

1. Register for Hotel Rate: We are fifteen days away from our next Project Legacy Seminar to be held in the French Quarter of New Orleans, Royal Sonesta on Bourbon St. Past Chair Sherrie Gilchrist will moderate this seminar. Also, Nate Rido will explain his contract with the majority of school systems in the nation and how your company or chamber can earn a 10% commission on what your local schools buy. We will network on the evening of April 19 and start the seminar on the 20th at 10:00AM in the Sonesta. The only way to get the attractive \$149 per night room rate is to register with Kay DeBow, kdebow@nationalbcc.org. She will present the rooming list to the hotel for processing. See you in NOLA!

2. Kudos for Penn Gaming: Our partner, Karen Bailey of Penn Gaming, has informed us that they are off to a record setting pace with their new casino in Toledo, OH. They have exceeded 21% in MBE/WBE participation and look forward to sustaining those levels. Congratulations Karen and keep up the great work.

3. Comcast/NBC Universal Steps Up: Living up to its public pledge of expanding its diversity outreach after the approved joint venture, our partner is on the move. There will be a separate breakout at our 19th Annual Convention, July 21 – 23, 2011 in Miami, FL entitled: "Doing Business with Comcast/NBC Universal". Companies who have the capacity to contract with Comcast/NBC Universal are strongly encouraged to participate. [It is show time folks!!!](#)

4. H.R. 1167: Welfare Reform Act of 2011:

"Continued dependence upon relief induces a spiritual and moral disintegration fundamentally destructive to the national fibre. To dole out relief in this way is to administer a narcotic, a subtle destroyer of the human spirit... We must preserve not only the bodies of the unemployed from destitution but also their self-respect, their self-reliance and courage and determination."
President Franklin D. Roosevelt -1935.

Congressman Jim Jordan (R – OH) has entered a very progressive bill that will greatly reduce welfare as we know it today. Job training, community service and budget cutting are some of the key ingredients to this bill. The NBCC supports H.R. 1167.

5. Rising Tides Act: Congressman Tim Scott (R – SC) has just entered H.R. 937 which will address corporate taxation in the United States. We have a rate at 35% which is the second highest in the world. H.R. 937 reduces corporate tax rates to 23% and allows for permanent repatriation of overseas profits, with a goal of heading towards a territorial system of taxation. This will provide incentives for companies to locate within our borders, thereby giving our companies the ability to compete abroad. The NBCC supports this bill.

6. Mr. Lozes is in Town: Please join us in welcoming our Board Member, Patrick Lozes, who is visiting DC. Patrick is the founder of our French African Diaspora Chamber of Commerce based in Paris, France. We look forward to catching up on a few items and to secure his participation at our 19th Annual Convention in Miami.