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U.S. Department of Labor

Assistant Secretary for
Veterans' Employment
Washington, D.C. 20210



January 6, 1983


Honorable Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the
President for Public Liaison
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Mr. Blackwell:

Pursuant to your conversation with my Executive Assistant, Mr. Larry Brinker, I am requesting a Presidential telegram of congratulations to Messrs. William and Joseph Coors for receipt of the Secretary of Labor's Recognition Award for hiring veterans. The Coors organization is a leader in the corporate community in the affirmative action hiring policy for veterans. Enclosed is a draft of the press release for the event and should provide you with adequate information to structure such a telegram.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Larry Brinker on 523-9116. Many thanks.

Sincerely,


WILLIAM C. PLOWDEN, JR.
Assistant Secretary for
Veterans' Employment

Enclosure

Contact: Larry Brinker (202) 523-9116
Paul Williams (202) 523-7316

USDL 83-

For Release: 4 p.m., EST, Wednesday
January 12, 1983

LABOR DEPARTMENT HONORS COORS COMPANY FOR HIRING VETERANS

The Adolph Coors Company of Golden, Colo., today received an award from the U.S. Department of Labor for its record of hiring veterans and its policy of giving leave, pay and encouragement to employees fulfilling National Guard and military reserve obligations.

William C. Plowden, Jr., presented the Secretary of Labor's Recognition Award to William K. Coors, chief executive officer, and Joseph Coors, president, at the company headquarters.

Nearly 32 percent of the approximately 6,000 employees at the Coors brewery are veterans; about 52 percent of these are Vietnam-era or disabled veterans, Plowden said.

"This is the best record we have observed," Plowden said, adding that the company has a policy "established in the corporate board room by its board of directors" of recruiting veterans for jobs and guaranteeing full pay to employees while on National Guard or reserve duty.

Plowden said the Coors company far exceeds the requirements of the federal government for hiring veterans and receives no federal funds for its efforts.

He also praised the company for its strong support of employee participation in the National Guard and military reserves.

COORS QUOTE

In addition to administering programs to promote the hiring of veterans, Plowden's office administers the veterans' reemployment rights law, which requires employers to give returning service personnel and those who have been on National Guard or reserve duty their old or comparable jobs.

Calling the National Guard and the reserves "major parts of this Nation's defense readiness," Plowden praised Coors for being "a good corporate citizen."

Plowden expressed the hope that other employes not now doing so will give strong support to the Labor Department programs to encourage the hiring of veterans and to protect veterans' job rights, as well as those of National Guard and reserve personnel.

"At a time when the defense of our Nation has taken on a renewed importance," Plowden said, "it is more important than ever to promote the employment and safeguard the job rights of those who have made the sacrifice of giving an important part of their lives to serve their country."

The Reagan Administration, Plowden added, has taken the lead in emphasizing the need for employers in the private sector to bear a greater responsibility for employing those not presently working. Plowden said this is due, at least in part, to the fact that four out of every five jobs are in the private sector.

Because of the contributions made to their country by veterans, this responsibility is of an even higher priority in their case -- particularly disabled veterans and veterans of the Vietnam Era, Plowden declared.

#

Suggested Coors quote -

Mr. Joseph Coors, speaking on behalf of the company, expressed his deep appreciation for this honor and pledged his continued support for the veterans of this nation. In addition he encouraged other companies to join with Coors in supporting the men and women who have answered the call to duty by serving in the Armed Forces.

Ronald Reagan Presidential Library Digital Collections

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U.S. Department of Labor

Assistant Secretary for
Employment and Training
Washington, D.C. 20210

File
Vietnam Veterans



June 3, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: ALBERT ANGRISANI
Assistant Secretary of Labor

FROM: *As* RALPH E. HALL *je jung*
Director
Veterans' Employment Service

SUBJECT: Los Angeles Veterans Outreach and Community
Services (VOCS) Program

The attached two memorandums give a history of the efforts of the White House Veterans Coordinating Committee to provide funding for the Los Angeles VOCS program. Under the funding arrangement between the Committee and the Department, the ETA served as the contracting agency, using discretionary funds from various Federal agencies including the Department's CETA Title III Special National Program Activity (SNPA) funds.

The February 10, 1981, memorandum from Dennis Rhoades, Director of the Committee, to Dennis Wyant, former Deputy Assistant Secretary for Veterans' Employment, outlines the history of the negotiations.

Dr. Wyant sent the procurement to Larry Weatherford, but the package was returned some weeks later. Consideration of funding was denied by your office because it was your policy at that time not to fund any new contracts.

Since then, our total program budget has been reduced, and funds which were earmarked to fund the proposal are no longer available.

It should be noted that the contractor in this proposal was the City of Los Angeles CETA prime sponsor. There were discussions between the prime sponsor and the Center for Veterans Rights (CVR) about the possibility that CVR might become a project subcontractor. There were never, however, any formal or informal commitments or discussions between the Department and CVR about this or any other type of funding arrangement.

