals of top quality deliverables from APHIS to the Department.

Pat D. Immel, President  
[Pattii@SEIDCON.com](mailto:Pattii@SEIDCON.com)  
(760) 510-9800

**USDA**  
**AGENCY WOMAN-OWNED BUSINESS**  
**AWARD WINNERS**

***CARTER'S CONTRACTING SERVICES, INC.***  
***ANDALUSIA, ALABAMA***  
***NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE***

*CARTER'S CONTRACTING SERVICES, INC.* is a construction company that can build small dams, diversions, drainage basins, marine piling encasements and grade stabilization structures. This company can also rehabilitate bridges, perform sewer and water main installations and produce shop fabrication of small motors and actuators. *CARTER'S* began as a family owned business 50 years ago; the current *CARTER'S* was established in 1992.

*CARTER'S CONTRACTING SERVICES* worked for the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to rehabilitate a failing grade stabilization structure. The work performed was sensitive and required tact and diplomacy to assure cooperation with the landowner. *CARTER'S* worked diligently to resolve issues timely so that the project would be completed on schedule. This contractor has had numerous contracts with NRCS and has always left a quality product.

*CARTER'S* has been an easy company with which to work and they believe in "...getting the job done for lasting enjoyment and satisfaction of the customer".

Mertha Carter, President  
[CartersContracting@hotmail.com](mailto:CartersContracting@hotmail.com)  
(334) 222-6670

***ENDER-YORK, INC.***  
***FAIRFAX, VIRGINIA***  
***FOOD AND NUTRITION SERVICE***

*ENDER-YORK, INC.* provides services in training and evaluations. They have experience in managing large data collection efforts, with particular emphasis on school district food service purchasing practices. This company developed, implemented and continues to monitor the Commodity Letter of Credit Program.

*ENDER-YORK* was part of a three year study to explore alternative programs to the commodity distribution program for the Food and Nutrition Service (FNS). As a result of this experience and knowledge, the company was contracted to monitor the Cash in Lieu of Commodities (CLOC) Program. This program works in tandem with the commodity distribution program.

*ENDER-YORK* works closely with 53 CLOC sites to collect the necessary information to administer the Program. They have ensured that each CLOC site has the most current information about when and what should be purchased. Their deliverables to FNS Headquarters have been timely and complete. "This company has an excellent, professional manner. Their customer service is at the highest level."

Ann H. Krone, President  
[cdroot@erols.com](mailto:cdroot@erols.com)  
(703) 815-3212

***INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT RESOURCES GROUP, INC.  
LANHAM, MARYLAND  
FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE***

*INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT RESOURCES GROUP, INC. (IMRG)* provides business support services including temporary personnel. They offer competencies in business support outsourcing, pension benefits and actuarial solutions, management consulting and specialized accounting services, and information technology services. *IMRG* was founded in 1997.

*INTEGRATED MANAGEMENT RESOURCES GROUP* supplied the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) with temporary contract support personnel during the fiscal year end crunch period. This company supplied excellent, knowledgeable, temporary personnel support.

*IMRG* is one of the top agencies in business support services. “This is a service-driven, professionally managed company. They provide quality outsourcing and on-site management employing a team of professionals that work in tandem with Government or corporate specifications.”

Myrna Cooks, President  
[myrnacooks@imrg2000.com](mailto:myrnacooks@imrg2000.com)  
(301) 306-0502

***JACK MORGAN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC.  
ENGLAND, ARKANSAS  
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE***

*JACK MORGAN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, INC.* offers complete building capabilities, including assistance with site selection and feasibility studies as well as engineering, design and turn-key construction. Projects have included greenhouses, churches, schools, warehouses, commercial office buildings and much more. The company was incorporated in 1958.

*JACK MORGAN CONSTRUCTION* has completed several construction projects for the Forest Service (FS). Design/build projects have reduced overall project time and cost. Projects completed for the FS include a greenhouse, several metal implement buildings, a main office/laboratory building and a remodeling of an animal care research facility.

*JACK MORGAN CONSTRUCTION* has worked with the Government to negotiate a fair and reasonable price for several construction projects when the fiscal year was ending and time was critical. They have overcome unforeseen obstacles and used a combination of value engineering and onsite management to minimize delays and control time overruns to manage changes. This company has fulfilled its goal, “...to build a project at a fair price while providing courteous and professional service.”

Jill Tausch, President  
[JMorgan@aol.com](mailto:JMorgan@aol.com)  
(501) 842-3866

***MISSOURI OFFICE SYSTEMS AND SUPPLIES, INC.  
GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI  
FARM SERVICE AGENCY***

*MISSOURI OFFICE SYSTEMS AND SUPPLIES, INC.* is an office supply store that supplies a wide variety of products. Some of their products include office furniture, laser and ink jet printers, toner cartridges, and binders. This company was established in 1993.

*MISSOURI OFFICE SYSTEMS AND SUPPLIES* has provided the Farm Service Agency (FSA) various types of toner cartridges, binders, computer monitors and other office products. They have provided timely quotes and have searched for high quality products at the lowest price. This company always indicates when the products will be shipped. They usually exceed the delivery schedule in the contract.

“*MISSOURI OFFICE SYSTEMS AND SUPPLIES* is very professional and they have provided great customer service.”

Virgie Dillard, President  
[Info@8asupplier.com](mailto:Info@8asupplier.com)  
(816) 761-5152

***PEANUT PROCESSORS, INC.  
DUBLIN, NORTH CAROLINA  
FARM SERVICE AGENCY - COMMODITY***

*PEANUT PROCESSORS, INC.* sells peanut products such as roasted in-shell peanuts, roasted salted in-shell peanuts, peanut granules and peanut butter. This company was started in 1960.

*PEANUT PROCESSORS* has implemented a Total Quality Systems Audit (TQSA) process as mandated by the Farm Service Agency (FSA). *TQSA* verifies that a quality management system has been established and is maintained. *PEANUT PROCESSORS* has received a TQSA score of 100 % for two years in a row. This company has also made a significant financial and engineering investment in tankers to transport bulk peanut butter. This has streamlined the production process and reduced labor costs associated with material handling.

“*PEANUT PROCESSORS* has always maintained a very cooperative and professional working relationship with USDA. Their goal is to provide the services necessary for a close and lasting professional relationship.”

Rhee B. Sutton, President  
[unclady73@aol.com](mailto:unclady73@aol.com)  
(910) 862-2136

***THE PERARA GROUP, INC.  
ODENTON, MARYLAND  
OFFICE OF THE INSPECTOR GENERAL***

*THE PERARA GROUP, INC. (PG)* provides relocation and asset management services and asset management warehousing. They also support biomedical research and development as well as management consulting and information technology services. This company was founded in 2001.

THE PERARA GROUP worked with the Office of the Inspector General (OIG) to provide all necessary personnel, equipment, and transportation for internal office moves, furniture set-up and installations. They have handled several high profile moves for senior staff offices. These projects were always completed within the timelines required.

“PG has provided OIG with outstanding professional services.” Their staff is responsive and always willing to adjust to the needs of the OIG. The personnel assigned to the project are properly certified and they have possessed the experience required to perform the assignment.

Mary Perara, President  
[mperara@peraragroup.com](mailto:mperara@peraragroup.com)  
(301) 912-4414

