

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Beatrice Louissaint, President & CEO
(305) 762-6151 - Beatrice@fsmsdc.org
www.fsmsdc.org

**Florida State Minority Supplier Development Council to Operate
the Minority Business Development Agency Miami Business Center**

MIAMI (May 10, 2016) — The U.S. Department of Commerce Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA) has selected the Florida State Minority Supplier Development Council (FSMSDC) as the grant recipient to operate the MBDA Business Center in Miami.

The MBDA grant program is designed to help minority-owned firms across the nation create jobs, develop their business and compete in the global economy. A key strategic goal of MBDA's Business Center Network is to help minority firms grow by providing access to capital, technical expertise, advanced business consulting resources and innovative management concepts.

Since 2009, MBDA Business Centers across the nation have assisted minority firms with gaining access to more than \$31 billion in capital and contracts, while creating and retaining nearly 142,000 jobs. The Business Centers are integral to fostering greater economic vitality across the regions that they serve.

The Miami MBDA Business Center will make additional announcements soon regarding services, programs and workshops to benefit minority businesses. To learn more about the center, visit www.fsmsdc.org or call (305) 762-6151.

About the FSMSDC

The Florida State Minority Supplier Development Council (FSMSDC) is a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing access and growth for minority businesses in Florida. The organization's goal is to increase purchasing from minority businesses by government entities and corporations, while increasing MBEs' operating capacity through hands-on business assistance, training and access to technology and capital resources. Founded in 1975 in southern Florida (formerly named the Southern Florida Minority Supplier Development Council –SFMSDC) and expanded to cover all of Florida in January 2016, it is one of 23 regional councils affiliated with the National Minority

Supplier Development Council (NMSDC). The FSMSDC acts as a liaison between corporate America and Minority Business Enterprises in the state of Florida.

About the Minority Business Development Agency (MBDA)

MBDA (www.mbda.gov) is the only federal agency dedicated to the growth and global competitiveness of U.S. minority-owned businesses. Its programs and services better equip minority-owned firms to create jobs, build scale and capacity, increase revenues and expand regionally, nationally and internationally. Services are provided through a network of MBDA Business Centers. Established in 1969, MBDA continues to be a dedicated strategic partner to all U.S. minority-owned businesses, committed to offering programs and services that provide greater access to capital, contracts and markets.