

O'Riordan Bethel provides counsel and advice in the following practice areas:

- Government Contracts
- Securities Enforcement
- Financial Regulation
- Business Litigation
- Government Affairs
- White Collar Criminal Defense
- Construction
- Certification (including 8(a) and DBE)

Firm Certifications/Qualifications

8(a) • SDB

WOSB • EDWOSB

Small Business

DC / WMATA DOT DBE

MDOT DBE

DC CBE

VA DBE/MBE

WBENC/WPEO WBE

African-American and Woman-Owned

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We are looking forward to keeping busy as we start the summer. See what we've been up to since our last newsletter by clicking on the headlines for more information:

- Executive Partner Pamela J. Bethel will be inducted into the [Hall of Fame!](#)
- Congratulations all around for reaching [new milestones!](#)
- See what [litigation and protests](#) the firm has been involved in.
- Think outside the box. Lawyers do so much [more than litigate.](#)
- NUCA National's new Chairman is an old friend. [Find out who it is!](#)
- Know any [Enterprising Women of the Year?](#) We do!
- Starting a new business in DC? See [how we helped DCBFit!](#)
- O'Riordan Bethel [wins again!](#)

We're expanding our social media presence. In addition to our [website and blog](#), you can find us on [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), [Facebook!](#)



O'Riordan Bethel is proud to announce that Executive Partner Pamela J. Bethel will be inducted into the [National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame](#) for her achievements in the field Government/Law. She joins the ranks of such notable inductees as **Thurgood Marshall** the first African-American Supreme Court Justice (1986), **Maynard Jackson** the first African-American mayor of Atlanta (1987), **Barbara Jordan** a leader of the Civil Rights Movement and the first southern African-American woman elected to the U.S. House of Representatives (1989), **Andrew Young** former US Ambassador to the United Nations, mayor of Atlanta, and Congressman (1993), **James E. Clyburn** currently the third-ranking Democrat in the US House of Representatives (2005), and **Shirley Franklin** the first African-American woman elected mayor of Atlanta (2006).

The National Black College Alumni Hall of Fame Foundation is dedicated to the growth and development of Historically Black Colleges and Universities. To this end, the Hall of Fame secures supplemental scholarships for students and recognizes the accomplishments of distinguished alumni.

Ms. Bethel was nominated by her *alma mater* Lincoln University of Pennsylvania and

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will join fellow inductees **Kirk Whalum** (Texas Southern University, Entertainment) and **Dr. Thelma B. Thompson** (Lincoln University, Education), among others in Atlanta for the **28th Annual Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony**.



Said Ms. Bethel, "It is such an incredible honor to even be considered in the same category as such amazing men and women. I can only hope to follow in their footsteps and lead as they led."

- Congratulations to the following clients and colleagues for their **certifications**:
 - **Britt's Industries – 8(a) DB Certification.** Britt's Industries was started in 1976 to print and sell lottery books and other specialty printed items. Under the leadership of CEO Elizabeth Britt, the company maximized its sales potential in specialty print items and transitioned, naturally, to full-service printing services and products. Britt's Industries, based in Annapolis serves government and commercial clients across the country.
 - **Chevy Chase Contractors, Inc. – DBE, DC/WMATA Unified Certification Program (Renewal)**
 - **Rowen Concrete, Inc. – DBE/MBE, Maryland Department of Transportation (Renewal)**
 - **Washington Consulting Corporation – DBE/MBE, Maryland Department of Transportation (Renewal)**
- **Events:**
 - Women As Veteran Entrepreneurs (WAVE) held their **3rd Annual Women Veterans Small Business Seminar** at the Women's Memorial at Arlington National Cemetery on March 21.
 - **The Access to Opportunity Conference**, a business matchmaking event for **Small, Women and Minority (SWaM)** and **Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE)** certified firms, was hosted by the Virginia Department of Minority Business Enterprise. The event was presented in conjunction with The City of Hampton and Hampton University.
- **More exciting news:**
 - **NCF Interiors** was nominated for SBA Small Business of the Year! NCF Interiors is a **woman- and minority-owned, HUBZone-certified** business specializing in interior renovations, new construction and flooring projects.



President Roya Amirghaffari has overcome social and economic disadvantages to secure contracts in the public and private sectors.

- Managing Partner Carol L. O'Riordan has been named to the steering committee of **Women's Nexus**, a network united in support of business success and personal growth for Hispanic women business leaders. This new organization is the latest effort by the [Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce](#) to develop the network and tools necessary for assisting D.C area businesses to grow.

Anchor Construction – Multiple Bid Protests, Prequalification, and Contract Award.

O'Riordan Bethel led Anchor's successful pursuit of a 5 year contract with the City of Baltimore, Department of Public Works, Bureau of Water and Wastewater (*Sanitary Contract Number 931, Rehabilitation and Improvements to Sanitary Sewers at Various Locations in Baltimore City*). We successfully protested the City's misreading of its own solicitation documents and obtained reversal of the City's initial decision to reject Anchor's low bid, only to learn that a competitor had protested award to Anchor and argued that Anchor should be excluded from all City work. We shifted focus and ensured that reviewing officials were aware of Anchor's capabilities and the deficient and unreliable nature of the competitor's claims. It was an intense effort over 4 months, and included multiple appearances before the Baltimore City Board of Estimates and interaction with Baltimore's Minority and Women Business Opportunity Office, the Department of Public Works, regulatory bodies, and the City Solicitor.