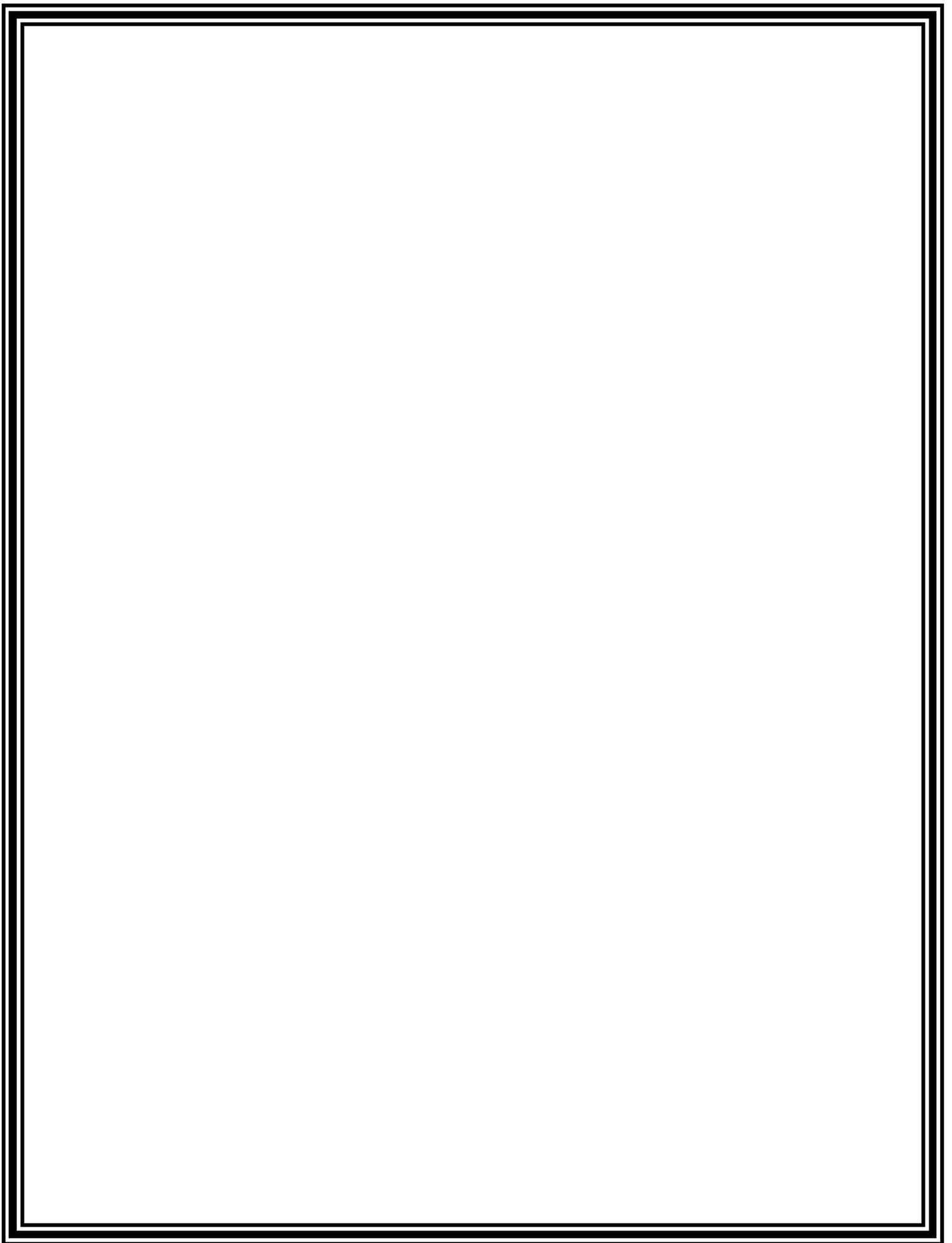
***WALLACE CONTRACTING, INC.  
WILLISTON, SOUTH CAROLINA  
FOREST SERVICE***

*WALLACE CONTRACTING, INC.* specializes in forestry and natural resource projects. This company provides forestry support services to include, but not limited to, hand tree planting, sod installation, grounds maintenance, fence maintenance, hand seeding, and erosion control matting installs. They have been in business since 1980.

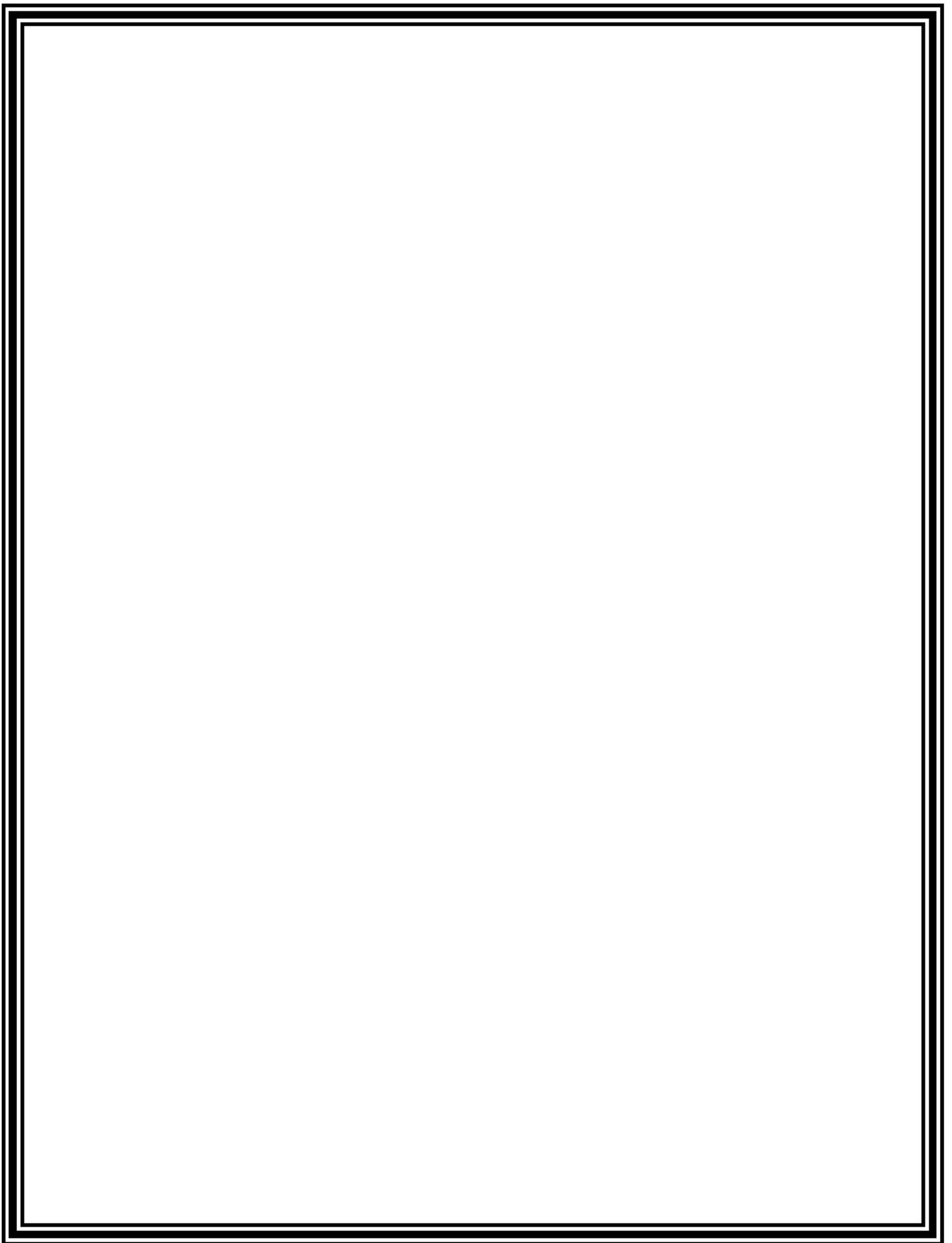
*WALLACE CONTRACTING* has had several contracts with the Forest Service to perform forestry support functions. They have worked on diverse projects such as hand tree planting, herbicide applications, sod laying, tree removals, and erosion control matting installations. A project which involved reconditioning of the Bentonite Mat Demonstration test pads was particularly sensitive. The start on this job was delayed because of issues involving funding and red tape. The job was completed on time and at a significant cost savings to the Government even though performance time was shortened.

*WALLACE CONTRACTING* has performed all work in a timely and proficient manner and has met strict quality standards and task order requirements. “This company has always displayed a professional, courteous, and cooperative attitude.” This contractor has been immensely flexible in deploying their workforce around the constantly changing work requirements of the contract.

Pam Wallace  
[PWal464718@aol.com](mailto:PWal464718@aol.com)  
(803) 502-1505



***USDA  
SERVICE DISABLED  
VETERAN-OWNED  
SMALL BUSINESS  
AWARD WINNERS***



**USDA**  
**2005 SERVICE DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS**  
**CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR**

**VIDEO & TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC.**  
**SPRINGFIELD, VIRGINIA**  
**FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE**

*VIDEO & TELECOMMUNICATIONS, INC. (VTI)* sells and services microcomputers, software, hardware, and other associated information technology services and equipment. This company was founded in 1982.

*VIDEO & TELECOMMUNICATIONS* provides unique, hard to find, computer software, products and services. This company has always responded to the Food Safety and Inspection Service's (FSIS) requests and provided the items needed. *VTI* has been able to provide items that other vendors could not supply. In addition, *VTI's* customer support program meets the most stringent requirements.

*VIDEO & TELECOMMUNICATIONS* is also experienced in evaluations, analytical support and marketing of secured computing devices. This includes data communications solutions for both Government and industry. *VTI* provides pre-sales and post-sales support, and they are a GSA schedule holder.

When the FSIS has required a critical computer component or an emergency maintenance service for a computer, fax, or copier, *VTI* has been quick to respond. This company's staff of certified engineers seems to handle any networking, hardware, or software questions or concerns. *VTI* has always combined competitive pricing with quick and competent delivery.

Pete Bianchetta, Sales Representative  
[peteb@vti2.com](mailto:peteb@vti2.com)  
(703) 658-0304

**USDA**  
**AGENCY SERVICE DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED**  
**SMALL BUSINESS**  
**AWARD WINNERS**

***METRO, L.L.C.***  
***GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI***  
***FARM SERVICE AGENCY***

*METRO, L.L.C.* provides products and services in information technology and telecommunications, office supplies and furniture, janitorial supplies, and construction management. This company was founded in 1996.

*METRO L.L.C.* has provided printers and ink cartridges for the Kansas City Administrative Office. These items have been used in State and County offices. *METRO* has responded quickly to any questionable deliverables and has provided end users new cartridges for replacements. They have made prompt deliveries and been very responsive to the needs of the Farm Service Agency (FSA).

*METRO L.L.C.* is very customer service oriented. They have demonstrated concern for their customers' needs and requirements. "*METRO* has established high standards for its performance."

