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PRESS RELEASE

Construction Event at City Hall Opens Doors for Minority Contractors

Diversity Scholarship to be Awarded to Minority Construction Employee

Philadelphia, PA – More than 150 people attended, the “Meet the Generals – A Framework for Diversity” event held at Philadelphia’s City Hall on April 9, 2008 opening the doors to build business partnerships between 11 of the region’s top general contractors and more than 45 minority specialty contracting firms representing both Merit shop and union philosophies.

“Meet the Generals was a great event. I’ve never seen anything like it,” said Herb Young, director of Community Affairs for Turner Construction Company. “We met many really good specialty contractors that we would have never had had the opportunity to meet if it wasn’t for this event. I commend the organizations who joined together to offer this event to the Philadelphia building community.”

“The event was an excellent opportunity to network with general contractors and other specialty firms to identify opportunities for female, minority-owned companies,” explained Karen Miller, CEO/owner of K & W Safety Construction. “This was by far one of the best networking events that I have ever attended.”

Frank Montgomery Jr., owner of FMJ Electrical Contracting Inc. said that Meet the Generals “was a very informative and inspirational event. I was able to meet all types of business owners and start building relationships with some new contractors that I haven’t worked with in the past.”

Co-hosted by the Building Industry Association, the Associated Builders and Contractors Inc. (ABC) Southeast Pennsylvania Chapter, the National Association of Minority Contractors, the National Association of Women in Construction and the Minority Supplier Development Council of Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware, the “speed networking” event was designed to provide minority-owned construction firms the chance to meet with top Philadelphia area general contractors to discuss opportunities to partner on public and private construction projects in the Philadelphia region.

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The 11 general contractors that participated included: Adams Bickel Associates, Inc.; Allan A. Myers; Berks Ridge Company Enterprises, Inc.; E. Allen Reeves, Inc.; Delran Builders Co., Inc.; Gorski Construction Co., Inc.; TN Ward Company Builders; Tocci Building Corporation; Turner; Westrum Development Company and W.S. Cumby.

At the event, ABC announced that it will be awarding a four-year scholarship to an employee of one of the attending minority specialty contractors in its apprenticeship training program for classes beginning in September 2008. Proceeds of the Meet the Generals event will help fund the scholarship as well as a Diversity Grant received from ABC National. Applications for the scholarship valued at \$8,000 will be available in May.

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