



North Central  
Minority Supplier  
Development Council

# NCMSDC Newsroom

## February 20, 2024 Edition

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### February Updates & Commitment from NCMSDC

As we stride into February, please accept a belated Happy New Year from all of us at the North Central Minority Supplier Development Council. Although our greetings come a little late, our enthusiasm for the year ahead is right on time.

We are already off to a great start in 2024, finalizing plans for an array of compelling programs and events designed to support and elevate your endeavors.

Rest assured, despite the current vacancy in our President/CEO's office, we remain steadfast in our commitment to serving you with the highest standard of excellence.

Should you need assistance, have inquiries, or require support of any kind, we urge you to reach out. We are here to ensure that your experience with NCMSDC is a good one.

The NCMSDC Team

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★ ★ ★ CELEBRATES ★ ★ ★  
**BLACK  
HISTORY  
MONTH**



## NCMSDC Black-owned MBEs by the numbers:

NCMSDC Black-owned Businesses: **138 MBEs**

- **Male: 104 MBEs**
- **Female: 34 MBEs**
- **Iowa: 9 MBEs**
- **Minnesota: 76 MBEs**
- **North Dakota: 2 MBEs**
- **South Dakota: 2 MBEs**
- **Wisconsin: 49 MBEs**

Number of Class 1 (under \$1M) Black-owned Businesses: **79 MBEs**

Number of Class 2 (greater than \$1M & under \$10M) Black-owned Businesses: **42 MBEs**

Number of Class 3 (greater than \$10M & under \$50M) Black-owned Businesses: **13 MBEs**

Number of Class 4 (over \$50M) Black-owned Businesses: **4 MBEs**

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## NCMSDC Certified Black-owned MBE Spotlights

**Black History Month**  
MBE Spotlight

**BLK & BOLD**

The First Black-Owned and Nationally Distributed Coffee Brand Is Recognized As One Of America's Fastest-Growing Private Businesses

“BLK & BOLD is driven to disrupt the status quo and bring purpose to every cup of coffee or tea by pledging 5% of its profits to youth programs.”

**Our Inc. 5000 Ranking**

- #1 In the state of Iowa
- #61 Fastest growing company in America.

**Rod Johnson**  
Chief Values Officer/Co-Founder

**Pernell Cezar Jr**  
CEO/Co-Founder

North Central Minority Business Development Council



# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

## MBE SPOTLIGHT

With joint leadership, strategic planning, and a commitment to balance, **Moltron Builders**, a Minneapolis-based general contracting firm, is a testament to the collaborative efforts of its husband-and-wife team, Babette and Patrick Buckner. Moltron specializes in general construction, maintenance, remodeling, and tenant improvement projects and offers construction management and design-build services.



Moltron Builders, in partnership with McGough Construction, was awarded the Ramsey County Environmental Recycle Project.

“Be the change you want to see. We cannot wait for someone else to give us permission to follow our dreams or accomplish our goals”



**MOLTRON**  
Babette Buckner  
CEO and Co-Founder



## Black History Month

### MBE Spotlight



**Wisconsin Governor 2023  
Outstanding Business of the Year**  
(Minority Business Category)

Tailored Business, Process and  
Technology Solution Consultancy

“Abaxent honors the courage of minority entrepreneurs who persevered to bring their dreams to life. Their success paves the path for others to follow.”



North Central  
Minority Supplier  
Development Council

**Adonica Randall**  
President/CEO



## Black History Month MBE Spotlight

**Atlantic Distribution LLC**  
Distributor of "SU ALKALINE  
WATER" 100% natural sourced from  
a stream in the mountains of Turkey

“We need to keep **believing and trusting** our instinct, moving forward even in times of adversity, having one thing in mind: our success. We are equipped for victory in any circumstance.”

SU Alkaline Water will be available in over  
**1,400**

Walmart stores beginning  
March 15, 2024

**Paul Valery Wakue Moumbe**  
Founder and CEO





### **2024 NCMSSDC Matchmaker**

Mark your calendars for **April 16, 2024**

### **2024 NCMSSDC Golf Invitational and Annual Meeting**

Mark your calendars for **July 24, 2024 at Mystic Lake in Minneapolis, MN**

### **2024 NCMSSDC Business Opportunity Exchange**

Mark your calendars for **September 24, in Minneapolis, MN.**

*\*We are working on the event details and will share the complete information with you shortly. Stay tuned!*

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## **Upcoming Partnership Events:**

### **Women's Business Enterprise National Council (WBENC) National Conference**

[Register Here](#)

March 19 to March 22, Denver, Colorado

### **Black and Brown Business Summit**

[Register Here](#)

April 18 to April 19, West Des Moines, Iowa

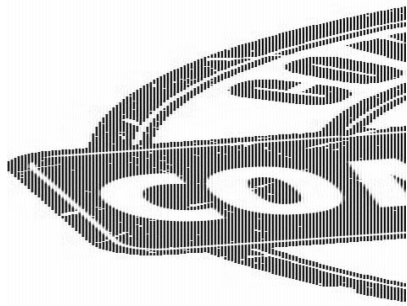
### **National LGBTQ Chamber of Commerce (NGLCC) International Business and Leadership Conference**

July 30 to August 2, Palm Springs, California

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## **Sponsor Packages**

The NCMSSDC team is finalizing the 2024 sponsorship package. We anticipate making it accessible within the coming weeks. Once ready, it will be shared via

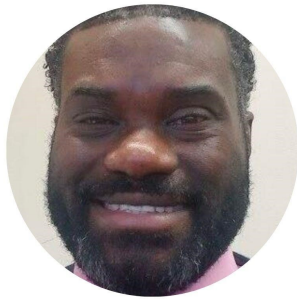


email and also made available on our website for your convenience.

Thank you for your patience!

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## Meet the NCMSSDC Team



Derek Knox serves as the Vice President of Operations and operator of the Wisconsin MBDA Center, he oversees the council's activities and spearheads the initiatives at the MBDA Center. He is readily available to provide assistance and support.

Contact Derek:  
[dknox@northcentralmsdc.net](mailto:dknox@northcentralmsdc.net)



Reehanah Al-Othman serves as the Director of Finance and MBE Services, where she manages the council's financial operations and leads the provision of MBE services, focusing on programming support.

Contact Reehanah:  
[ralothman@northcentralmsdc.net](mailto:ralothman@northcentralmsdc.net)



Antronette Mahomes serves as the Certification Manager, responsible for all aspects of MBE certification. She is your primary contact for guidance through the pre-certification phase, navigating the certification process, and



Deb Bryant serves as a consultant with NCMSSDC, focusing on aiding the staff with specialized initiatives. Her expertise is focused into managing the CRM database and enhancing operational and program support.

understanding orientation and  
benefits of certification details.

Contact Deb:  
[dbryant@northcentralmsdc.net](mailto:dbryant@northcentralmsdc.net)

Contact Antronette:  
[amahomes@northcentralmsdc.net](mailto:amahomes@northcentralmsdc.net)

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