



**Board of Commissioners of Cook County**

**Veterans Committee**

**Tuesday, May 19, 2015**

**12:00 PM**

**Cook County Building, Board Room  
118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois**

**NOTICE AND AGENDA**

There will be a meeting of the Committee or Subcommittee of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County at the date, time and location listed above to consider the following:

**PUBLIC TESTIMONY**

Authorization as a public speaker shall only be granted to those individuals who have submitted in writing, their name, address, subject matter, and organization (if any) to the Secretary 24 hours in advance of the meeting. Duly authorized public speakers shall be called upon to deliver testimony at a time specified in the meeting agenda. Authorized public speakers who are not present during the specified time for public testimony will forfeit their allotted time to speak at the meeting. Public testimony must be germane to a specific item(s) on the meeting agenda, and the testimony must not exceed three minutes; the Secretary will keep track of the time and advise when the time for public testimony has expired. Persons authorized to provide public testimony shall not use vulgar, abusive, or otherwise inappropriate language when addressing the Board; failure to act appropriately; failure to speak to an item that is germane to the meeting, or failure to adhere to the time requirements may result in expulsion from the meeting and/or disqualify the person from providing future testimony.

**PROPOSED RESOLUTION**

**15-2463**

**Sponsored by:** JEFFREY R. TOBOLSKI County Commissioner, TONI PRECKWINKLE, President, LUIS ARROYO JR, RICHARD R. BOYKIN, JERRY BUTLER, JOHN P. DALEY, JOHN A. FRITCHEY, BRIDGET GAINER, ELIZABETH "LIZ" DOODY GORMAN, GREGG GOSLIN, STANLEY MOORE, JOAN PATRICIA MURPHY, TIMOTHY O. SCHNEIDER, PETER N. SILVESTRI, DEBORAH SIMS, ROBERT STEELE and LARRY SUFFREDIN, County Commissioners

**RESOLUTION TO ENGAGE IN OUTREACH FOR VETERAN-OWNED BUSINESSES**

**WHEREAS**, of approximately 12 million American veterans participating in the U.S. labor market 3.6 million are self-employed small business owners or co-owners of their small business; and

**WHEREAS**, according to the United States Census Bureau, self-employed veterans generate \$1.65 trillion annually in the American economy and employ more than 10 million Americans; and

**WHEREAS**, historically, veterans are self-employed at a rate almost 50 percent higher than non-veterans; and

**WHEREAS**, Small Business Administration research found that 23 percent of veterans are either starting a small business or are seriously considering doing so; and

**WHEREAS**, the Cook County Veterans Preference and Qualified Veteran Owned Business Incentive Acts serve as mechanisms to assist those persons who served in the United States military; and

**WHEREAS**, the people of the Cook County owe a debt of gratitude to these individuals; and

**WHEREAS**, Cook County seeks to ensure that employment and entrepreneurial opportunities are available to its veterans in their time of need; and


**WHEREAS**, there are currently only twenty-nine Cook County certified Veteran Business Enterprises; and

**WHEREAS**, expanding the number of Veteran Business Enterprises will provide further contracting opportunities for veteran-owned businesses in both the public and private sectors; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners will engage with veterans through outreach to local veterans organizations, community organizations, churches, chambers of commerce, and elected officials to promote the Cook County Veteran Business Enterprise Program; and shall actively recruit volunteer legal and business advisors to guide and support veterans as they navigate the Cook County Veteran Business Enterprise application process; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this text be spread upon the official record of this honorable body.

**Legislative History:** 4/1/15 Board of Commissioners referred to the Veterans Committee

  
Secretary

Chairman: Tobolski  
Vice Chairman: Moore  
Members: Arroyo, Boykin, Daley, Schneider, Suffredin