

COSPONSORSHIP AGREEMENT

between

**U.S. Small Business Administration
Rhode Island SBA District Office**

and

The Surety & Fidelity Association of America (SFAA)

and

**Johnson & Wales University thru the
Rhode Island Small Business Development Center (RISBDC)**

and

Joseph G.E. Knight SCORE Chapter 13 (SCORE)

and

Center for Women & Enterprise (CWE)

Authorization No: 09-0165-94

1. Parties

This cosponsorship agreement ("Agreement") is between the U.S. Small Business Administration ("SBA") and the following cosponsor(s) (individually a "Cosponsor" or collectively the "Cosponsors"):

- (1) The Surety & Fidelity Association of America
1101 Connecticut Avenue NW, Suite 800
Washington, DC 20036
Description of Cosponsor: The Surety & Fidelity Association of America is a non-profit licensed rating or advisory organization in all states, including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico and has been designated by state insurance departments as a statistical agent for the reporting of fidelity and surety experience. The Association plays an active role in contractor development and diversity nationwide by assisting in educating emerging contractors on how to become bondable or increase their bonding capacity, and The Association provides technical assistance and program resources to state and local governments in the areas of contractor development and bonding support.
- (2) Rhode Island Small Business Development Center
270 Weybosset Street, 4th Floor
Providence, RI 02903
Description of Cosponsor: Rhode Island Small Business Development Center is a resource partner of the U.S. Small Business Administration who mission is to provide technical assistance, counseling and training to entrepreneurs who seek to start or grow their small businesses.

- (3) Joseph G.E. Knight SCORE Chapter 13
380 Westminster Street Room 511
Providence, RI 02903
Description of Cosponsor: Joseph G.E. Knight SCORE Chapter 13 is a resource partner of the U.S. Small Business Administration who mission is to provide technical assistance, counseling and training to entrepreneurs who seek to start or grow their small businesses.
- (4) Center for Women & Enterprise
132 George M. Cohan Boulevard, 2nd Floor
Providence, RI 02903
Description of Cosponsor: Center for Women & Enterprise is a resource partner of the U.S. Small Business Administration who mission is to provide technical assistance, counseling and training to entrepreneurs who seek to start or grow their small businesses.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this Agreement is to describe the rights and responsibilities of each Cosponsor regarding the activity described below. The Agreement encompasses this document, all Attachments and applicable laws and regulations. Except as properly amended, this Agreement is the final and complete agreement of the Cosponsors. It does not authorize the expenditure of any funds, other than by express terms of this Agreement nor does it create special consideration by SBA regarding any other matter. This Agreement shall not limit any Cosponsor from participating in similar activities or arrangements with other entities.

3. Cosponsored Activity

- a) Name of event: Model Contractor Development Program for small business contractors
- b) Date(s): June 2009 – December 31, 2010
- c) Place: Taco Entrepreneurship Center, Johnson & Wales University, Providence, RI
- d) Estimated Number of Participants: 60
- e) Estimated Direct Cost of Co-sponsored Activity: \$0
- f) **Summary of event/activity:** SBA and SFAA, RISBDC, SCORE and CWE will jointly cosponsor, develop and support up to 6, 6 week workshops which will provide small, minority and women-owned businesses throughout Rhode Island with the skills and access to bonding and financing necessary to enhance their efforts at significant participation in the contracting opportunities from federal, state, local government and commercial organizations.

4. Cosponsors' Responsibilities

The Cosponsors agree that each will do the following in support of the cosponsored activity:

(a) SBA will:

- Participate in the overall planning, marketing and execution of the cosponsored event.
- Coordinate with SFAA the employment of the **Educational Workshops component of its Model Contractor Development Program** to facilitate Rhode Island small, minority and women-owned businesses access to bonding and technical assistance information.
- Coordinate with SFAA the employment of its **Bond Readiness component of its Model Contractor Development Program** to design and implement a Rhode Island-based initiative

for these firms to include networking and outreach, capability/capacity assessments, resource identification and referral, and assistance in the bonding process.

