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Press Release

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DCPSC hosts speaker series to support DC-based, diverse businesses seeking contract opportunities

WASHINGTON D.C. – The Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia (Commission) is hosting a three-part <u>webinar series</u> to support District-based and diverse businesses seeking contract opportunities with the Commission. The Commission seeks to encourage stakeholders to become a Certified Business Enterprise (CBE) and participate in bidding for professional services, especially in the areas of professional engineering, accounting, economics, law, and marketing/communications. The webinar series takes place on May 19, May 26 and June 2, 2021. The series will highlight the process for becoming a CBE, the bidding process, upcoming procurements, and the vendor experience while working with the Commission (networking event). These livestreamed webinars are free and open to the public, but advance registration is required. Current CBEs and other businesses are encouraged to attend.

A CBE is a DC-based business headquartered in the District that has been certified by the Department of Small and Local Business Development. Businesses must meet <u>certain criteria</u> to become a CBE in the District. Once certified, CBEs receive preference in procurement opportunities and, in general, the program helps position businesses to better compete in District government contracting opportunities.

Willie L. Phillips, Chair of the Commission stated, "Supporting CBEs in the District is a top strategic priority for the DCPSC. Our annual goal is to achieve or exceed providing 35% of the Commission's total procurement contract dollars to CBEs. The DCPSC has also set a requirement for CBE participation in any procurement of \$100,000 or more for professional services."

Visit the <u>Commission website</u> for more information about the Commission's CBE initiative. The Public Service Commission of the District of Columbia is an independent agency established by Congress in 1913 to regulate electric, natural gas, and telecommunications companies in the District of Columbia.