Larry T. Hayes, President  
[lhayes@metrollc.net](mailto:lhayes@metrollc.net)  
(816) 765-8822

***STOWE LAND CLEARING***  
***ZAVALLA, TEXAS***  
***FOREST SERVICE***

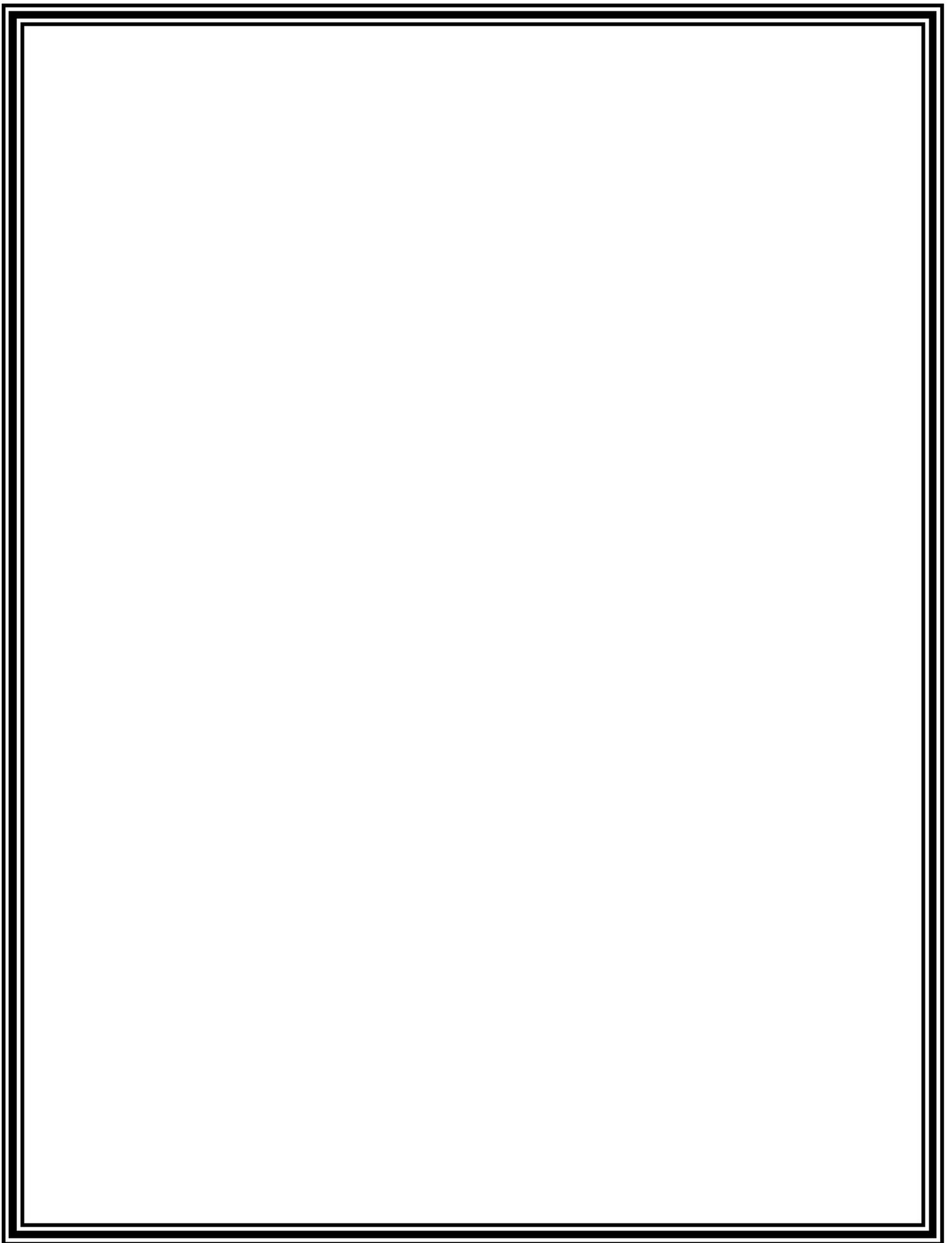
*STOWE LAND CLEARING* performs land clearing, construction services, and road maintenance. This company was established in 2003.

*STOWE LAND CLEARING* has worked on culvert replacements, bulkhead construction, and construction of a stationary walkway and floating dock for several National Forests. All projects have been completed timely and often completed early. This company has been easy to work with and negotiations have been smooth even when awards have to be made quickly late in the contracting year.

*STOWE LAND CLEARING* performance has been efficient and this company has demonstrated an excellent work ethic. "All individuals in this company take pride in their work."

Mark Stowe, Owner  
[Krislindsey3313@aol.com](mailto:Krislindsey3313@aol.com)  
(936) 897-3598

***USDA  
SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT  
AWARD WINNERS***



**USDA**  
**2005 SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT**  
**AWARD WINNERS**  
*(Individual and Group)*

***CONTRACTING AND ACQUISITION BRANCH***  
***KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI***  
***FARM SERVICE AGENCY***

The *CONTRACTING AND ACQUISITION BRANCH* awards and administers contracts for services, supplies and research and development in support of the Farm Service Agency, Risk Management Agency and the Information Technology Service of the Office of the Chief Information Officer. This group is committed to providing opportunities for small businesses to compete in Federal acquisitions. In fiscal year 2004, the branch awarded 72 % of their contract dollars to small businesses. This group also met all of their small business goals and significantly exceeded goals in five categories. In addition, the group made marked improvements over fiscal year 2003 accomplishments in four of the small business categories.

In order to achieve their goals, the *CONTRACTING AND ACQUISITION BRANCH* utilized the small business, 8(a) and service disabled veteran-owned business set-aside tools available to them. They regularly provided opportunities for small businesses to individually market their capabilities to the contracting staff and they distributed materials to educate the small companies on how to conduct business with USDA.

The *CONTRACTING AND ACQUISITION BRANCH* counseled small businesses, assisted them in locating potential business opportunities, advised them on correctly completing paperwork and provided information on meeting delivery and invoicing requirements. This group was recognized for supporting the monthly networking breakfast sponsored by the Federal Executive Board's Minority Small Business Subcommittee.

The *CONTRACTING AND ACQUISITION BRANCH* believes in supporting small businesses, and their actions have supported their ideology.

**Team Members:**

Pamela Wellons, Chief  
Patty Cochran  
Sharon Dowse  
John Hanson  
Gayle Harris

Roberta Martel  
Steven Prado  
Paul Talley  
Alease Williams  
Charlene Yapple

***ANTHONY WIMBUSH***  
***WASHINGTON, D.C.***  
***AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE***

*ANTHONY WIMBUSH* is a Supervisory Contract Specialist in charge of the District of Columbia section of the Acquisition Branch in the Acquisition and Property Division of the Agricultural Research Service (ARS) Headquarters. *MR. WIMBUSH*'s section provides service in all areas of contracting – service, supply, construction, information technology, etc.

*MR. WIMBUSH* has initiated several actions to promote the small business programs in his section. All members of his staff met regularly with representatives of the small business community. He ensured that small business set-asides were utilized as much as possible. He has been so successful that every major contract awarded by his section in fiscal year 2004 was awarded to “other than large business”.

*MR. WIMBUSH* has demonstrated that the Government procurement system and achieving small business goals are compatible. He has actively promoted the use of Departmental and other buying tools to reach out to the small vendor community. He has sought out opportunities to simplify the buying process and has expanded his section's goals and achievements.

*MR. WIMBUSH* has also conducted training events for his Agency's customers. Planning, goals, and outreach tips are always part of his training exercise. “*MR. WIMBUSH*'s spirit, drive and enthusiasm for the OSDDBU program are infectious. His actions are a large part of why ARS is able to consistently meet and exceed its small business goals.”

**USDA**  
**AGENCY SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT**  
**AWARD WINNERS**  
*(Individual and Group)*

***ACQUISITIONS AND AGREEMENTS STAFF***  
***BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND***  
***FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE***

The *ACQUISITIONS AND AGREEMENTS STAFF* handles all contracts and purchase orders for the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS). This team has worked hard to exceed expectations to use small businesses as part of their routine business practices.

The *ACQUISITIONS AND AGREEMENTS STAFF* has continuously surpassed its small business procurement goals. In fiscal year 2004, the group exceeded its goals in several categories, awarding 27.7 % of its requirements to 8(a) companies, 28.4 % for small disadvantaged businesses and almost 8 % to women-owned small businesses.

The *STAFF* attends trade fairs and vendor outreach sessions. They have worked closely with the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization and the Small Business Administration to increase their small business vendor pool. The group is enthusiastic about the small business programs, and this excitement has netted them positive results.

Team Members:

Debra Kaelberer, Branch Chief  
Karen Chapman  
Lorna Craig  
Janet Elm  
Diane Furr  
Angela Green

Madonna Langley  
Julian McElveen  
Tawana Nathan  
Kathy Richardson  
Megan Robey  
Deborah Robertson  
Stephanie Williams

***JAN BLACK  
GOLDEN POND, KENTUCKY  
FOREST SERVICE***

*JAN BLACK* is a Supervisory Contracting Officer at the Land Between The Lakes National Recreation Area. He has used innovative contracting techniques to ensure small companies are able to actively compete on a level playing field with larger firms.

*MR. BLACK* has developed contracts that have allowed companies to “bid in the alternative”. For a group of four independent solicitations, contractors could bid on each contract independently or propose an alternative price for each based upon receiving the award of all four contracts. This has been beneficial to small companies who may not have been able to compete with large contractors on a broad spectrum of varied and complex duties. This contracting method, along with several other techniques employed by *MR. BLACK* has ensured that small businesses have had an opportunity to bid and win awards on several Forest Service requirements.

