

Military and Veterans Code

Section 999-999.12

999. As used in this article, the following definitions apply:

(a) "Administering agency" means that Treasurer in the case of contracts for professional bond services, and the Department of General Services' Office of Small Business Certification and Resources, formerly known as the Office of Small and Minority Business, in the case of contracts governed by Section 999.2.

(b) "Awarding department" means any state agency, department, governmental entity, or other officer or entity empowered by law to issue bonds or enter into contracts on behalf of the State of California.

(c) "Bonds" means bonds, notes, warrants, certificates of participation, and other evidences of indebtedness issued by or on behalf of the State California.

(d) "Contract" includes any agreement or joint agreement to provide professional bond services to the State of California or an awarding department. "Contract" also includes any agreement or joint development agreement to provide labor, services, material, supplies, or equipment in the performance of a contract, franchise, concession, or lease granted, let, or awarded for and on behalf of the State of California.

(e) "Contractor" means any person or persons, regardless of race, color, creed, national origin, ancestry, sex, marital status, proprietorship, firm, partnership, joint venture, corporation, or combination thereof who submits a bid and enters into a contract with a representative of a state agency, department, governmental entity, or other officer empowered by law to enter into contracts on behalf of the State of California. "Contractor" includes any provider of professional bond services who enters into a contract with an awarding department.

(f) "Disabled veteran" means a veteran of the military, naval, or air service of the United States, including but not limited to, the Philippine Commonwealth Army, the Regular Scouts ("Old Scouts"), and service-connected disability who is a resident of the State of California.

(g) (1) "Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise" means a business concern certified by the administering agency as meeting all of the following requirements:

(A) It is a sole proprietorship at least 51 percent owned by one or more disabled veterans or, in the case of a publicly owned business, at least 51 percent of its stock is owned by one or more disabled veterans; a subsidiary which is wholly owned by a parent corporation, but only if at least 51 percent of the joint venture's management and control and earnings are held by one or more disabled veterans.

(B) The management and control of the daily business operations are by one or more disabled veterans. The disabled veterans who exercise management and control are not required to be the same disabled veterans as the owners of the business concern.

(c) It is a sole proprietorship, corporation, or partnership with its home office located in the United States, which is not a branch or subsidiary of a foreign corporation, foreign firm, or other foreign-based business.

(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), after the death or the certification of a permanent medical disability of a disabled veteran who is a majority owner of a business concern that qualified as a disabled veteran business enterprise prior to that death or certification of a permanent medical disability, and solely for purposes of any contract entered into before that death or certification,

that business concern shall be deemed to be a disabled veteran business enterprise for a period not to exceed three years after the date of that death or certification of a permanent medical disability, if the business concern is inherited or controlled by the spouse or child of that majority owner, or by both those persons.

(h) "Foreign corporation," "foreign firm," and "foreign-based business" means a business entity that is incorporated or has its principal headquarters located outside the United States of America.

(i) "Goal" means a numerically expressed objective that awarding departments and contractors are required to make efforts to achieve.

(j) "Management and control" means effective and demonstrable management of the business entity.

(k) "Professional bond services" include services as financial advisers, bond counsel, underwriters in negotiated transactions, underwriter's counsel, financial printers, feasibility consultants, and other professional services related to the issuance and sale of bonds.

999.1. (a) (1) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, each awarding department shall have annual statewide participation goals of not less than 3 percent for disabled veteran business enterprises for contracts entered into by the awarding department during the year for professional bond services. This section shall not apply if a contract for professional bond services of an underwriter is to be obtained by competitive bid. However, each awarding department shall establish goals for contracts to be obtained by competitive bid for professional bond service.

(2) These goals shall apply to the overall dollar amount expended by the awarding department with respect to the contracts for professional bond services relating to the issuance of bonds by the awarding department, including amounts spent as underwriter's discounts.

