

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Supervisor Marion Ashley

SUBMITTAL DATE:
August 5, 2014

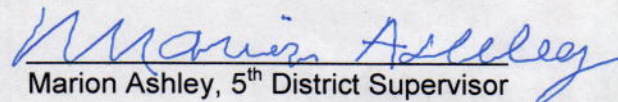
SUBJECT: Authorization to Enter into Partnership Agreement with the Southwest Veterans' Business Resource Center

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Directs the Economic Development Agency's (EDA) Office of Military & Defense Services to enter into a 36 month partnership with the Southwest Veterans' Business Resource Center; and
2. Authorizes up to \$1,000 per year contribution to the Southwest Veterans' Business Resource Center from EDA funds for 36 months.

BACKGROUND: In March 2014, the Board of Supervisors created the Office of Military & Defense Services by unanimous vote. Shortly after the vote, the County Executive Officer appointed its Commissioner and assigned the office to the Economic Development Agency. Thus far, the office has made significant strides in the fulfillment of its mission and tasks assigned from the County Executive Officer. A technology transfer agreement has been executed with the United States Navy; federal and state legislative platform and advocacy have been launched; and Base Realignment and Closure advisors have been retained. Additionally, economic impact reports on the county's military installations are in progress; business assistance to defense contractors is already being provided; and the Governor's Military Council, at the invitation of the Office of Military & Defense Services, is scheduled to meet at March Air Reserve Base and the Naval Surface Warfare Center Corona Division in September of 2014.

BACKGROUND: Continued


Marion Ashley, 5th District Supervisor

Prev. Agn. Ref.:

District: 5/5

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3-46

Supervisor Marion Ashley

Authorization to Enter into Partnership Agreement with the Southwest Veterans' Business Resource Center.

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BACKGROUND: Continued

The proposed partnership with the Southwest Veterans' Business Resource Center, established in 2008 as a not-for-profit, enables the county to provide local vendors with education and training on defense contracting with the United States government and all federal government agencies, the State of California, and the County of Riverside. Our Office of Military & Defense Services and our Purchasing Department have already begun working with the center to establish education and training courses for local and regional business owners as well as our military veterans. Courses offered include, but are not limited to; Meet the Buyer, Annual Veterans Business Summit, and Veterans Vendor Training. These courses focus on educating non-veteran and veteran owned businesses to obtain federal, state, and county contracts. Riverside County is home to 950 approved Defense Department contractors and these contractors received over \$5 billion in federal contracts over a specified period of time. We can do better for our business and veteran communities. The next formal training course is 25 August 2014 and 135 students have already enrolled in this upcoming course, free of charge. The center is located in the Fifth District, City of Perris