*MR., BLACK* has used ground-breaking methods and invested hundreds of dedicated hours to develop some of his unique contracts. He has been able to award contracts to a strongly performing, small, local, HUBZone approved contractor. *MR. BLACK* has also simultaneously saved the Land Between The Lakes National Recreation Area hundreds of thousands of dollars annually.

***LUANN LILLIE, RATTANA KITTITORNUP-NANTZ AND BIRDIE NEAL  
STILLWATER, OKLAHOMA  
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE***

The *CONTRACTING STAFF* at the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Oklahoma State Office has worked diligently to increase their pool of small and small disadvantaged businesses. They have partnered with the Small Business Administration to host informational workshops for small businesses on contracting with the Federal Government.

This *STAFF* has established close communications with the Federally recognized tribes in the State. They have also worked closely with 8(a) vendors to guide them through unique NRCS and Federal contracting requirements. In fiscal year 2004, all ten Emergency Watershed Protection Program projects were awarded to small businesses. Three of those awardees were also women-owned and small disadvantaged businesses.

***HOWARD G. PRICE***  
***RIVERDALE, MARYLAND***  
***ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE***

*HOWARD G. PRICE* is the Director of the Administrative Services Division of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). He is responsible for directing technical and administrative operations, policies and program management for Marketing and Regulatory Programs (MRP).

*MR. PRICE* has represented APHIS at vendor outreach sessions to learn how his organization can convey information to small businesses in the most effective manner. He is overseeing the creation of new outreach materials to use at future sessions. *MR. PRICE* has been a strong advocate for small businesses within APHIS, instructing program managers that small business set-asides must be utilized.

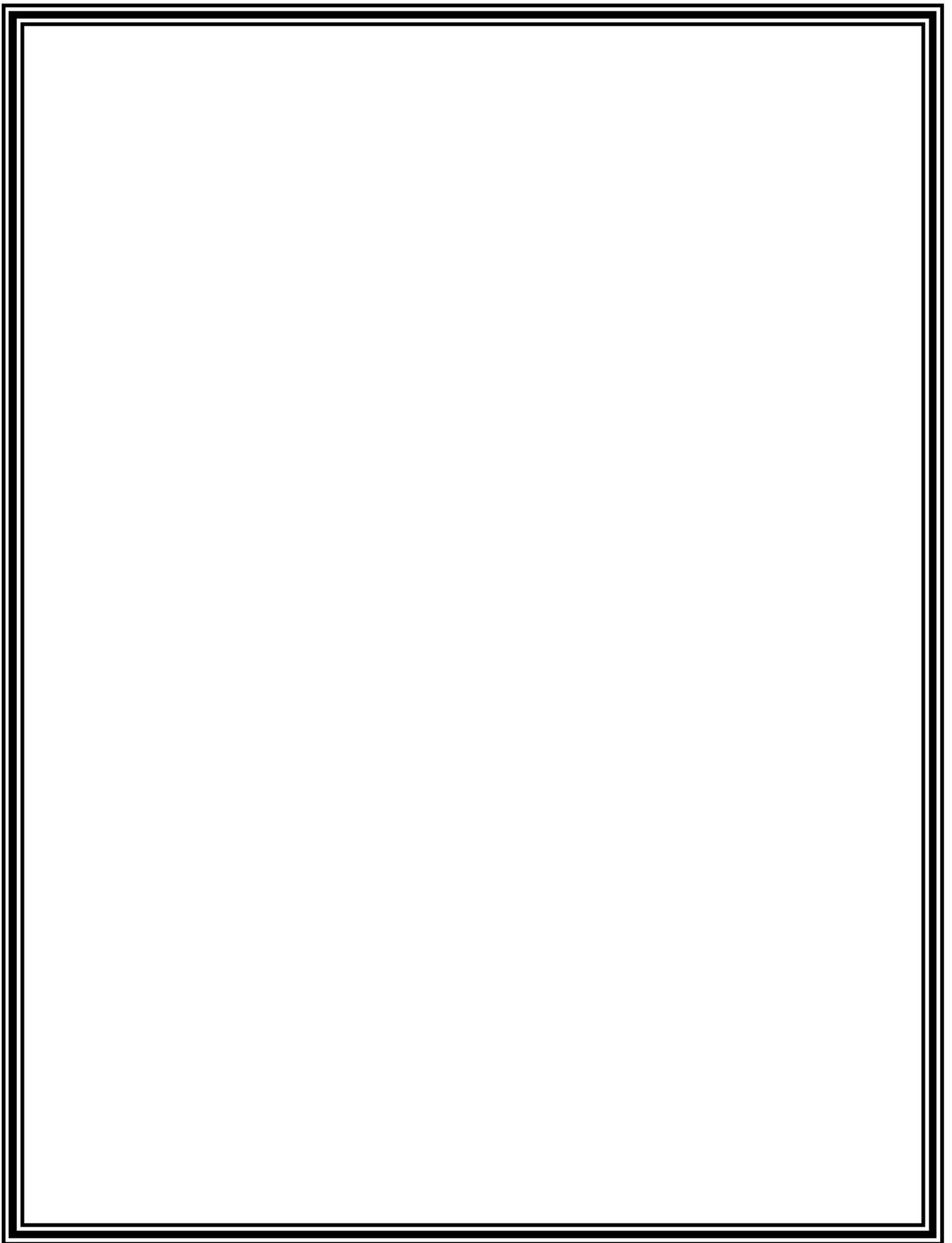
*MR. PRICE* has initiated a quarterly reporting system for tracking small business procurement accomplishments. He has taken an interest in initiating a pro-active role in meeting small business goals. An Agency Operating Plan initiative is for performance assessments and improvements of the balanced scorecard. At *MR. PRICE*'s request, small business achievements have been incorporated in the fiscal year 2005 Operating Plan. This should add visibility and continuity to the APHIS small business programs.

***RICHARD N. STORIE***  
***WASHINGTON, D.C.***  
***OFFICE OF PROCUREMENT AND PROPERTY MANAGEMENT***

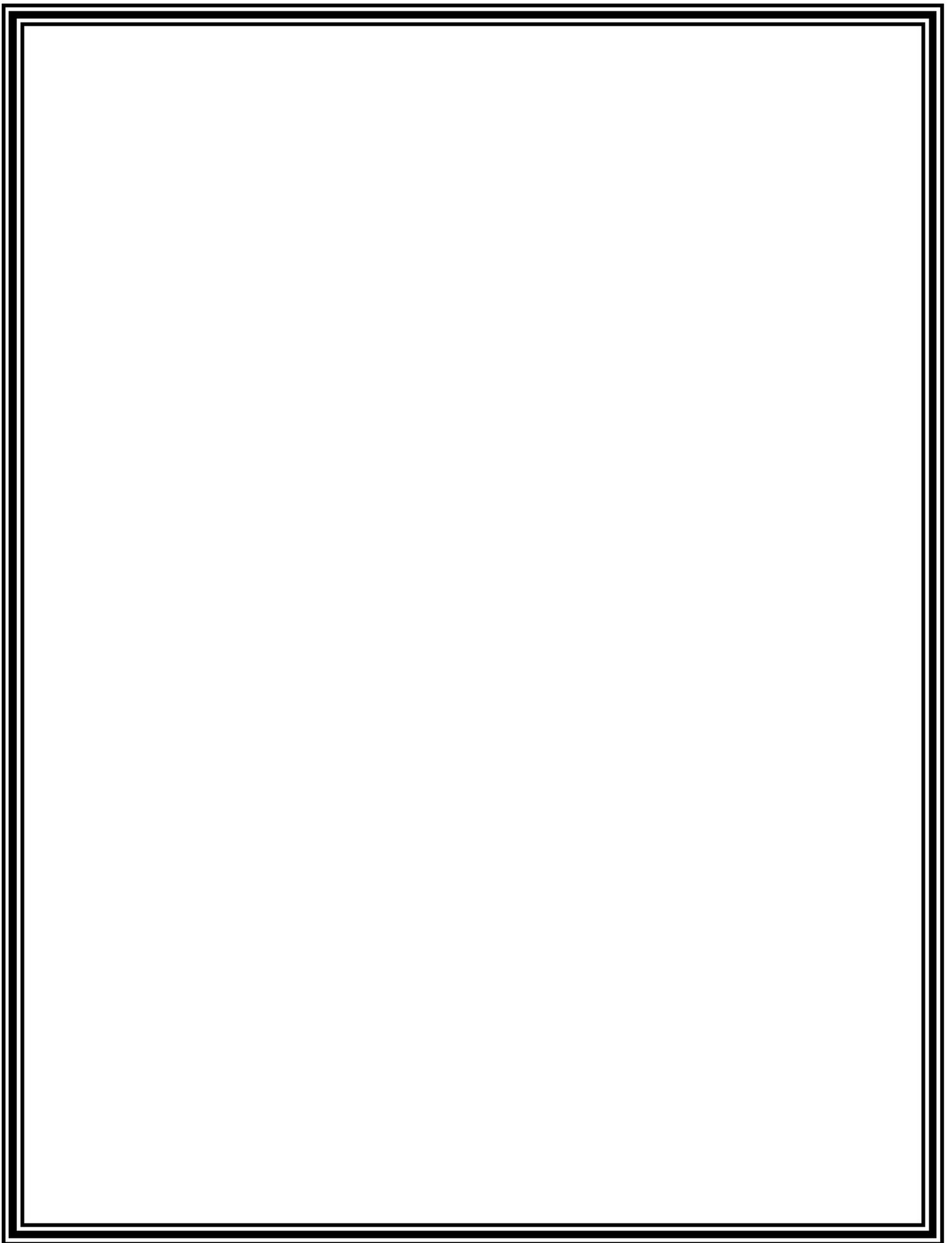
*RICHARD N. STORIE* is a Senior Contracting Officer supporting the Office of the Chief Financial Officer and the National Finance Center. He has been a strong advocate of small and small disadvantaged businesses (SDB) in the Office of Procurement and Property Management's Procurement Operations Division (POD).