(b) In attempting to meet the goals set forth in subdivision (a), the awarding department shall consider establishing cocounsel, joint venture, and subcontracting relationships, including disabled veteran business enterprises, in all contracts for professional bond services. It shall be the responsibility of the head of each awarding department to be supportive of the Treasurer's program for assigning representative portions of professional bond services contracts for purposes of meeting the goals established pursuant to this section. However, nothing in this article shall preclude the awarding department from achieving the goals set forth in this section without requiring joint ventures, cocounsel, or subcontracting arrangements.

(c) This section shall not limit the ability of any awarding department to meet a goal higher than those set forth in subdivision (a) for the participation of disabled veteran business enterprises in contracts awarded by the awarding department.

999.2. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, contracts awarded by any state agency, department, officer, or other state governmental entity for construction, professional services (except those subject to Chapter 6 (commencing with Section 16850) of Part 3 of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code), materials, supplies, equipment, alteration, repair, or improvement shall have statewide participation goals of not less than 3 percent for disabled

veteran business enterprises. These goals apply to the overall dollar amount expended each year by the awarding department.

999.3. Notwithstanding Section 999.1, if a contract for professional bond services of an underwriter is to be obtained by competitive bid, the awarding department shall, at a minimum, take all of the following actions:

(a) Deliver the notice of sale or other notification of intention to issue the bonds to all disabled veteran business enterprises that have listed their names with the awarding department for the purpose of this notice and other qualified disabled veteran enterprises known to the awarding department.

(b) State in all notices of sale and other notifications of intention to issue bonds that disabled veteran business enterprises are encouraged to respond.

(c) Require all submitting bidders to certify their awareness of the goals of the awarding department in accordance with this article.

999.5 (a) The administering agency shall establish a method of monitoring adherence to the goal specified in Section 999.1, including requiring a followup report from all contractors upon the completion of any sale of bonds.

(b) The awarding department shall establish a method of monitoring adherence to the goals specified in Section 999.2.

(c) The administering agency shall adopt rules and regulations, including standards for good faith efforts for the purpose of implementing this section. Emergency regulations consistent with this section may be adopted.

999.6. In implementing this article, the awarding department shall utilize resources such as the Office of Small and Minority Business, the Department of Veterans Affairs, the federal Department of Veterans Affairs, and the Small Business Administration.

999.7. (a) Notwithstanding Section 7550.5 of the Government Code, on January 1 of each year, each awarding department shall report to the Governor, the Legislature, the Office of Small Business Certification and Resources, and the Department of Veterans Affairs on the level of participation by disabled veteran business enterprises in contracts identified in this article. If the established goals are not met, the awarding department shall report to the Legislature, the Office of Small Business Certification and Resources, and the Department of Veterans Affairs the reasons for the awarding department's inability to achieve the goals and identify steps it shall take in an effort to achieve the goals.

(b) Notwithstanding Section 7550.5 of the Government Code, on April 1 of each year, the Office of Small Business Certification and Resources shall prepare for the Governor, the Legislature, and the Department of Veterans Affairs a statewide statistical summary detailing each awarding department's goal achievement and a statewide total of those goals.

999.8 (a) Notwithstanding anything in this article to the contrary, the validity or enforceability of any bonds, or any contract or any notes, or other obligations issued by the awarding department to provide for the payment of any contract subject to this article shall not be affected in any way by the failure of an awarding department to meet the goals established under this article.

(b) No action may be maintained to enjoin the issuance of any bonds to which this article applies or the enforcement of any contract for professional bond services based on an awarding department's failure to meet the goals set forth in Section 999.1

999.9 (a) It shall be unlawful for a person to:

(1) Knowingly and with intent to defraud, fraudulently obtain, retain, attempt to obtain or retain, or aid another in fraudulently obtaining or retaining or attempting to obtain or retain, certification as a disabled veteran business enterprise for the purpose of this article.

