15th Annual End of Year Federal Contractor Update January 25, 2023 – Oshkosh WI







About the Speakers



MAJ Thomas W. Cayia, DCMA Milwaukee-Oshkosh, Oshkosh, Wisconsin

Major Tom Cayia currently serves as the Site Director for DCMA Milwaukee at the Oshkosh, Wisconsin office where he leads a team of trusted professionals committed to delivering value to our Warfighters throughout the acquisition lifecycle.

Tom's previous acquisition assignments include serving as a contract specialist and contracting officer at ACC-Detroit Arsenal, as an Administrative

Contracting Officer forward deployed in Iraq, and as the Executive Officer and Rear Detachment Commander of the 902d Contracting Battalion/MICC-JBLM.

Prior to joining the Army Acquisition Corps, Tom served as a Rifle Platoon Leader forward deployed to Afghanistan, Infantry BN S6, Brigade Network Operations Officer, and as a Signal Company Commander forward deployed to Kuwait.

MAJ Cayia holds a bachelor's degree from Tulane University and an MBA in Acquisition and Contract Management from the Naval Postgraduate School. Tom maintains a foundational certification in the Contracting career field with specialized experience in the areas of Contingency Contracting, Installation Support Contracting, and Major Weapon System Contract Administration.

<u>Jason Rathsack, Senior Contract Specialist, Defense Contract Management Agency</u> (DCMA)

Jason Rathsack is a Senior Contract Specialist with DCMA Central Region (CR). DCMA CR oversees 10 Contract Management Offices responsible for providing acquisition insight to DoD in support of over \$500B in contracts across 23 states. Mr. Rathsack previously served as the Group Lead, Business Operations for DCMA Milwaukee, which is responsible for contract administration of approximately 1,500 active Department of Defense (DoD) contracts and grants in Wisconsin, Northern Indiana, and the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Mr. Rathsack's previous positions include serving as an Administrative Contracting/Grants Officer with DCMA Milwaukee and a Contract Price/Cost Analyst with DCMA Chicago providing direct support to DoD contracting officers in review and recommendations associated with proposal analyses, review of contractor business systems, cost accounting standards, and incurred cost disputes. Mr. Rathsack also

performed cradle to grave contract specialist duties for the US Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC), Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC), and the US Dept. of Veterans Affairs (VA).

Mr. Rathsack is an active member of NCMA and has served on the NCMA WI Chapter Board for 7 years, most recently elected Vice President. Mr. Rathsack has a DAWIA Level III Certification in Contracting, a B.S. in Economics/Business, and a Masters of Public Administration (MPA) from UW Milwaukee where he previously served as President of the MPA Alumni Chapter.



<u>Alec Streeter, Director, Global Trade Compliance, Oshkosh</u> <u>Corporation</u>

Alec Streeter currently serves as the Director of Supply Chain Compliance within the GPSC group of Oshkosh Corporation. Over his 16+ year tenure with Oshkosh he has had increasing responsibilities which now includes import compliance, product compliance and ESG which encompasses the specific focus areas of human rights/modern day slavery, conflict minerals and the science-based target program.



William Hughes, Partner, Husch Blackwell

Bill Hughes is a shareholder in the Milwaukee office of Husch Blackwell LLP. He is a member of the firm's Construction Services Team and has expertise in all aspects of construction and public contract law. Bill represents construction managers and prime and subcontractors, on construction issues, including the drafting and negotiating of construction contracts. He has extensive experience in the award, protest, and litigation of competitively bid and publicly awarded contracts, and he counsels federal contractors on all aspects of government contracts including the Federal Acquisition Regulations, audits, bids, changes, costs, claims, intellectual property rights, terminations and negotiations. He also has extensive arbitration and litigation

experience representing clients in recovering damages or defending against claims on both private and public contracts. As a former U.S. Government attorney, Bill is one of the few Wisconsin attorneys with the experience necessary to represent clients in matters involving federal contract law.



Brian P. Waagner, Partner, Husch Blackwell

With more than 20 years of experience as a trial lawyer and commercial litigator, Brian represents contractors in bid protests and in litigation involving complex claims and disputes. He also advises clients on contract compliance and administration issues, corporate due diligence matters and allegations of False Claims Act violations.