*MR. STORIE* undertook the responsibilities of the Small Business Coordinator for the POD when that position was vacant for several months. He met with small businesses during monthly vendor outreach sessions and he assisted other Contracting Officers locate and make awards to small and SDBs.

*MR. STORIE* has also partnered with one of his customers to develop requirements and procurement strategies to target an 8(a), SDB company for information technology (IT) service support contract awards. His teaming strategies resulted in \$5.8 million contract awards to an 8(a) SDB IT service contractor. *MR. STORIE* includes specific terms and conditions in his contracts that give small businesses a fair opportunity to compete as subcontractors when they are not able to provide services as prime contractors. His small business management plans and procurement strategies have increased small business awards and become models for the POD staff. During fiscal year 2004 and 2005 to date, *MR. STORIE* has awarded almost \$14 million of IT business to the small business community.



***JAVITS-WAGNER-O'DAY  
(JWOD)  
AWARD WINNERS***



**USDA**  
**2005 JAVITS-WAGNER-O'DAY**  
**CONTRACTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD**

***PORTLAND HABILITATION CENTER, INC.***  
***PORTLAND, OREGON***  
***FOREST SERVICE***

*PORTLAND HABILITATION CENTER, INC. (PHC)* provides vocational training and employment for people with disabilities who want to work and who want to contribute to their own independence. This company provides warehousing services, regular and special order mailings, paper shredding, and repackaging services. They also provide janitorial services and a gardening program.

*PHC* has worked with the Forest Service (FS) for conference room setup services, mailroom services and storage and delivery services. The company managed a conference center utilized by three Federal agencies and coordinated multiple schedules and reconfigured the room for each requirement. Mailroom services were provided for a FS Regional office, a laboratory and regional fire center. *PHC* has also maintained mailing lists of over 9,000 names and regularly handled selective mailings.

*PHC's* advance planning has been excellent resulting in room set-ups with minimal changes. Their mailroom crew has always been very conscientious in completing their assignments and meeting deadlines. This company is security and safety conscious as well as customer oriented. *PHC's* record keeping has been superb. They have worked closely with the FS to reduce warehouse space for publications, thus reducing monthly expenses for the Agency.

“*PHC* has been committed to quality, competitive employment where attainable and quality sheltered employment where appropriate.” The services provided by *PHC* have been effective and efficient. The Forest Service has been very pleased with the services provided by this company, and they look forward to working with this company for many future years.

John Sullivan, President  
[Patti@phcnw.com](mailto:Patti@phcnw.com)  
(503)261-1266

**USDA**  
**AGENCY JAVITS-WAGNER-O'DAY**  
**AWARD WINNERS**

***DELAWARE INDUSTRIES FOR THE BLIND***  
***NEW CASTLE, DELAWARE***  
***FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE***

*DELAWARE INDUSTRIES FOR THE BLIND (DIB)* provides trophies, engraved signs, artwork, graphics, advertising and promotional products to Federal, State, and local communities. They also perform janitorial services. The types of products and services provided by this company allow a variety of skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled positions to be made available for blind and visually impaired citizens. The company was founded in 1938.

The Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) had a requirement for expandable computer bags with a very short delivery date. *DIB* was able to fulfill this requirement when most vendors could not meet the deadline. The quality of the bags was beyond expectations, and *DIB* did an excellent job in meeting the Agency's time constraints.

"*DELAWARE INDUSTRIES FOR THE BLIND* was very professional, willing and wanting to provide the exact products or services that are required." The products provided by this company are of the highest quality and their service has been excellent.

Jay Rios  
[Javier.Rios@state.de.us](mailto:Javier.Rios@state.de.us)  
(302) 255-9855

***PEAK PERFORMERS***  
***AUSTIN, TEXAS***  
***FARM SERVICE AGENCY***

*PEAK PERFORMERS* is a non-profit temporary staffing service specializing in working with people with disabilities. They are an approved vendor of temporary non-personal administrative and general support services for all Federal agencies. Services provided include data entry, data base management, office automation, general clerical, reception, mail handling and duplicating machine operators.

*PEAK PERFORMERS* provided data entry of freight bills and loss and damage claims for the Farm Service Agency (FSA). They also provided file preparation and photocopying services in addition to input of warehouse receipts. Their work has been timely and complete. This company has performed with a high degree of accuracy while requiring minimal supervision.

*PEAK PERFORMERS* has been professional and courteous. Representatives of the FSA look forward to a long and continued relationship with this company.

Charlie Graham  
[CharlieGraham@mac.com](mailto:CharlieGraham@mac.com)  
(512) 453-8833

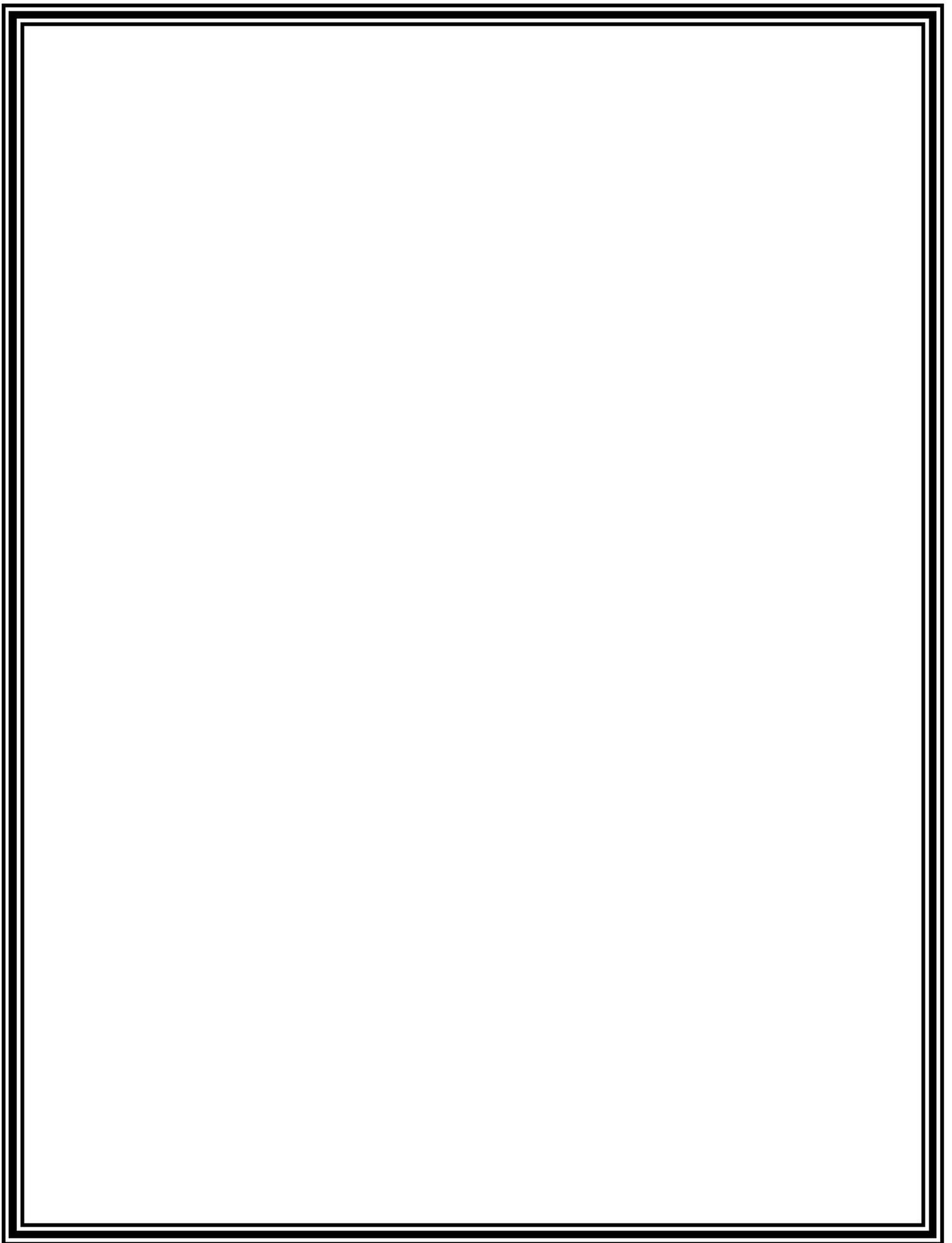
***TRANSYLVANIA VOCATIONAL SERVICES, INC.  
BREVARD, NORTH CAROLINA  
FARM SERVICE AGENCY***

*TRANSYLVANIA VOCATIONAL SERVICES, INC. (TVS)* serves individuals with barriers to employment. Individuals employed and trained by *TVS* have physical, mental and developmental disabilities. This company, founded in 1967, repackages non-fat dry milk for domestic and export food aid programs.