- Provide mailing lists, as permissible under FOIA, CAN-Spam Act and Agency policy.
- Provide staff to assist at registration and training events.
- Handle marketing and advertising for the events.

(b) SFAA will:

- Participate in the overall planning, marketing and execution of the cosponsored event.
- Employ the **Educational Workshops component of its Model Contractor Development Program** to facilitate Rhode Island small, minority and women-owned businesses access to bonding and technical assistance information.
- Employ the **Bond Readiness component of its Model Contractor Development Program** to design and implement a Rhode Island-based initiative for these firms to include networking and outreach, capability/capacity assessments, resource identification and referral, and assistance in the bonding process.
- Provide mailing lists.
- Provide logistical support for the overall program and workshops/training events.
- Handle registration for the events.
- Provide instructors.
- Provide location.

(c) RISBDC will:

- Participate in the overall planning, marketing and execution of the cosponsored event.
- Assist SFAA with the employment of its **Educational Workshops component of its Model Contractor Development Program** to facilitate Rhode Island small, minority and women-owned businesses access to bonding and technical assistance information.
- Assist SFAA with the employment of its **Bond Readiness component of its Model Contractor Development Program** to design and implement a Rhode Island-based initiative for these firms to include networking and outreach, capability/capacity assessments, resource identification and referral, and assistance in the bonding process.
- Provide mailing lists.
- Provide logistical support for the overall program and workshops/training events.
- Handle registration for the events.
- Provide instructors.
- Provide location.

(d) SCORE will:

- Participate in the overall planning, marketing and execution of the cosponsored event.
- Assist SFAA with the employment of its **Educational Workshops component of its Model Contractor Development Program** to facilitate Rhode Island small, minority and women-owned businesses access to bonding and technical assistance information.
- Assist SFAA with the employment of its **Bond Readiness component of its Model Contractor Development Program** to design and implement a Rhode Island-based initiative for these firms to include networking and outreach, capability/capacity assessments, resource identification and referral, and assistance in the bonding process.
- Provide mailing lists.
- Provide logistical support for the overall program and workshops/training events.
- Handle registration for the events.
- Provide instructors.
- Provide location.

(e) CWE will:

- Participate in the overall planning, marketing and execution of the cosponsored event.
- Assist SFAA with the employment of its **Educational Workshops component of its Model Contractor Development Program** to facilitate Rhode Island small, minority and women-owned businesses access to bonding and technical assistance information.
- Assist SFAA with the employment of its **Bond Readiness component of its Model Contractor Development Program** to design and implement a Rhode Island-based initiative for these firms to include networking and outreach, capability/capacity assessments, resource identification and referral, and assistance in the bonding process.
- Provide mailing lists.
- Provide logistical support for the overall program and workshops/training events.

5. Budget and Fees

There are no direct costs associated with this cosponsorship. As such there is no budget attached to this agreement. The Cosponsors agree that no fees will be charged to participants for the cosponsored activities outlined in this Agreement.

6. Appropriate Recognition

Each Cosponsor will be given appropriate recognition for cosponsorship of the activity outlined in this Agreement, however such recognition does not constitute an express or implied endorsement by SBA of any of the opinions, products or services of any Cosponsor, its subsidiaries or its contractors. As such, all appropriate disclaimers and authorization numbers will be visible on all Cosponsored Materials. SBA has the right to determine what constitutes appropriate recognition, in its reasonable discretion.

7. Cosponsored Material

Cosponsored material refers to all print and electronic materials used to promote the cosponsored activity or material used during or as the cosponsored activity. This includes, but is not limited to, flyers, brochures, mailers, email promotional pieces, web pages, cosponsored promotional items, or any other physical, print or electronic item bearing SBA's name or logo.

