

# **STATUS REPORT**

## **LOUISIANA INITIATIVE FOR VETERAN AND SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED SMALL ENTREPRENEURSHIPS (THE VETERAN INITIATIVE)**

**2022-2023 FISCAL YEAR  
(July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023)**

*Presented to*

Senate Committee on Finance

House Committee on Appropriations

By  
Jay Dardenne  
Commissioner of Administration

December 29, 2023

**LOUISIANA INITIATIVE FOR VETERAN AND  
SERVICE-CONNECTED DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED  
SMALL ENTREPRENEURSHIPS  
(THE VETERAN INITIATIVE)**

**2022 - 2023 FISCAL YEAR STATUS**

For the period of July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023, the total reported state expenditures on contracts with certified Veteran Initiative entrepreneurships was \$25,806,532.32. At the end of the June 30, 2023 fiscal year period, LED reported six hundred and twenty (620) certified Veteran Initiative small entrepreneurships (382 Veteran-Owned and 238 Service-Connected Disabled). Of this number, a total of five hundred and twenty-eight (528) were registered in LaGov.

For the previous fiscal year (July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022), the total reported expenditure on contracts was \$16,787,821.46. The table below is an overview of expenditures to Veteran Initiative small entrepreneurships for fiscal years July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 and July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023. The DOA and state agencies in concert with LED are continuing our efforts to inform businesses about the program and to encourage their certification. The DOA is also encouraging state agencies to maximize their efforts in contracting with Veteran Initiative entrepreneurships.

**TABLE 1**

**BREAKDOWN OF FISCAL YEAR '23 EXPENDITURES**

The chart below illustrates the expenditures on contracts with certified Veteran Initiative Small Entrepreneurships according to the three available procurement accounting systems used by the executive branch.

<b>VETERAN INITIATIVE SUMMARY EXPENDITURES</b>		
	EXPENDITURES FY '22 07/01/21 – 06/30/22	EXPENDITURES FY '23 07/01/22 – 06/30/23
LaGov (Office of State Procurement and Facility Planning and Control) Agencies	\$15,301,600.31	\$22,156,828.46
Non-LaGov Agencies (Universities, Colleges & LSUHSC HOSPITALS)	\$1,363,058.22	\$1,948,140.51
Department of Transportation and Development	\$123,162.93	\$1,701,563.35
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$16,787,821.46</b>	<b>\$25,806,532.32</b>

Note: Due to limited reporting capabilities, these figures may not reflect all expenditures earned by small entrepreneurships engaged as subcontractors.

**ADDITIONAL INITIATIVE REQUIREMENTS  
IMPOSED BY STATUTE**

**A. La. R.S. 39:2177(C) requires the Commissioner of Administration to provide periodic training for relevant state employees to acquaint them with the requirements of the initiative and administrative law related thereto.**

**B. La. R.S. 39:2177(D) requires the Commissioner of Administration to conduct a training program at least semiannually to acquaint small entrepreneurships with state procurement and public contract proposal and bidding practices.**

On behalf of the Commissioner, the Office of State Procurement conducts outreach activities to acquaint Veteran Initiative entrepreneurships with state contracting and procurement, to encourage certification and to encourage Veteran Initiative entrepreneurships to enroll in the state’s electronic vendor notification system, LaGov.

Examples of these types of activities include:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Topic</b>
November 2, 2022	Procurement Webinar for Vendors	Webinar - Virtual	How to Do Business with the State
December 8, 2022	LaNIGP Conference	Lake Charles, LA	How to Do Business with the State
May 10, 2023	LA Emergency Management Conference	Lake Charles, LA	Procurement Opportunities & How to Do Business with the State
June 29, 2023	Tunica Biloxi Tribe Procurement Conference	Marksville, LA	How to Do Business with the State

Attachment A  
 Veteran Initiative Report  
 July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023

Department	Expenditure Amount Veteran Owned (VSE)	Expenditure Amount Veteran Service Connected Disabled (DVSE)
01-100 Governor's Office (Executive Office)	\$ -	\$ -
01-102 Office of Inspector General	\$ -	\$ -
01-103 Mental Health Advocacy Service	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
01-106 Louisiana Tax Commission	\$ 2,233.52	\$ -
01-107 Division of Administration	\$ -	\$ 64,440.25
01-109 Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority	\$ 211,987.30	\$ 299,111.50
01-111 Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness	\$ 1,199,338.75	\$ 11,806,993.87
01-112 Department of Military Affairs	\$ 2,100,039.50	\$ 38,561.16
01-115 Facility Planning and Control	\$ 1,097,943.60	\$ 48,423.04
01-116 Louisiana Public Defender Board	\$ -	\$ -
01-129 Louisiana Commission on Law Enforcement	\$ 298,710.57	\$ -
01-133 Office of Elderly Affairs	\$ -	\$ -
01-254 Louisiana State Racing Commission	\$ -	\$ -
01-255 Office of Financial Institutions	\$ 1,557.65	\$ -
03. Department of Veterans Affairs	\$ 9,497.16	\$ 915,900.59
04-139 Secretary of State	\$ 7,884.13	\$ 1,575.00
04-141 Office of the Attorney General	\$ 11,223.91	\$ -
04-146 Office of the Lieutenant Governor	\$ -	\$ -
04-147 Department of Treasury	\$ 10,835.00	\$ -
04-158 Public Service Commission	\$ 1,164.00	\$ 957.00
04-160 Department of Agriculture and Forestry	\$ -	\$ -
04-165 Department of Insurance	\$ 984,159.00	\$ -
05. Louisiana Economic Development	\$ 291,925.00	\$ -
06. Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism	\$ 14,355.00	\$ -
07. Department of Transportation & Development	\$ 1,676,458.75	\$ 25,104.60
08. Department of Corrections	\$ 16,605.92	\$ 2,092.80
08. Office of Juvenile Justice	\$ 786,749.95	\$ 64,709.00
08. Department of Public Safety	\$ 28,480.90	\$ -
09. Department of Health	\$ 322,688.78	\$ 888.00
10. Department of Children & Family Services	\$ -	\$ -
11. Department of Natural Resources	\$ -	\$ -
12. Department of Revenue	\$ -	\$ -
13. Department of Environmental Quality	\$ -	\$ -
14. Louisiana Workforce Commission	\$ 900.00	\$ 10,290.00
16. Department of Wildlife & Fisheries	\$ 81,350.08	\$ 85,265.00
17. Department of State Civil Service	\$ 155.00	\$ -
19. Department of Education	\$ 70,669.84	\$ 342,020.41
19. Higher Education	\$ 1,709,225.65	\$ 238,914.86
21. Division of Administrative Law	\$ -	\$ -
21. LA Federal Property Assistance	\$ -	\$ -
21. LA Property Assistance Agency	\$ -	\$ -
21. Office of Aircraft Services	\$ -	\$ -
21. Office of Group Benefits	\$ -	\$ -
21. Office of Risk Management	\$ -	\$ -
21. Office of State Procurement	\$ -	\$ -
21. Office of Technology Services	\$ 923,646.28	\$ -
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$ 11,861,285.24</b>	<b>\$ 13,945,247.08</b>