*TVS* reinvented itself to become a professionally staffed food plant. They developed a quality system to meet USDA's Total Quality Systems Audit (TQSA) standards, and they achieved ISO 9001:2000 registration. *TVS* has an on time delivery record of over 99 %.

More than seventy jobs have been created in the Brevard community as a result of *TVS*'s contract with the Farm Service Agency (FSA). This company trained their staff to operate new equipment, deal with food safety issues, follow quality standards and learn to understand USDA's needs. This company has increased their output and grown their business every year. The FSA is proud of *TVS*'s accomplishments.

Nancy Stricker, Director  
[Nancy@TVSinc.org](mailto:Nancy@TVSinc.org)  
(828) 884-3195



**USDA**  
**2005 JAVITS-WAGNER-O'DAY**  
**SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNER**

***RUFUS COLE***  
***ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO***  
***FOREST SERVICE***

*RUFUS COLE* is a supervisory contract specialist with the Forest Service (FS). He has initiated a project with a sheltered workshop to shred documents discarded by the Albuquerque Regional Office.

The FS Albuquerque Regional Office had purchased many Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) products, but had never used any JWOD services. *MR. COLE* researched the cost benefits of purchasing shredding machines for the office or utilizing the services of a JWOD business. He inspected the JWOD company's shredding site and its security and determined that a contract with the company would be beneficial for the FS.

*MR. COLE* anticipates expanded use of the JWOD shredding contract because the Albuquerque Regional Office will be adding staff which is relocating to that area. *MR. COLE* also hopes to expand the contract to include nearby FS offices. This project may be a pilot project for other FS Regions.

**USDA**  
**AGENCY JAVITS-WAGNER-O'DAY**  
**SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD WINNERS**

***ACQUISITIONS AND AGREEMENTS STAFF***  
***BELTSVILLE, MARYLAND***  
***FOOD SAFETY AND INSPECTION SERVICE***

The *ACQUISITIONS AND AGREEMENTS STAFF* is a team that is responsible for pre-award and post-award purchase orders and contracts for the Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS). Whenever possible, this *STAFF* worked hard and passed expectations to use Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) firms to supply products and services to FSIS.

This *STAFF* has invited JWOD firms to the FSIS premises to give presentations on available products and services. They have issued purchase orders and contracts for the following: shuttle bus services, gloves and aprons, janitorial services, engraved/monogrammed computer bags, advertising and promotional materials and other products and services.

The *ACQUISITIONS AND AGREEMENTS STAFF* has consistently exceeded the Secretary of Agriculture's goal of increasing its support of the JWOD Program by half a percent every year. Their motto is "Think JWOD first!"

Team Members:

Debra Kaelberer, Branch Chief  
Karen Chapman  
Lorna Craig  
Janet Elm  
Diane Furr  
Angela Green

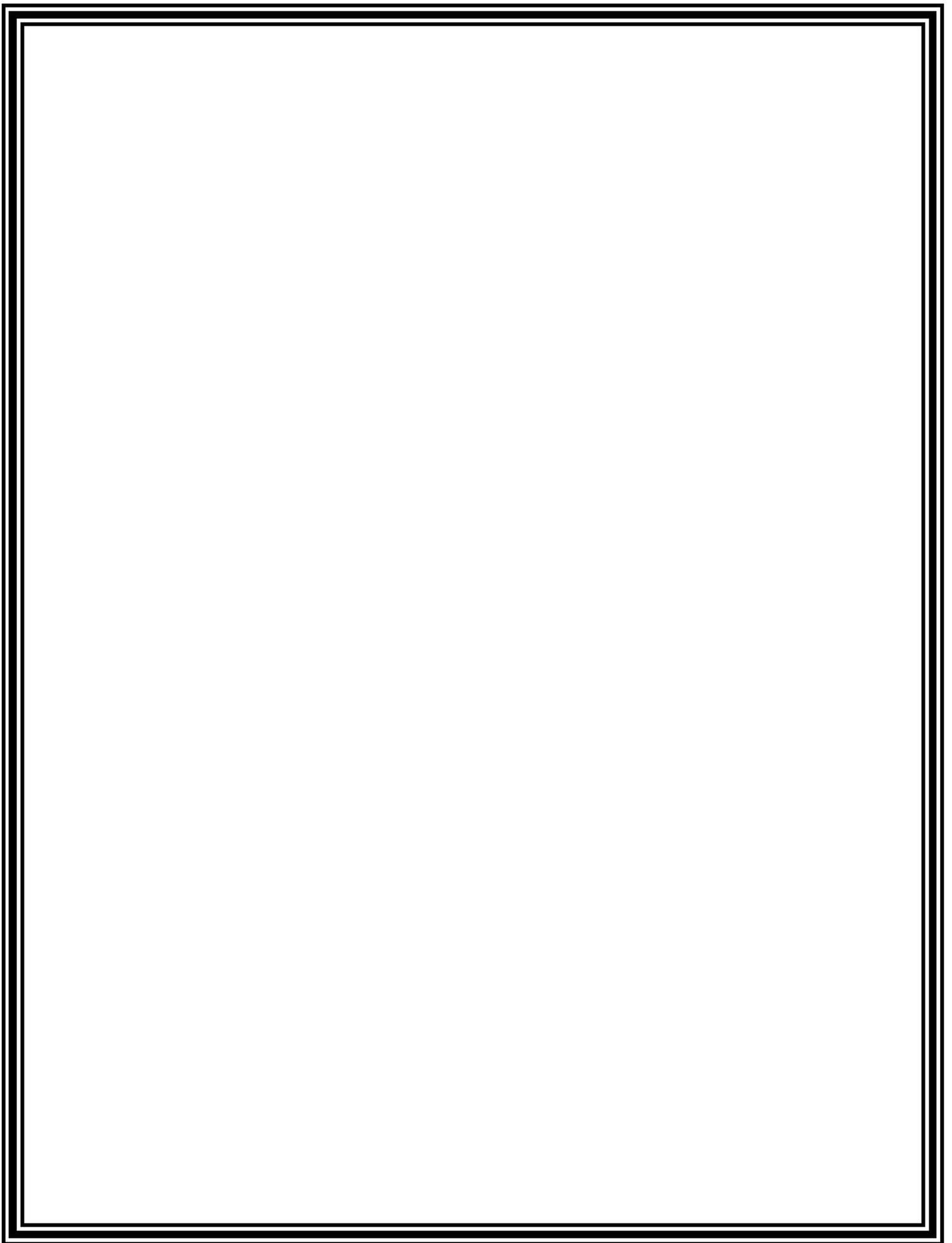
Madonna Langley  
Julian McElveen  
Tawana Nathan  
Kathy Richardson  
Megan Robey  
Deborah Robertson  
Stephanie Williams

***TERRY L. KIRBY AND SUSAN A. BURTON  
WASHINGTON, D.C.  
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE***

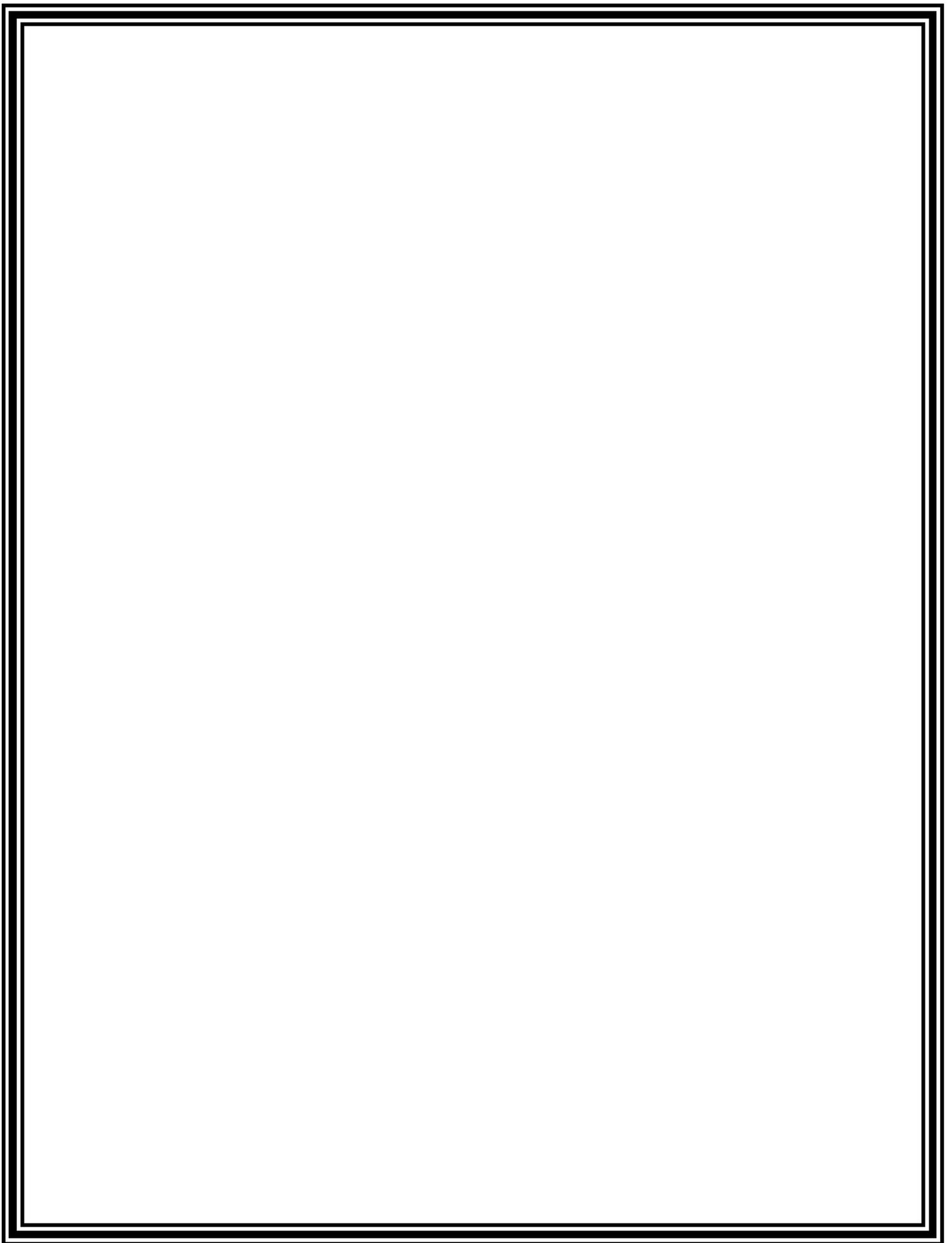
*MS. KIRBY* and *MS. BURTON* work in the Realty and Contracts Section of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). *MS. KIRBY* has been responsible for promoting the JWOD Program within NRCS and communicating opportunities in all acquisition offices. *MS. BURTON* has worked closely with *MS. KIRBY* providing reader and research assistance services.

