



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Florida State Minority Supplier Development Council
Honors Corporations and MBEs at Its Business Impact Awards**

Miami, FL — The Florida State Minority Supplier Development Council (FSMDC) held its Business Impact Awards at the Amaro Theater, located in the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, on Friday, September 22, 2023. The evening recognized the achievements of Florida’s top minority businesses, major corporations and individuals committed to supplier diversity. “The corporations and Minority Business Enterprises that were honored are working together to achieve the common goal of creating a vibrant economy in Florida,” said Beatrice Louissaint, President and CEO of the FSMDC.

“FSMDC’s mission is to help minority businesses grow and to help major corporations, government agencies, financial and educational institutions meet their supplier diversity goals,” said Desirée Hanson, Chair of the FSMDC Board of Directors and Manager of Supplier Diversity at Moffitt Cancer Center. “We will continue to innovate, collaborate and develop new initiatives to realize the organization’s vision of a diverse and inclusive business environment where economic success is achieved.”

The FSMDC gave prestigious awards to 12 companies and individuals:

Award	Recipient
National Corporation of the Year	Duke Energy
Local Corporation of the Year	University of Miami
Supplier of the Year Class I	A&P International
Supplier of the Year Class II	Tech Army
Supplier of the Year Class III	Bailey’s Medical Equipment
Supplier of the Year Class IV	Zones
Doing Well While Doing Good® – Corporation	The ODP Corporation
Doing Well While Doing Good® – Minority Business Enterprise	Coca-Cola Beverages Florida
Advocate of the Year	Tonja Graham, Duke Energy
Buyer Award	Jorge Rivera, The ODP Corporation
Buyer Award	Rosa Costanzo, Jackson Health System
President’s Award	Amber Lawhorn, Jackson Health System

About FSMDC

FSMDC is a nonprofit organization that is dedicated to advancing access and growth for minority businesses in Florida. The organization’s goal is to increase purchasing from minority businesses by government entities and corporations while increasing MBEs’ operating capacity through hands-on business assistance, training, and access to technology and capital resources. FSMDC was founded in 1975 and is one of 23 regional councils affiliated with the National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC). The Council acts as a liaison between corporate America and Minority Business Enterprises in the state of Florida.

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