Platinum Services, Inc. – ASBCA Nos. 58015, 58311: Platinum filed a claim following the Army's termination for convenience of two contracts for moving and storage services. The Army denied the claim and Platinum filed an appeal with the Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals, invoking the Board's expedited procedures for small business. After a six day hearing, the Board issued a decision awarding Platinum the full amount it sought for all termination costs. Carol O'Riordan and Anthony Marchese, Esquire handled the trial; they were assisted by Marilyn Della-Badia, Esquire in pre-trial depositions, pre-trial submissions, and the post-hearing brief. We congratulate Platinum on its victory.



Lawyers
are
trained
to



observe, to question, to research, to problem solve, and to communicate. These skills are well suited to contract review, to regulatory interpretation, and to litigation. They are equally well suited to other, **less-traditional tasks**. Managing Partner Carol O'Riordan recently wrote an article for *Utility Contractor* magazine explaining why a utility contractor, in particular, might wish to rely on a lawyer for a wide variety of tasks.

Utility contractors know that they need a lawyer, just as they know that they need an accountant, a banker, and insurance and bonding agent. Most know that the lawyer should be knowledgeable about the utilities industry so that he or she can address issues that are likely to arise in the industry. All of this means that a utilities contractor should **choose a lawyer who can help it think strategically** about bidding issues, performance issues, claims, and disputes involving all aspects of design, development and construction.

Hopefully, a company's lawyers have been chosen because they have training and skills that make them strong advocates for the company's positions. They have taken the time to understand the work that the company does and how it does it. They understand how the company makes money and why some jobs result in losses. Utilities contractors should consider harnessing those skills – and their legal team's familiarity with the inner workings of the company – and shift other work to their legal team.

For the full article with specific examples, see the [O'Riordan Bethel blog](#).

The firm is pleased to congratulate **Florentino Gregorio**, President of **Anchor Construction Corporation** on being selected as the Chairman-Elect for the 2013-2014 Executive Committee for the **National Utilities Contractors Association (NUCA)**. After joining NUCA as an independent member in 2004, Mr. Gregorio was instrumental to establishing the DC chapter of NUCA in 2012 and served as its first President. In this position, he worked tirelessly to educate lawmakers about the importance of infrastructure funding and the need to reduce the regulatory and tax burden on small businesses.

O'Riordan Bethel is both a proud member of NUCA and a longtime partner of Anchor Construction. The firm extends its best wishes for a successful and productive tenure as Chairman to Mr. Gregorio.

Starting a new business enterprise can be a struggle. Trying to open one in DC without someone to help you through the District's infamous red tape is like finding yourself in the ring without your gloves on.



However, DC's newest kickboxing gym, [DC Boxing and Fitness \(DCBFit\)](#), knew exactly whom to call. From the very beginning, O'Riordan Bethel was there to help DCBFit attain the appropriate licenses and permits required by DC law. Among other things, this meant preparing and filing articles of incorporation; registering with the DC Office of Tax and Revenue and the Department of Employment Services; and obtaining multiple business licenses from the Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs. We did all this in a timely manner to ensure DCBFit could begin operation as soon as possible. As such, we are proud to see these efforts come to fruition.

Located at [1000 New Jersey Ave. SE](#), DCBFit offers classes in Thai boxing (Muay Thai), Mixed Martial Arts (MMA), and sports conditioning taught by professional trainers. Everyone from beginners to advanced fighters is welcome to join.

The firm has once again been selected by [Corporate Intl Magazine](#) for its Legal Award in the category of **Administrative Law**. O'Riordan Bethel was named the "**Law Firm of the Year** in Washington, D.C.," for Administrative Law in 2013. This is the second straight year in which the firm won this award. In addition, partner Pamela J. Bethel was selected by the same publication as a leading attorney for **Commercial Mediation** in Washington, DC.



The O'Riordan Bethel Law Firm, LLP is pleased to congratulate longstanding clients **Cidalia Luis-Akbar** and **Natalia Luis**, President and Vice President of **M.Luis Construction Co., Inc.**, based in Baltimore, MD for winning the [2013 Enterprising Women of the Year Awards](#), an annual tribute to top women entrepreneurs from

around the globe.

Enterprising Women, headquartered in Cary, N.C., is the nation's only women-owned magazine published exclusively for women business owners that chronicles the growing political, economic and social influence and power of entrepreneurial women. To be recognized by the magazine, award recipients must demonstrate that they have a **fast-growth business, mentor or actively support other women** and girls involved in entrepreneurship, and **stand out as leaders** in their communities. Many of these women are also leaders in key organizations that support the growth of women's entrepreneurship.

Award winners were recognized in five categories. Ms. Luis-Akbar and Ms. Luis were recognized in the category of **over \$25 million in annual revenue**.

You have received this email because you are listed as a contact with one of the members of our firm. We would like to send you our e-letters that will provide information and developments in government contracting, construction, and business law, but we do not want to send it without your consent. If you are not interested in receiving our e-letters, please email APark@ORiordan-law.com with "Unsubscribe" in the subject line.