Attachments

THE WHITE HOUSE
VETERANS COORDINATING COMMITTEE
WASHINGTON

February 10, 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: Dennis R. Wyant
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Veterans Employment

FROM: Dennis K. Rhoades *Dennis*
Executive Director

SUBJECT: Los Angeles VOCS Program

In my January 30, 1981 memorandum to your office pertaining to the Department of Labor's Special National Program Activities (SNPA) fiscal year 1981 budget, I noted that \$300,000 which had been committed to the City of Los Angeles, but not converted into an obligation was not included in the budget summary prepared by Bill Kacsvinsky on January 22, 1981.

I am deeply concerned about the status of this procurement, since the Committee late in December completed long and difficult negotiations with the City on the establishment of a Veterans Outreach and Community Services (VOCS) program in Los Angeles.

On September 19, 1979, Jack Watson, Co-Chairman of the Committee, wrote Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley concerning the establishment of a VOCS program in the City through a cooperative partnership between the Committee and the City. On October 24, 1979, Committee Staff met with Deputy Mayor Grace Davis and Mayor Bradley and an agreement was reached to begin development of a program which would eventually result, as with other VOCS cities, in a cost reimbursement contract between the Department of Labor, serving as the contracting agency for the Committee, and the City.

Because the City indicated that it would commit \$500,000 in CETA Title IIB funds to the program and further wished to subcontract for the program competitively, Committee Staff traveled with Mr. Sanford Cohn, Chief of ETA Contract Services Division, Office of National Programs, to Los Angeles on January 30-31, 1980 to negotiate contracting procedures. It was agreed that the City would develop a request for proposal (RFP), advertise and select two subcontractors for the program. In the meantime, the RFP would be processed as the Statement of Work for the contract itself.

100-7-161

On May 6, 1980, the Committee received the RFP and forwarded it to your office for procurement action. On May 9, 1980, the Committee issued a letter to the City indicating an intent to provide funding for the program based on the RFP. You approved a Procurement Action Request (PAR) for the program on June 13, 1980, and the PAR was duly logged in the Office of National Programs on June 17, 1980.

During the late spring, the City received a number of bids for the program and selected the National Urban League affiliate and The East Los Angeles Community Union (TELACU) as subcontractors. The proposed subcontractors, however, did not meet certain specifications for the VOCS program, and therefore the Committee requested that the PAR be held pending further negotiations.

On August 28, 1980, I was appointed Director of the Committee and found that negotiations has ceased. I therefore traveled to Los Angeles on September 17, 1980 to reestablish negotiations.

While we continued our discussions through most of the fall of 1980, by mid-November, the Committee and the City had reached an impasse. The Committee therefore requested that the Department carry over the \$300,000 committed in the PAR with a view toward committing the funds to three other programs under development. The request was forwarded to the ETA Executive Council on November 20, 1980, and was subsequently refused but neither your office nor the Committee ever received verification in writing of this decision. We were therefore led to believe that the funds remained committed in the PAR. Shortly thereafter, the impasse in negotiations was broken, and on December 24, 1980, Deputy Mayor Davis and I reached an agreement on the phone. I notified your office of our agreement and followed up in writing on January 6, 1981.

It is my understanding that as a result of my January 30th memo, it was discovered that the Los Angeles PAR had been mistakenly cancelled.

While I understand that the Department is currently evaluating its entire contracting program and has therefore frozen action on all new contracts, I believe that delays may jeopardize the future of our effort in Los Angeles. In light of the fact that the cancellation was the Department's error and no action was taken on the contract between January 6th and January 30th, this contract in my opinion merits special handling.

I therefore request that immediate action be taken to correct this error so that the Committee can show good faith in its negotiations with the City of Los Angeles.



FEB 12 1981

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MEMORANDUM FOR: LAWRENCE E. WEATHERFORD
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Employment and Training

FROM: DENNIS R. WYANT
Deputy Assistant Secretary
for Veterans' Employment

SUBJECT: White House Veterans Program in Los Angeles

The attached copy of a letter from Dennis Rhoades is self explanatory and accurate. We need your approval to proceed with the subject contract since it will be a new contract due to the cancellation of the PAR. Your immediate attention to this matter is appreciated.

Attachment

U.S. Department of Labor

Assistant Secretary for
Veterans' Employment
Washington, D.C. 20210



JUN 7 1982

Mr. Morton C. Blackwell
Special Assistant to the President
The White House
Washington, D. C. 20500

Dear Morton:

Thank you very much for forwarding to me the resume of Mr. Ernest E. Pitochelli to be considered for the position of State Director for Veterans Employment for the State of Rhode Island.

As I am sure you are aware, this position is governed under the competitive rules of the Civil Service and will be filled accordingly. However, should Mr. Pitochelli be deemed qualified, he will receive every consideration.

Your interest in serving the veterans of this Nation is greatly appreciated and I look forward to the next time we see each other. If I may be of further assistance, please don't hesitate to call. With kindest regards, I am,

Sincerely,

Bill

WILLIAM C. PLOWDEN, JR.
Assistant Secretary for
Veterans' Employment

*Copy to Pitochelli
6/15/82*