



U.S. Small Business Administration

Office of Veterans Business Development

Washington, DC 20416

(202) 205-6572

June 9, 2015

The Honorable Niki Tsongas
Member, U.S. House of Representatives
126 John Street, Suite 12
Lowell, Massachusetts 01852

Dear Representative Tsongas:

Thank you for your recent inquiry regarding the North East Veterans Business Resource Center's (NEVBRC) application for the U.S. Small Business Administration's (SBA) Veterans Business Outreach Center (VBOC) Program.

The SBA recently had an open funding opportunity to award up to fourteen VBOCs across the United States. This announcement closed on February 17, 2015.

We had a large number of applicants and it was a very competitive process. SBA staff conducted a thorough review of all applications submitted and the awardees were announced on April 13, 2015. The NEVBRC was not selected for an award.

The Falcone Center for Entrepreneurship at Syracuse University's Whitman School of Management was selected due to their strong proposal which focused on serving the New England region. I am confident that they will provide exemplary service to your veteran constituents. I would be grateful for the opportunity to introduce you and your staff to the Syracuse VBOC team to learn more about their plans to work with aspiring and existing Massachusetts veteran business owners.

We appreciate your support of SBA and the small business community. If you or your staff have additional questions, please contact the SBA Office of Congressional and Legislative Affairs at (202) 205-6700.

Sincerely,

Barbara E. Carson
Acting Associate Administrator
Office of Veterans Business Development