

1. Presidential Request for Leadership: We have formally sent to all presidential candidates (7 republicans, 1 democrat) a [Request for Leadership](#). As we have done in the past, we requested their written policy proposals on issues pertinent to our constituency. Hopefully, most will participate and we will share them with you all.

2. New Commerce Outreach Office: Newly appointed Secretary of Commerce John Bryson has established the Office of Business Liaison. This office is to provide assistance to all organizations (large and small) that may have queries regarding trade and other types of commerce. You are all encouraged to connect with [Katina Rojas Joy, Deputy Director](#).

3. SR Smoot Construction Outreach: Please spread the word about contracting opportunities for construction of the Smithsonian's new National Museum of African American History and Culture. The following pre-bid meetings are: Façade Package- RFP Release Dec 2011, Projected Award Mar 2012; Geothermal and Condenser Water Piping- RFP Release Feb 2012, Projected Award Apr 2012; Concrete, Vertical Transportation & MEP to Grade- Planned RFP Release Mar 2012, Projected Award May 2012; Steel- RFP Release Sep 2012, Projected Award Dec 2012; MEP, Interior Construction, Site Work & Remaining Work- Planned RFP Sep 2012, Projected Award Dec 2012. If interested please contact Chrystal Stowe at cstowe@srsmoor.com.

4. Ethiopia Contract Opportunities: The Embassy of Ethiopia has alerted us to four contract opportunities concerning Defense Equipment and Supplies, Pharmaceuticals, Construction Rebar and an Asphalt Mixing Plant. Please contact Charles DeBow at cdebaw@nationalbcc.org if you are interested in competing.

5. New Committee Appointment: NBCC President/CEO Harry C. Alford has been appointed Chair of the US Chamber of Commerce "Government Operations, Oversight & Consumer Affairs Committee". The first meeting of the new committee took place on Dec. 1, 2011 at the US Chamber's headquarters in Washington, DC. The first priority is to get the Regulatory Accountability Act through Congress and the White House. It has just passed the House (HR 3010) and is now in the hands of the Senate.