8. Use of SBA Logo

Each Cosponsor agrees to use its name and logo in connection with SBA's on cosponsored materials or in factual publicity only for the cosponsored activity as outlined in this Agreement. Factual publicity includes dates, times, locations, purposes, agendas, fees and speakers involved with the activity. Any materials, print or electronic, bearing SBA's logo must include the appropriate disclaimers as outlined in paragraph 11 and be approved in advance by SBA's Responsible Program Official.

9. Political Speech

It is SBA's policy that public officials or candidates for public office (including their staff), whether a direct cosponsor or invitee of a cosponsor, be informed by the SBA that they may not include political comment as part of their participation. Political comment includes speech or remarks designed to facilitate, or be directed toward, the success or failure of a political party, candidate for public office, or political group.

10. Web Activity

SBA and the Cosponsors will create a web page located at www.sba.gov/ri to supply information and registration link for the training sessions. Cosponsor agrees there will be no commercial advertisements or commercial promotions of any kind, including its own products or services, displayed on this cosponsored site.

11. Disclaimers

All cosponsored materials, print or electronic, bearing the SBA name or logo must be approved in advance by SBA's Responsible Program Official and contain the following statement(s):

1. Cosponsorship Authorization # 09-0165-94. SBA's participation in this cosponsored activity is not an endorsement of the views, opinions, products or services of any cosponsor or other person or entity. All SBA programs and services are extended to the public on a nondiscriminatory basis.
2. Reasonable arrangements for persons with disabilities will be made if requested at least two weeks in advance. Contact: Faith White, 401-528-4561
3. This Web page is provided as a public service under Cosponsorship Authorization # 09-0165-94. It is not an official U.S. government Web page and may contain links to non-U.S. government information. Inclusion of such links does not constitute or imply an endorsement by SBA. SBA is not responsible for the content, accuracy, relevance, timeliness or completeness of linked information. Please use caution when considering a product, service or opinion offered by a linked Web site.

12. Points of Contact

The respective Points of Contact for this Cosponsorship will be Samuel Carradine, 202-778-3638, scarradine@surety.org for SFAA and John Cronin, 401-598-2704, john.cronin@jwu.edu for RISBDC, and Raymond McNeill, 401-528-4571, rayman99@yahoo.com for SCORE and Carmen Diaz-Jusino, 401-277-0800, cdiazjusino@cweonline.org for CWE and Normand T. Deragon, 401-528-4561, normand.deragon@sba.gov for SBA. These individuals will facilitate contact among the Co-sponsors to plan, organize and execute the activity(s) contemplated in this Agreement.

13. Term, Amendment and Termination

This Agreement will take effect upon signature of all Cosponsors and will remain in effect through December 31, 2010. This Agreement can only be amended in writing. Any Cosponsor may terminate its participation in the activity upon 30 calendar days advance written notice to the other Cosponsors. Such termination will not require changes to materials already produced, and will not entitle the terminating cosponsor to a return of funds or property contributed.

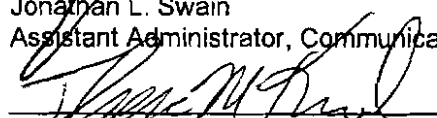
14. Signature

Each of the persons signing this Agreement represents that he/she has the authority to enter into this Agreement on behalf of the entity involved.

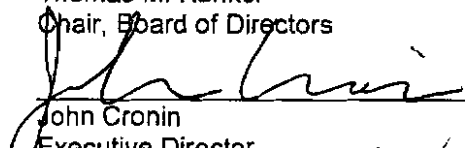
SBA:

 7/14/09
 Jonathan L. Swain Date
 Assistant Administrator, Communications and Public Liaison

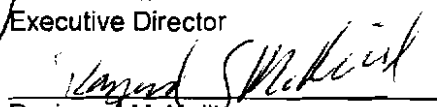
SFAA:

 7/20/09
 Thomas M. Kunkel Date
 Chair, Board of Directors

RISBDC:

 7/20/09
 John Cronin Date
 Executive Director

SCORE:

 7/20/09
 Raymond McNeill Date
 Chair

CWE:

 Susan Rittscher Date
 Chief Executive Officer