(2) Willfully and knowingly make a false statement with the intent to defraud, whether by affidavit, report, or other representation, to a state official or employee for the purpose of influencing the certification or denial of certification of any entity as a disabled veteran business enterprise.

(3) Willfully and knowingly obstruct, impede, or attempt to obstruct or impede, any state official or employee who is investigating the qualifications of a business entity which has requested certification as a disabled veteran business enterprise.

(4) Knowingly and with intent to defraud, fraudulently obtain, attempt to obtain, or aid another person in fraudulently obtaining or attempting to obtain, public moneys to which the person is not entitled under this article.

(b) Any person who violates any of the provisions of subdivision

(a) shall be liable for a civil penalty not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for the first violation, and a civil penalty not to exceed twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000) for each additional or subsequent violation.

(c) Any person who violates any of the provisions of subdivision (a) shall, in addition to the penalties provided for in subdivision (b), be suspended from bidding on, or participating as either a contractor, subcontractor, or supplier in, any state contract or project for a period of not less than 30 days nor more than one year. However, for an additional or subsequent violation the period of suspension shall be extended for a period of up to three years. Any business or person who fails to satisfy the penalties imposed pursuant to subdivisions (b) and (c) shall be prohibited from further contracting with the state until the penalties are satisfied.

(d) The awarding department shall report all alleged violations of this section to the Office of Small and Minority Business. The office shall subsequently report all alleged violations to the Attorney General who shall determine whether to bring a civil action against any person or firm for violation of this section.

(e) The office shall monitor the status of all reported violations and shall maintain and make available to all state departments a central listing of all firms and persons who have been determined to have committed violations resulting in suspension.

(f) No awarding department shall enter into any contract with any person suspended for violating this section during the period of the person's suspension. No awarding department shall award a contract to any contractor utilizing the services of any person as a subcontractor suspended for

violating this section during the period of the person's suspension.

(g) The awarding department shall check the central listing provided by the office to verify that the person or contractor to whom the contract is being awarded, or any person being utilized as a subcontractor or supplier by that person or contractor, is not under suspension for violating this section.

999.10 (a) Any awarding department taking bids in connection with the award of any contract shall provide, in the general conditions under which bids will be received, that any person making a bid or offer to perform a contract shall, in his or her bid or offer, set forth the following information:

(1) The name and the location of the place of business of each subcontractor certified as a disabled veteran business enterprise who will perform work or labor or render service to the prime contractor in connection with the performance of the contract and who will be used by the prime contractor to fulfill disabled veteran business enterprise participation goals.

(2) The portion of work that will be done by each subcontractor under paragraph (1). Except in cases of emergency where a contract is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public health, welfare, safety, or protection of state property, the prime contractor shall list only one subcontractor for each portion of work as is defined by the prime contractor in his or her bid or offer.

(b) The Subletting and Subcontracting Fair Practices Act (Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 4100) of Part 1 of Division 2 of the Public Contract Code) shall apply to the information required by subdivision (a) relating to subcontractors certified as disabled veteran business enterprises.

(c) For purposes of this section, "subcontractor" and "prime contractor" shall have the same meaning as those terms are defined in Section 41113 of the Public Contract Code.

(d) As used in this section, "contract" does not include a contract negotiated pursuant to Chapter 10 (commencing with Section 4525) of Division 5 of Title 1 of the Government Code.

999.11 The Department of Veterans Affairs shall appoint an advocate to do all of the following:

(a) Oversee, promote, and coordinate efforts to facilitate implementation of this article.

(b) Disseminate information on this article.

(c) Coordinate reports pursuant to Section 999.7.

(d) Coordinate with administering agencies and existing and potential disabled veteran business enterprises to achieve the goals specified in Sections 999.1 and 999.2

999.12. This article includes language similar to that contained in Article 1.5 (commencing with Section 10115) of Chapter 1 of Part 2 of Division 2 of the Public Contract Code and does not create an independent or additional goal or program.