

Summary of Testimony
Linda B. Oliver
U.S. Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship
“Assessing Federal Small Business Assistance Programs for Veterans and Reservists”
January 31, 2007

Ms. Oliver’s testimony will outline the Department of Defense’s (DoD) efforts to support veteran owned and service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses (SDVOSB). DoD’s primary means of accomplishing this goal have been through implementing a strategic plan in May 2005 which includes increasing the number of SDVOSBs in the Department’s registration database, educating businesses on the use of SDVOSBs in contracting and subcontracting, and increasing the amount of money awarded to SDVOSBs. Ms. Oliver will point out that the Department recognizes that “considerable work remains to attain the 3% goal,” but also that DoD is “making great strides in reaching out to and continually improving the performance of SDVOSBs.

Ms. Oliver will explain in greater detail the Department’s strategic plan, implemented in May 2005. The objectives of this plan are to: 1) increase the number of service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses in the Central Contractor Registration (CCR); 2) increase training and outreach to the defense acquisition community; 3) increase service-disabled veteran-owned small business participation in the DoD Mentor-Protégé Program; 4) increase subcontracting opportunities for service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses; 5) increase the ability of service-disabled veteran-owned small businesses to compete on contracts requiring surety bonding; and 6) foster and promote the use of teaming agreements and joint ventures.