



## Love your eyes - both at work and at home

Eye injuries in the workplace are a common occurrence. About 2,000 workers sustain eye-related injuries that require medical treatment every day. Injuries can also occur in the home. Using appropriate eye protection is important to avoiding injuries. Maintaining good eye health is also key to taking care of your eyes. Following are a few tips for taking care of your eyes.

- Have an eye exam annually
- Know the safety dangers at work and home
- Choose the right eye protection
- Wear your eye protection
- Check your eyewear often for damage

### Contact Information

We would love to hear from you!  
Please contact us at (865) 576-5643 (phone), or Karen.reeve@ettp.doe.gov (email).

## TVBA hosts Fifth Annual Business and Education Expo in Knoxville

Tennessee Veterans Business Association (TVBA) hosted its 5th Annual Business and Education Expo on January 26 and 27 in Knoxville, Tenn.

TVBA's foundation is built on four cornerstones: marketing, government advocacy, education and training, and veteran employment issues. TVBA is a one-of-a-kind business association and the only entity across the country that brings these four vital elements together under one umbrella.

Jonathan Williams is the Chairman and Founder of TVBA. When starting his own government firm, Accord Federal Services, he turned to community resources to help. Williams wanted advice from other veterans who had started their own companies and searched through federal government contractor databases to find them. When he realized how many veterans operated in the Knoxville area, he established the TVBA. TVBA members are veterans who take pride in their teamwork. As a veteran business association, TVBA connects veteran business owners with other veteran-owned companies, Chambers of Commerce, elected officials, government agencies, local business leaders and business associations, local military units, and the veteran support community.

TVBA is the only group of veteran-owned businesses and champion partners that embraces a mission of business development, growing the entrepreneurial spirit, government advocacy, education and training, and career support

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Tim Melberg, UCOR Supply Chain Management; Ken Rueter, UCOR President and Project Manager; Jonathan Williams, TVBA founder; and Ron Slottke, UCOR Project Services and Support.

## TVBA Conference (continued from p. 1)

to the veteran job seeker. UCOR endorsed this event as a platinum sponsor. Ken Rueter, UCOR President and Project Manager, attended TVBA's Networking Reception and Keynote Dinner. A substantial part of Rueter's Small Business Strategic Plan for UCOR is to support, participate in, and contribute to as many local business expos, training, and conferences as possible, as well as:

- Pursue more task-based subcontracts to be performed by small businesses;
- Focus on providing high quality scopes of work to enable small businesses to demonstrate and deliver their competencies and proficiencies;
- Strengthen UCOR's support and involvement in the DOE Mentor-Protégé Program

### Keynote Dinner for the Fifth Annual Business and Education Expo held on January 26th

The keynote speaker was Staff Sgt. (Retired) Shilo Harris, a retired Cavalry Scout in the United States Army. The son of a Vietnam veteran, native Texan Shilo Harris

always knew he wanted to be a soldier. After the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, he enlisted as a Cavalry Scout in the U.S. Army. He and his wife, Kathryn, were stationed in Germany with the First Infantry Division when he deployed to Iraq in February 2004.

On his second deployment in August 2006 with the 10th Mountain Division out of Fort Drum, N.Y., Harris worked near southern Baghdad on route clearance. In February 2007, the Humvee Harris was riding in hit an improvised explosive device while on patrol in Iraq; Harris lost three of his best friends. He is missing his ears, the tip of his nose, and three fingers; Harris also fractured his collarbone and C-7 vertebrae, and suffered partial to full thickness burns on over 35 percent of his body.

An agonizing road to recovery followed these horrific injuries, beginning with nearly two months in a medically-induced coma. Shilo Harris spent nearly three years in the burn unit of Brooke Army Medical Center. During that time, he experienced a version of hell so terrifying the memories still haunt him today.

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Abbey Campbell,  
DOE Oak Ridge  
Office Small  
Business Program  
Manager (seated),  
is greeting a  
customer at the  
conference.



## TVBA Conference (continued from p. 2)

Harris retired from the military in 2010 and today is a motivational speaker who urges his audiences to welcome veterans and warriors home. The Harris family resides in south Texas and was recently awarded a new home, which was featured on ABC's Extreme Makeover: Home Edition on Dec. 11, 2012.

