



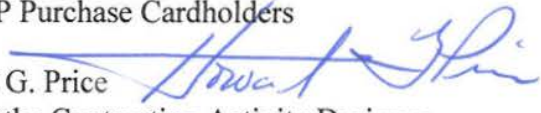
United States
Department of
Agriculture

January 16, 2007

Animal and
Plant Health
Inspection
Service

TO: All MRP Acquisition Personnel
All MRP Purchase Cardholders

Marketing and
Regulatory
Programs -
Business Services

FROM: Howard G. Price 
Head of the Contracting Activity Designee
Marketing and Regulatory Programs

Administrative
Services Division

SUBJECT: National Disability Employment Awareness Month
And the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Program

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Each Federal Agency celebrates National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM). This program celebrates and recognizes the talents, skills, and dedication of those disabled Americans who are a vital part of our workforce. In addition, the NDEAM promotes the recognition of individuals who support the Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Program and encourages dissemination of knowledge about JWOD capabilities. The Marketing and Regulatory Programs (MRP) has designated the month of January to recognize, celebrate and highlight the JWOD Program.

The JWOD Program is a unique Federal acquisition program which employs more the 45,000 Americans who are blind or have other severe disabilities. Throughout the fiscal year, every employee should:

- Learn more about JWOD Program;
- Find ways that nonprofit organizations participating in the JWOD Program can assist us in meeting our needs for quality goods and services; and
- Put increased emphasis on procuring goods and services from the JWOD contractors.

The MRP is committed to an annual increase of JWOD acquisitions of at least ½ percent of total procurement expenditures per year in accordance with departmental regulations. We should all commit ourselves to greater utilization of the JWOD Program, thereby creating new opportunities and employment for persons with disabilities. In particular, purchase cardholders should always buy items on the mandatory Procurement List from JWOD vendors before considering other commercial sources. The Acquisition Community is encouraged to support the JWOD Program whenever possible.



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Products available under the JWOD Program include a wide range of office supplies, toner cartridges, cleaning products, hardware items, janitorial/custodial services, grounds maintenance, temporary help services, mailroom support services, laundry services, medical/surgical products, and textiles. These items or services are available through online shipping services from GSA Advantage (www.gsaadvantage.gov) and GSA Global Supply (www.gsaglobalsupply.gov).

Non-monetary and promotional items, such as plaques, pens, cups, t-shirts, pens, caps, jackets, etc., are available from National Industries for the Blind (NIB). Contact the NIB customer service representative on 1-800-433-2304 or e-mail customer_service@nib.org to obtain information about purchasing items or to perform product research. More information about JWOD Program can be found at www.jwod.gov.

If you have any questions, please contact the MRP liaison, Estela M. Diaz, Small Business Coordinator/JWOD Liaison. She can be reached on 310.734.8110 or, via e-mail: Estela.M.Diaz@usda.gov.