*MS. KIRBY* has planned and worked on an annual JWOD Celebration at USDA Headquarters. She is also the key contact to resolve issues which arise from a blanket purchase arrangement for JWOD office supplies. *MS. KIRBY* has worked closely with many JWOD companies and has been their champion within NRCS.

*MS. BURTON's* major task for the Agency has been to provide reading and editing services. She has researched Federal regulations and policy, manipulated databases, searched web sites, maintained files, and traveled with *MS. KIRBY*. *MS. BURTON* has greatly enhanced the workflow of the office and assisted the staff in meeting deadlines. She has been a great asset to NRCS.



***USDA  
OFFICE OF SMALL  
AND DISADVANTAGED  
BUSINESS UTILIZATION  
DIRECTOR'S  
AWARD WINNERS***



**USDA**  
**OFFICE OF SMALL AND DISADVANTAGED**  
**BUSINESS UTILIZATION**  
**DIRECTOR'S AWARDS**

***JOHN "DUFF" BURKE***  
***GOVERNMENT ACCOUNTS MANAGER***  
***U.S. FOODSERVICE***

After attending Salisbury State University for two years *MR. BURKE* worked at numerous local restaurants as a waiter, bartender, manager and owner. In 1987 he left the restaurant business and became a Sales and Project Manager for Atlantic Equipment Company in Baltimore, Maryland.

In 1991, *MR. BURKE* took the position of Territory Sales Manager for the Atlantic Foodservice Company in Manassas, Virginia. After three years he accepted the Government Accounts Manager position with Continental Foods of Baltimore. Subsequently, Continental Foods of Baltimore was purchased by U.S. Foodservice. In 2002 he was appointed as the division Small Business Liaison Officer.

***STEVEN L. SHAVITZ***  
***DIRECTOR OF CHAIN ACCOUNTS***  
***U. S. FOODSERVICE***

After graduating from the University of Baltimore with a Bachelor of Science in Finance, *MR. SHAVITZ* worked for Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company as a Credit/Sales Manager. He was then self-employed and acquired ownership of Sorrento's Pizza and Sub Shop.

In 1973, *MR. SHAVITZ* began a career in the foodservice industry as Territory Manager and Sales Manager for Lunardi Foodservice in Baltimore, Maryland. He became Director of Business Development for the I. Feldman Company in Washington, D.C. in 1983, which was purchased by Kraft Foodservice and then Alliant Foodservice.

*MR. SHAVITZ* attained the position of Chain Sales Manager for Continental Foods of Baltimore in 1995, which after many mergers is now U. S. Foodservice. He is currently the Director of Chain Accounts overseeing Military, Government, and Commercial Accounts.

***STEVEN SIMS***  
***VICE PRESIDENT FOR PROGRAM AND FIELD OPERATIONS***  
***NATIONAL MINORITY SUPPLIER DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL, INC.***

*STEVEN SIMS* serves as Vice President for Programs and Field Operations for the National Minority Supplier Development Council, Inc. (NMSDC). He is responsible for the development, coordination and implementation of programs, projects and technical assistance which supports the National Office as well as its affiliated Regional Councils. He also represents NMSDC as its Government relations representative, a position he originally established in 1991. He serves as the NMSDC representative on several association groups including the Small Business Administration Procurement Roundtable, MED Week National Conference Planning Committee, the Minority Delegate's Caucus of the White House Conference on Small Business and the Federal Government's OSDBUs Directors Group.

*MR. SIMS* most recently served, a two year term on the board of the Institute for Supply Management where among other activities he assisted in developing a minority supplier utilization strategy and a corporate responsibility doctrine. *MR. SIMS* also worked to create the first international sister organization of NMSDC, in Sao Paulo, Brazil in 1999.

He has been Deputy Commissioner of Public Health for the District of Columbia, responsible for the day to day operation of the Commission and the improvement of public health care delivery systems in the Nation's Capitol. *MR. SIMS* has also served as Vice President for Programs and Operations for the New York Urban League, responsible for the program operations of the largest minority human services organization in New York City.

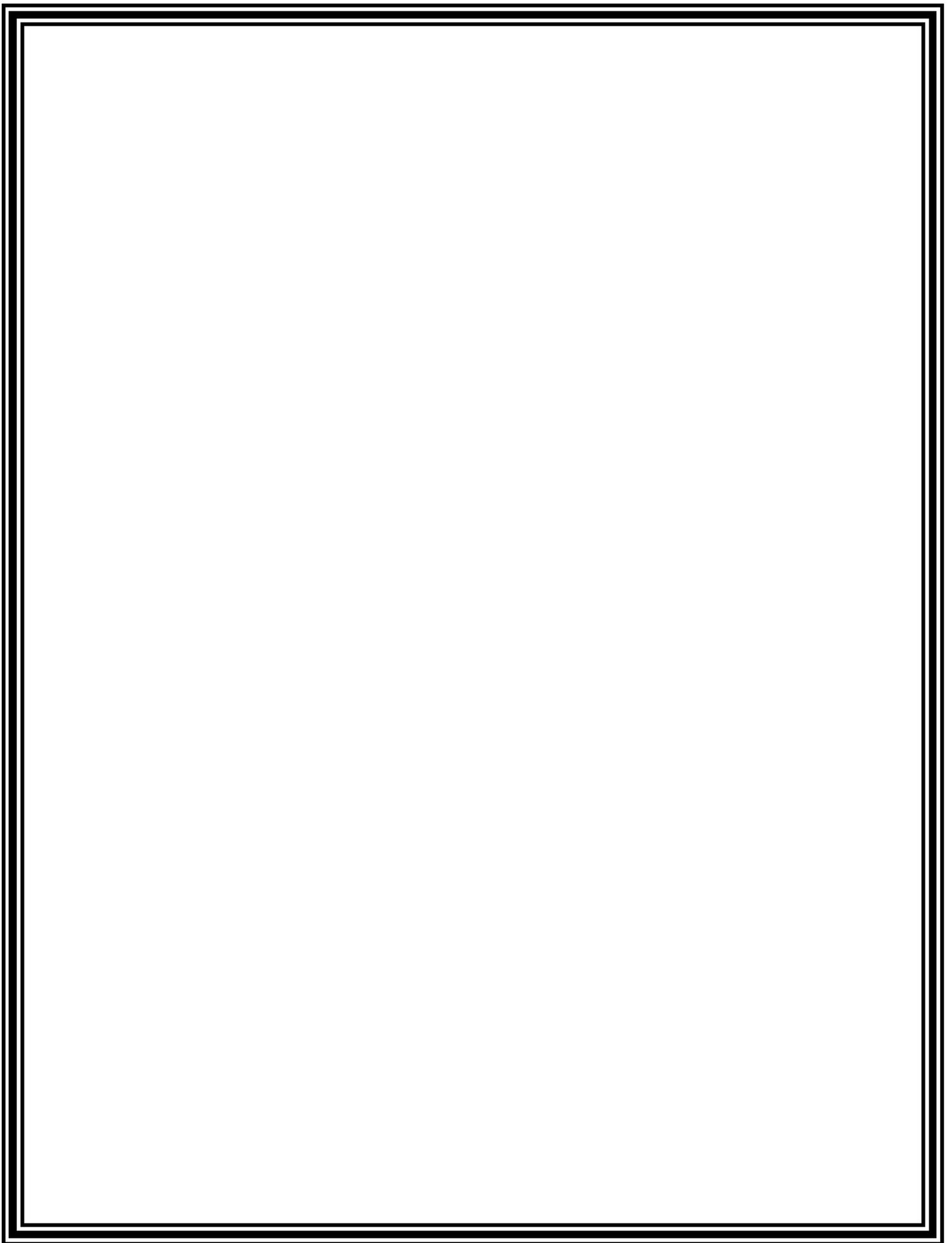
His government-related experience includes serving as Management Team Leader at the U.S. Department of Education; Special Assistant for Management/Administration at the U.S. Department of Labor and Special Assistant to the President of the Joint Center for Political and Economic Studies.