Harris has published his inspiring story in his memoir, "Steel Will: My Journey Through Hell to Become the Man I was Meant to Be."

### 2015 TVBA Awards Presentation

Each year the Tennessee Veterans Business Association recognizes member companies that demonstrate the veteran spirit within the business community. These companies provide superior service to our community

and nation. Their business leadership is a credit to themselves and the United States of America, according to Jonathan Williams. The winners this year are as follows:

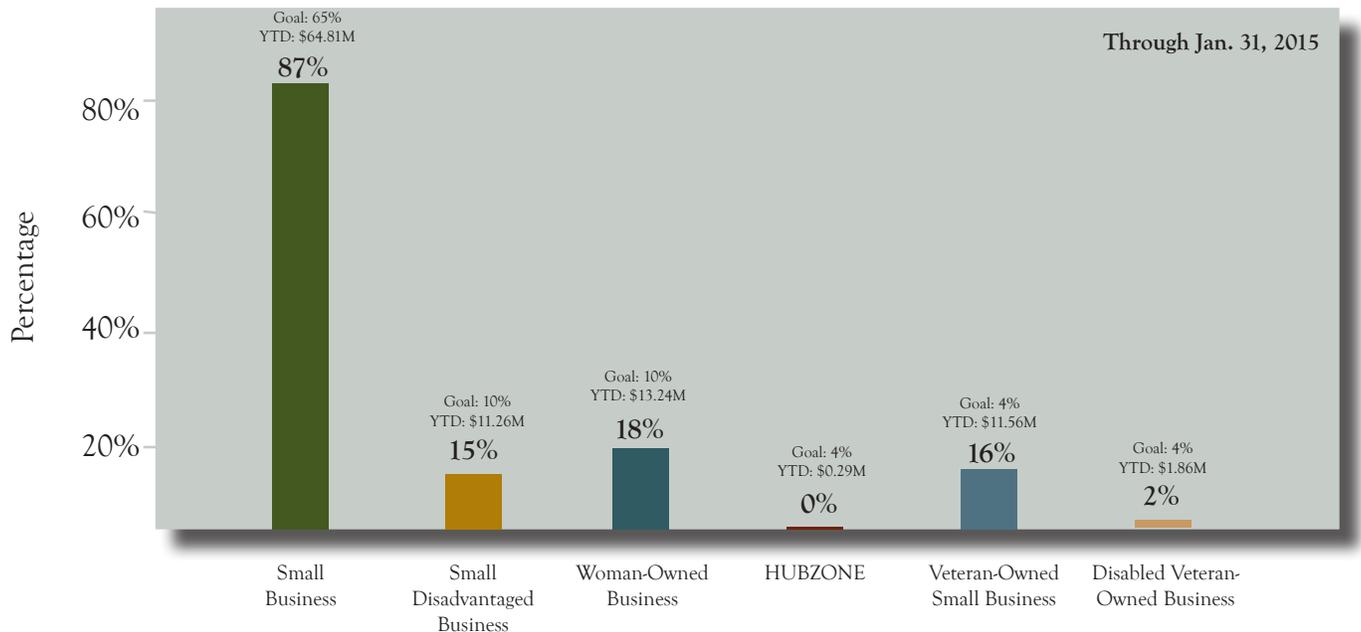
- "Veterans Excellence" Award, honoring a local company that works with and hires veterans: Alliant
- "Bravo Zulu" Award, presented to a Member company that exemplifies the veteran spirit: Attention IT
- "Veteran Pioneer" Award, presented to a member company that is thriving in a unique business model: Sword and Shield
- "Veterans Innovator" Award, presented to a member company that is an innovator in their field: Vanquish Worldwide
- "Veteran Supporter" Award, presented to a company that is a supporter of veteran causes: Leidos



Karen Reeve, UCOR Small Business Manager, and Veronica O'Hearn, UCOR Community Programs, staff the UCOR booth

# UCOR Small Business Statistics

## Summary FY 2015: Percent of Subcontract Dollars Placed with Socioeconomic Firms



## Inception to Date: Percent of Subcontract Dollars Placed with Socioeconomic Firms

