

April 2, 2009

SUBJECT: Minority & Women Owned Business Certification

The North Carolina General Assembly passed Senate Bill 320 which authorizes the Secretary of Administration to develop and administer a “statewide uniform certification” process for all historically underutilized businesses (HUBS) that seek to do business with state and local governments. The new program will create a unified database of HUBS that will be available to all public entities in North Carolina.

This process will allow HUBS to register their company with the Secretary of Administration and be considered as a certified minority and women owned business throughout North Carolina (except for the City of Charlotte’s program and DOT’s program). This requirement will start as of July 1, 2009. Once this requirement starts all entities for the State of North Carolina “may only count” those businesses that are certified as HUBS through the new statewide system to determine whether their participation goals have been met. Certification programs that were used by public entities will no longer be valid for certifying a business as a HUB to meet a public entities good faith efforts and minority participation goals.

You may visit the following web site to become more knowledgeable on the guidelines for uniform certification: <http://www.doa.state.nc.us/hub/>.

To become certified as a minority or women owned business you may visit the following web site: <http://www.doa.state.nc.us/hub>, then click on “Programs/Core Services” and “Certification” to access the online registration. An email address will be necessary for the registration process.

Should you need further information you may contact me at 252-972-1228 or by email at [delton.farmer@rockymountnc.gov](mailto:delton.farmer@rockymountnc.gov).

Thank you.