business owners. That has been proven for those areas without goals. When they have a project, they will only solicit your bid up to the amount of the goal, and do not want to use me to any further limit.

There is a good ole boy's network, be it on the golf course, on trips, or dinner/lunch meetings.

Given the opportunity, my company has proven our exceptional capabilities. Just recently we were named subcontractor of the year by IDOT. We performed shotcrete work on a bridge over the river in Peoria, Illinois.

The DBB program has been good for my company when we are given the opportunity. It is extremely important that the program continue.

Sincerely,

LORETTA MOLTER.

LEAJAK CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION INC.,
Mountlake Terrace, WA, July 20, 2005.

U.S. CONGRESS,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SIR OR MADAM: I appreciate the opportunity to submit evidence of my company's experiences with the DBE program as it exists in Washington State.

Located in Washington State, Leajak Concrete Construction Incorporated has been in existence since 1992 and has been a certified DBE since its inception. Leajak Concrete Construction is a small general contractor specializing in structural concrete work suitable for commercial buildings, civil work, public works projects, transportation projects, and many others. As a small DBE business our revenues average approximately 3–3.5 Million, employing 8–10 full time employees and 6–7 part time employees.

Although the DBE program has assisted Leajak Concrete Construction Incorporated to access some opportunities, it is important to know that the barriers and obstacles that the program is suppose to mitigate still exist. We continue to encounter discrimination in the market place that keeps us from participating in competitive bidding, negotiated work, and receiving the necessary information we need to seek business. Leajak Concrete Construction Incorporated constantly pursues subcontracting work with Prime contractors, but it continues to be our experience that the Prime contractors do more to discourage us than to encourage us to bid. For example, we are constantly at a disadvantage because Prime contractors contact us at the last minute to bid on complex and substantial contracts. This is indicative of the ''Good Faith Effort'' we experience day in and day out. Furthermore, when we have asked for feedback on our bid and request post-bid reviews, we are ignored and disregarded.

Washington State has the dubious distinction of being only one of two states in the Union that have an anti-affirmative law on the books RCW 49.60.400 (aka I–100). As a result, spending with certified minority and women-owned businesses had decreased dramatically; 7.8% in 1998 for minority firms to 0.8% in 2003, and 6.1% in 1998 for women firms to 1.2% in 2003. I believe that the chilling effect of I–200 is event in a lack of commitment, responsiveness and concern by the state agencies responsible for managing and upholding the federal DBE program. It is correct to say that the recipients and sub-recipients of federal transportation dollars in Washington State take a very passive approach to promoting and communicating the DBE program to the affected parties.

To summary, the DBE program as contained in TEA–21 should be reauthorized, upheld, strengthened and improved. America's certified DBE firms deserve fair and equitable access to opportunities that are funded by our tax dollars, and the federal DBE program is an important underpinning.

Sincerely yours,

FREDELL ANDERSON,
President.

MD. WASHINGTON MINORITY CONTRACTORS' ASSOCIATION, INC.,
Baltimore, MD, July 21, 2005.

Re Reauthorization of DBE Program.

THE U.S. CONGRESS,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SIR OR MADAM: I address this correspondence to you on a matter of extreme importance. Discrimination against one's racial, ethnic and gender make-up is still the number one impediment for minority entrepreneurs starting and sustaining their businesses in America today. As the leader of a minority trade association in Baltimore, Maryland, I have witnessed and received testimony from many who have experienced first hand the evils of procurement discrimination in Government and private sectors.

The findings from disparity studies conducted throughout Maryland indicate that countless minority businesses are not being provided opportunities to grow their businesses because of a lack of capital, bonding and retained earnings. Upon attending a recent public hearing at the headquarters of the Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission (WSSC) on the subject of its recent disparity study, I heard a disadvantaged business testify that if the WSSC suspends the DBE program, his company would be out of business. This particular company supplies valves and manhole covers to WSSC. The owner of the business further stated that other water supply and treatment centers in the region who do not have DBE programs won't buy from him because he can't get the foundries to supply him. The foundries that do supply him do so only to satisfy WSSC's DBE program. If the DBE program is not reauthorized, the fate of the majority businesses doing business under the program is doomed. I urge you the continuance of the program without haste.

