



Behind the Scenes

Executive Director's Report

I am saddened to report the passing of longtime CAC Member Tina Fofoa.

As a member of the CAC since 2008, Tina was a tireless advocate for people with disabilities on both the CAC and other regional committees, such as Long Beach Transit's Paratransit Advisory Committee. She was also a long-time volunteer with the Disabled Resources Center in Long Beach, dedicating hundreds of hours a year to helping people with disabilities.

Information about services can be found here: <https://www.rosehills.com/obituaries/whittier-ca/fetineiai-foafoa-10319617>.

She will be greatly missed by me and the entire Access family.

Andre Colaiace
Executive Director

Access creates a how-to-guide to search for local Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs)

Access recently developed a helpful DBE resource, titled "How to Search for Diverse Businesses." Prime or potential vendors and other transit agencies who are seeking partnerships and want to increase DBE, Small Business and other diverse business participation on transit-related projects, can use the guidebook.

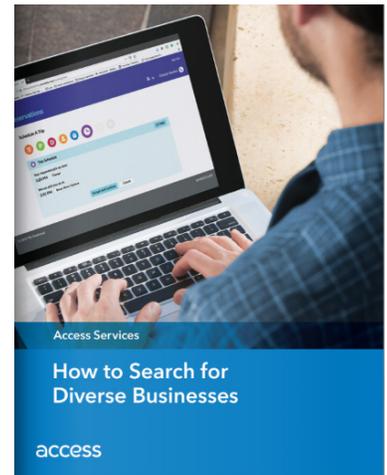
The how-to-guide can assist those who are interested in searching for certified firms for use in potential subcontracting opportunities. The guide provides an easy reference on how to search certifying agencies' most relevant databases for Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBEs), Small Businesses (SBs), Small Business Enterprises (SBEs), Women Business Enterprises (WBEs), Minority Business Enterprises (MBEs) and Disabled Veteran Business Enterprises (DVBEs).

This user-friendly guidebook breaks down each database search into step-by-step instructions, making it an essential reference tool for both novice and advanced users. For advanced users, the guidebook shows how to apply filters and how to utilize specific parameters in order to achieve the desired search results.

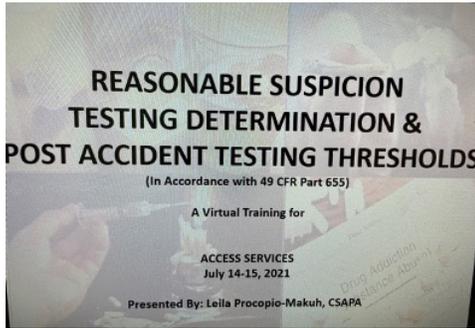
The how-to guide is now available on the website link below:

https://accessla.org/doing_business_with_us/dbe_program.html

Alvina Narayan
Manager, Training and Compliance



Reasonable Suspicion and Post-Accident Testing Training



Access Services recently hosted a Reasonable Suspicion and Post-Accident Testing Determination training through the CTSA Extension Program. Drug and Alcohol Program Consultant, Leila Procopio-Makuh of LPM Consulting Inc., taught the two-day course.

The training is geared for transit supervisors to help them determine and administer reasonable suspicion and post-accident testing for safety-sensitive employees. Divided into two-days, the first session focused on requirements on how to make reasonable suspicion determinations. The second session focused on how supervisors and other agency officials can improve post-accident decisions. Attendees from various transit agencies had the opportunity to learn the signs and symptoms of drug and alcohol misuse, testing thresholds, post-accident and reasonable suspicion scenarios.

As the second session ended, the instructor expressed the importance of proper documentation, and appropriate actions on when to refer staff for reasonable suspicion testing.

Onnika Payne
Transportation Planner

Commendations

"I would like to file a commendation for Cheryl Lin, a reservationist from the Southern Region. She spoke clear, was friendly, efficient, and provided accurate information. Access needs more reps like Cheryl."

Christine Humphries
Rider since 2013

"I would like to file a smile for Emon, a reservationist from the Southern Region. I called the 1-800 number and Emon was the reservationist who took my call. The pick-up and drop-off time that he provided worked perfectly with my schedule. I routinely receive Emon as my reservationist, he is polite and always a pleasure to speak to."

Julie Kitashima
Rider since 2006