<u>David Zvenyach, Tech + X Nerd, where X = {Law, Product, Policy, Management, Government, Procurement, ...} – previously served as Deputy Commissioner of the U.S. General Services</u>

<u>Administration's (GSA) Federal Acquisition Service (FAS) and the Director of the Technology Transformation Services (TTS)</u>

Dave most recently served as the Director of the Technology Transformation Services ("TTS") at the United States General Services Administration ("GSA"). In between his time in government, Dave worked as an independent consultant and as Director of Product at Hangar. Dave also served as Senior Technical Advisor and Assistant Commissioner for the GSA's Federal Acquisition Service Office of Systems Management; Executive Director of 18F; Deputy Commissioner for TTS; Assistant Commissioner for the TTS Office of

Acquisition; General Counsel to the DC Council; Chief of Staff to Councilmember Mary Cheh; and judicial law clerk to United States District Judge Yvette Kane.



<u>Eric Ness, WI District Director, U.S. Small Business</u> <u>Administration (SBA)</u>

Eric Ness is the District Director for the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Wisconsin District with locations in Madison and in Milwaukee. As District Director, Eric is responsible for the delivery of SBA programs throughout Wisconsin. Eric joined the SBA in 1990 as a Commercial Loan Officer where he had the opportunity to work in both processing and liquidation of loans. He has served as Finance Chief and Assistant District Director for Economic Development. In December of 2001, Eric assumed the position of Wisconsin District Director. Prior to coming to SBA, Eric worked for Impact Seven as a

Business Analyst and was General Manager of Western Wisconsin Development Corporation in Northwestern Wisconsin. Eric graduated from the University of Minnesota with a Degree in Agricultural Engineering and later obtained a Master's in Business Administration from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, Texas.



<u>Daryl Zahn, CFCM, Senior Manager, Contracts and Compliance,</u> <u>DRS Naval Power Systems, Inc.</u>

Daryl is Senior Manager for the Contracts and Compliance department for DRS Naval Power Systems, Inc. located in Menomonee Falls, WI. DRS Naval Power Systems, Inc. provides power distribution, power conversion, motor controls, drives, and automation / control equipment for Naval and marine requirements operating as both a prime contractor to the US Navy and a sub-tier contractor to Naval shipbuilders and supporting companies. Daryl has worked in Federal contracting for over 30 years, having worked for Astronautics Corporation of America, Eaton Navy Controls and DRS Naval Power Systems, Inc. with experience administrating contract actions for prime contracts, subcontracts to prime customers, as well as contracts for commercial customers. Daryl is an active member of the Wisconsin chapter of the National Contract Management Association (NCMA) being a long-time

board member, including Executive Board positions as Secretary, Vice President, President, and is presently the chapter Treasurer. In this position, Daryl facilitates yearly training for persons looking to gain certification as Certified Federal Contract Managers (CFCM) or just looking to gain a better understanding of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR). Daryl serves as an advisory board member to the Wisconsin Procurement Institute and has recently been added to the Board of Directors for the National Defense Industrial Association Great Lakes Chapter (NDIA-GL).



James Pitcher, Lead Contract Manager, Scale Al

James Pitcher has been a contracting officer for the United States Air Force since 2011 supporting Air Combat Command, US Space Force, multiple Expeditionary Commands, and Business Intelligence Operations across three duty stations and two deployments. James is also an alum of the Defense Ventures Fellowship program and is passionate about connecting the Department of Defense to emerging technology. In addition to his current role supporting the Air Force Installation Contracting Center, James is participating in the Contract Management Leadership Development Program

through NCMA, and also enjoys mentoring early-stage companies on ways to engage the Federal market. James is originally from Milwaukee, WI and enjoys coming back to his home state for Brewers, Bucks, and Packers games whenever possible. He also enjoys hiking and fishing with his wife (also a WI native) and three children.



<u>Aina Vilumsons, President / Executive Director, Wisconsin</u> <u>Procurement Institute – An APEX ACCELERATOR</u>

APEX Accelerators mission is to serve as the axis for existing and new business to strengthen the defense and government industrial base by

accelerating innovation, fostering ingenuity, and establishing resilient and diverse supply chains. WPI is celebrating 35 years of service – each year WPI services to all 72 Wisconsin counties, provides technical support to over 1200 businesses and hosts / supports over 100 education / training / conference opportunities.