Sincerely,

WAYNE R. FRAZIER, Sr.,
President.

UNANIMOUS CONSENT REQUEST

Mr. CRAIG. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to insert the letters from the Fraternal Order of Police and the Law Enforcement Alliance of America in that section of the RECORD containing the debate on the Kennedy amendment relating to armor-piercing ammunition.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

GRAND LODGE,
FRATERNAL ORDER OF POLICE,
Washington, DC, July 29, 2005.

Hon. LARRY CRAIG,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR CRAIG: I am writing to advise you of our strong opposition to Amendment 1615, offered by Senator Kennedy to S. 397, the ''Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act.''

Senator Kennedy will certainly present his amendment as an ''officer safety issue'' to get dangerous, ''cop-killer'' bullets off the shelves. Regardless of its presentation, the amendment's actual aim and effect would be to expand the definition of ''armor-piercing'' to include ammunition based, not on any threat to law enforcement officers, but on a manufacturer's marketing strategy.

The truth of the matter is that only one law enforcement officer has been killed by a round fired from a handgun which penetrated his soft body armor—and in that single instance, it was the body armor that failed to provide the expected ballistic protection, not because the round was ''armor piercing.''

It is our view that no expansion or revision of the current law is needed to protect law enforcement officers. To put it simply, this is not a genuine officer safety issue. If it were, Senator Kennedy would not be offering this amendment to a bill he strongly opposes and is working to defeat.

The Kennedy amendment was considered and defeated by the Senate Judiciary Committee in March 2003 on a 10–6 vote. We believe that it should be rejected again.

On behalf of the more than 321,000 members of the Fraternal Order of Police, I thank you for taking our views on this issue into consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact me, or Executive Director Jim Pasco, through our Washington office if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

CHUCK CANTERBURY,
National President.

THE LAW ENFORCEMENT ALLIANCE OF AMERICA,
JULY 29, 2005.

Hon. LARRY CRAIG,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATOR CRAIG: Speaking on behalf of the 75,000 Members and Supporters of the Law Enforcement Alliance of America (LEAA), we wish to add our voice to the growing group of law enforcement representatives who strongly oppose efforts to gut or kill S. 397, the ''Protection of Lawful Commerce in Arms Act.''

Senator Ted Kennedy's effort to portray his poison pill amendment, number 1615, as a law enforcement safety issue by using the term ''cop-killer bullet'' is a thinly veiled fraud. Senator Kennedy opposes the effort to reign in runaway trial lawyers who are bent on driving the legitimate firearm industry out of business and this amendment has everything to do with killing a bill he opposes, not protecting cops.

The Kennedy amendment is an effort to label some bullets as ''bad'' while others are ''good;'' this is ill considered and misleading at best. Law enforcement officers are killed and assaulted by criminals. Criminals bent on attacking officers will use whatever tool they can to hurt and kill. There are no good bullets or bad bullets; in this case there are only bad amendments whose true intent is to be a ''poison pill'' to S. 397.

This amendment, along with other hostile amendments, should be identified for what they really are: an outright effort to kill S. 397 and they should be defeated.

Please know that many in the law enforcement community encourage you to continue steadfastly in support of America's gun manufacturers who provide our officers the tools to return home safely at the end of their shift.

Thank you for your unwavering support of America's brave men and women who wear a badge. Please do not hesitate to contact me or Ted Deeds if we can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,

JAMES J. FOTIS,
Executive Director.

MILITARY CAREER OF COLONEL WILLIAM A. GUINN, USA

Mr. SANTORUM. Mr. President, I rise today to offer remarks on the military career of Col. William A. Guinn,