*MR. SIMS* is a person who believes in the importance of giving back to the community and volunteering, he is Chairman Emeritus of the Boys Choir of Harlem; former Advisory Board Co-Chair of the Living Stage Theater Company; and has in the past volunteered with the D.C. Special Olympics, D.C. Hotline and the Washington Urban League.

A member of SACHEMS, the Senior Honor Society of Columbia College, *and MR. SIMS* has been a member of Trans Africa, World Future Society, Urban League and the National Forum of Black Public Administrators.

*MR. SIMS* received his BA and MS from Columbia University.

***A LITTLE ABOUT  
THE  
SPEAKERS  
AND  
PRESENTERS***



## ***SPEAKERS' AND PRESENTERS' BIOGRAPHIES***

### ***CHARLES F. CONNER DEPUTY SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE***

*CHARLES F. CONNER* was sworn in as Deputy Secretary of Agriculture on May 2, 2005, by Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns.

Prior to his tenure at the Department of Agriculture, *MR. CONNER* served on the National Economic Council beginning in November 2001 as a Special Assistant to the President for Agricultural Trade and Food Assistance, focusing primarily on Farm Bill issues.

From 1997 to 2001, *MR. CONNER* was President of the Corn Refiners Association, Inc., a national trade association representing the corn refining industry. Prior to his tenure with the Corn Refiners Association, *MR. CONNER* held several staff positions with the Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry.

*MR. CONNER* served as both the Majority Staff Director (1995-1997) and the Minority Staff Director (1987-1995), of the Senate Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry Committee. He also worked as a Professional Staff Member for the Committee from 1985 to 1987. Prior to joining the Senate Committee in Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry, *MR. CONNER* worked as an Agricultural Legislative Assistant to Senator Richard G. Lugar.

*MR. CONNER* grew up on a family farm in Benton County, Indiana, which remains in the family and is operated by his older brother, Mike.

*MR. CONNER* received a Bachelor of Science degree in Agricultural Economics from Purdue University in 1980. He is married and has four children.

***MICHAEL HARRISON***  
***ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR ADMINISTRATION***  
***U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE***

*MR. HARRISON* graduated from Harvard Law School with the degree of Juris Doctor, and graduated from Rutgers University with Honors, National Honor Society and as a Henry Rutgers Academic Scholar – with Distinction.

He has more than 20 years of experience in various areas of the legal field including, without limitation: Mergers and Acquisitions, Bond Financings, Intellectual Property, Distribution Law, Customs, Antitrust, Regulatory, Criminal Law, Litigation, Real Estate, Employment Law, Marketing Law, Advertising Law and General Corporate. He formerly practiced law with the following law firms: Kelley, Drye & Warren of New York City, Schnader, Harrison, Segal & Lewis of Philadelphia and Clapp & Eisenberg of New Jersey.

*MR. HARRISON* has also worked for the Department of Justice in Washington, D.C. and with various state legal agencies.

Respecting in-house experience, in 1992 *MR. HARRISON* was selected to become General Counsel of the Evian Waters of France, Inc. division of French food giant Groupe Danone. In 1993 he was promoted and elected an officer of the corporation and assumed the role of Vice President and General Counsel of Evian Waters of France, Inc. In 1994 he was again promoted and became the Vice President and General Counsel of Groupe Danone North American and served as the Chief Legal Officer over all of Groupe Danone's affiliated companies and operations throughout North America. Later that year his responsibility was extended to additionally include responsibility for the legal affairs of Groupe Danone's imported operations throughout South, Central and Latin America and the Caribbean.

In addition to heading the Legal Department, *MR. HARRISON* was also functionally responsible for a number of other departments and services during his 11-year tenure with Danone. In 2000, he was promoted to Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary of all Danone companies in North America and was simultaneously nominated and appointed to several of Groupe Danone's Boards of Directors.

In the Fall of 2003 he assumed the position of President & CEO of The Cunningham Group, Inc., d/b/a, Cunningham Services, a 43 year old leading provider of legal and corporate services to law firms and corporations in the New England region.

*MR. HARRISON* served in the U.S. military for many years. He joined the U.S. Marine Corps at age 17 and ultimately achieved the rank of Sergeant. Notably, he participated in Operation Fluid Drive in Beirut, Lebanon, under General A.M. Gray. *MR. HARRISON* won a formal Certificate of Commendation from General Gray for exemplary service during that operation. General Gray later became the 29<sup>th</sup> Commandant of the U.S. Marine Corps. Later, while in college, he completed R.O.T.C. training and was commissioned as a U.S. Army Officer upon graduation. He was an Honor Graduate from his Officer Candidate Advanced School. *MR. HARRISON* also completed training and qualification as an Airborne Paratrooper at Fort Benning, Georgia. He was ultimately promoted to rank of Captain before leaving military service.

*MR. HARRISON* is and has been active in many civic, charitable and professional service organizations including, without limitation: The Citykids Foundation of New York, Junior Achievement of Southwestern Connecticut, The Women's Shelter for battered women and children and the American Corporate Counsel Association ("ACCA"). He also served on the Chief Legal Officers' Committee, as Chairman of the Consumer Products Committee and as Co-Chair of the Membership Committee of that organization. From 1994 through 1999 he was an Adjunct Professor at the New York University Management Institute where he taught Sponsorship & Marketing Law.

*MR. HARRISON* is married and has two daughters.

***JAMES E. HOUSE***  
***DIRECTOR***  
***OFFICE OF SMALL AND DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS UTILIZATION***

*JAMES E. HOUSE* was appointed by Secretary Ann M. Veneman as the Director, Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization on December 31, 2001.

Just prior to returning to USDA, he served as president of a Bowie, Maryland based professional services firm, the Eckenberge Group. As president of the National Association of African American Business Owners, he led the organization into national prominence as an effective leading advocate for small business development.

*MR. HOUSE* participated in drafting subcontracting provisions of Public Law 95-507, which amended the Small Business Act and subsequently creating Offices of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization in most Federal departments. This provision was signed into law in 1978.

Before entering the small business arena, *MR. HOUSE* began his career as an engineer in the aerospace industry, working in the successful 1970 certification of Boeing's 747.

He is a native of Wayne County, Goldsboro, North Carolina, and holds a Bachelor of Science degree in mechanical engineering from Howard University in Washington, D.C.

***PETER J. THOMAS***  
***ADMINISTRATOR FOR BUSINESS AND COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS***  
***RURAL DEVELOPMENT***

On July 19, 2004 *MR. PETER THOMAS* was appointed to serve as the Administrator of Rural Development's Business and Cooperative Programs. As Administrator, *MR. THOMAS* is responsible for overseeing the National, State, and field offices on the implementation of grants and loans, and manages over a \$5 billion loan guarantee portfolio.

Prior to joining the Department of Agriculture, *MR. THOMAS* was the President and Founder of Bay State Strategies, a government relations firm that aids private sector businesses in identifying business opportunities that exist within Federal and local agencies. *MR. THOMAS* has spent over 14 years as President of Bay State Strategies, in addition to, serving as the Managing Director of Eddington Hotspur Inc., an international real estate development firm.

From 1995-1997 *MR. THOMAS* served as Chief of Staff for Congressman Peter Torkildsen (R-Mass). In 1991, he was based in Boston as the Special Assistant for the New England Region of the U.S. Small Business Administration.

*MR. THOMAS* founded the Boston-based National Foundation for Economic Research and served as President from 1985-1990. The National Foundation for Economic Research is a non-partisan organization focusing on the principals of free enterprise through research and public policy. From 1981-1985 he served as the Boston-based New England Regional Administrator of the U.S. General Services Administration.

***JOE WARE***  
***ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR***  
***OFFICE OF SMALL AND DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS UTILIZATION***

*JOE WARE* is Associate Director in the Office of Small and Disadvantaged Business Utilization (OSDBU) at the Department of Agriculture with responsibilities for implementing and administering programs affecting small and disadvantaged businesses.

At OSDBU, he has initiated and developed programs to provide coordinated USDA outreach to support small business development in economically distressed areas by leveraging public/private partnerships to assist small businesses to develop the capacity to engage in Federal and commercial contracts and create jobs.

While at the Office of the Chief Information Officer, he was instrumental in developing and leading major oversight functions such as Capital Planning and Investment Control for USDA Agencies' information technology programs. He was an early pioneer in the Federal Government advocating that Agencies link their information technology planning, budgets and procurement processes to improve the cost-effectiveness and usefulness of information technology systems to support program delivery.

Previously as an Economist at the Farm Service Agency (then the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service), he provided economic analyses and econometric modeling, statistical design and appraisal of Agency systems, and analyses of emerging issues.

*MR. WARE* holds a B.S. in Agricultural Economics from West Virginia University and M.S. in Agricultural and Resource Economics from the University of Maryland.

***THANK YOU TO ALL THE AWARD WINNERS AND  
THOSE WHO CAME FROM NEAR AND FAR TO  
PARTICIPATE IN THIS PROGRAM.***

***THIS HAS BEEN A SPECIAL DAY FOR ALL OF US.***

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