

NCMA TYSONS NEWSLETTER

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December 2024



NCMA Tysons Monthly Talks

Welcome to the December 2024 edition of our chapter newsletter! This month is packed with exciting updates, highlights, and events.

We'll recap our recent get-togethers, shine a light on some of our amazing members, and share details on upcoming events. Read on to discover member achievements, upcoming events, and more!

Top News

Tyson's Chapter Announces Partnership with Virginia Minority Chambers!

Member Spotlight: Lexi Sheets, Meghan Blaul, & Panos Lagos

Happy Holidays from the Board of Directors & Advisors!





Dinner Meeting Recap- 11/12

Insights and Inspiration with Theresa Terry

On November 12th, our NCMA Tysons Chapter was honored to host the incredible [Theresa Terry](#) as the keynote speaker for our latest dinner meeting. With a wealth of expertise and a captivating presence, Theresa delivered a thought-provoking talk that illuminated the complexities and opportunities in the government contracting landscape. The evening was filled with dynamic discussions, actionable insights, and a sense of camaraderie among attendees.

Members left inspired by Theresa's expertise and motivated to apply her strategies for navigating the procurement process with greater collaboration and success. The warm ambiance, excellent networking opportunities, and the buzz of meaningful conversations were a testament to the value of our chapter's dinner meetings.

Whether it was connecting with peers, gaining fresh perspectives, or exchanging innovative ideas, this event was not one to be missed! If you've been looking for a chance to grow professionally while building lasting connections, you don't want to miss our next dinner meeting!



02/11

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Event Recap– 11/14

GovCon Journeys: Insights & the Road Ahead– Careers in Perspective

On November 14th, we had the pleasure of hosting a heartfelt and inspiring virtual panel discussion with [Wes Bennett](#), [Lawrence K. Davies, Jr](#) and [Gabriella Jones](#). The event focused on sharing the personal career journeys of these distinguished professionals, highlighting how they navigated the challenges and opportunities in government contracting (GovCon) to reach their current positions.

Each panelist provided a unique perspective on building a career in GovCon, discussing pivotal moments, lessons learned, and the strategies that guided their success. From early career decisions to navigating leadership roles, their stories resonated with attendees seeking guidance and inspiration for their own professional paths.

The event was a celebration of resilience, adaptability, and ambition—qualities that define success in GovCon. We are grateful to Wes, Lawrence, and Gabriella for their candid insights and for inspiring attendees to reflect on their own career trajectories.

Thank you to all who joined us for this enriching session. Stay tuned for more opportunities to learn and grow with the NCMA Tysons Chapter!



Lawrence Davies



Wes Bennett



Gabriella Jones

03/11

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Giving Back with Purpose

Supporting Women Giving Back

On November 18th, the NCMA Tysons Chapter proudly participated in the [Women Giving Back](https://womengivingback.org/) clothing drive, a remarkable initiative aimed at empowering women in need within our community.

The event was a heartwarming experience, bringing together members of our chapter to not only have fun but also make a meaningful impact. Through our contributions, we helped provide essential clothing and accessories to women and children transitioning out of homelessness and domestic violence situations.

Witnessing the direct impact of our efforts reminded us of the importance of giving back and supporting initiatives that strengthen our community. The camaraderie among volunteers, the joy of sorting and organizing donations, and the satisfaction of knowing our work made a difference were highlights of the day.

This initiative underscores our chapter's commitment to not only advancing professional excellence but also fostering meaningful change within our society. We are grateful to everyone who participated and encourage all our members to continue supporting such vital causes in the future. Together, we can create a stronger, more supportive community for all.

To learn more on how to contribute to Women Giving Back, please visit their website here: <https://womengivingback.org/>



04/11

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Welcome, New Members!

Welcome to Our Newest Members!

The first quarter of our program year has been nothing short of amazing, and it's all thanks to the fresh energy and excitement brought by our newest members!

We are thrilled to have you join our NCMA Tysons family as we continue to grow and thrive together.

Your decision to be a part of our chapter is a testament to your commitment to professional growth, collaboration, and community.

Whether you're here to network, learn, or contribute, we're excited to support your journey and help you make the most of your membership. We encourage you to connect with these outstanding professionals at our upcoming events, or on our social platforms.

Let's show them what makes NCMA Tysons such a special place for career advancement and camaraderie! To all our new members: Welcome aboard! We can't wait to see how you'll make your mark in our chapter and beyond.

Let's give a warm welcome to our newest members of the first quarter:

Richard Kline	Jason Richards
Sewit Araia	Kimberly Fields
Rahwa Haile	John Anderson
Christopher	Lisbeth Jiminez
Montgomery	Janice Romney
Patrick Hughes	Brian Fleury
Israruddin Talwar	Ellisa Wright
Taylor Patterson	Jason Preisser
Ronelle Wilson	Chris Talbot
Ernest Smith	Jennifer Desautel
Michele Windsor	Regina Singletary
Luke Marya	Charles Dadoo
Randall Blandin	Nargis Mohammadi
Greg Jones	Johnny Nguyen
Trevor Rosenberry	Mike Panksy
Jan Gul Yousufi	Laceenis Holliday
Susannah Chung	Carmen Zapata
Hannah Moussa	Terry Lewis
Cristen Winegrad	Kate Thomas
Thinh Pham	Mary Connor
Rita Wilson	Trevor Chambers
Niki Lane	Sean Wells
Pam Elliott	Sudhir Goel
Mike McDermott	Sophia Andreatos
Noelle Joukar	Russell Hill
Mohamed Noor	Zouheyr Belkada
Natalie Nguyen	Thanh Lo
Monica Sanchez	Marysela Gonzolez
Jessica Brown	Sonal Scindia
Kelechi Okwu	Crosby Rublee
Teddy Langel	Maurice Donnell
Michelle Stevenson	Robin Cohen
Penny O'Neil	Shana Rice
Rachel Yi	Ilaria Nibblins
Danielle Dinley	
Mandy Walter-Beam	

05/11

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Chapter Updates



Celebrating Certification Achievements!

We are thrilled to celebrate the accomplishments of our chapter members who have recently achieved their professional certifications during the first quarter of the program year! Their dedication to professional growth and commitment to excellence in contract management are truly inspiring. Achieving certification is a significant milestone that demonstrates their expertise and dedication to advancing their careers. Please join us in congratulating the following members:

John Mercado, CFCM
Mahmood Khan, CPCM
Stephanie Lemaitre, CFCM
Zouheyr Belkada, CFCM
Kalyn Fox, CFCM
Adriana Malvaez, CCMA

Your hard work and perseverance have paid off, and we are so proud to have you as part of our chapter! Keep shining as an example of what determination and professional development can achieve. If you are interested in pursuing your own certification journey, reach out to us to learn more about the resources, study groups, and support our chapter offers.



Virginia Minority Chambers, Inc. Partnership!

We are thrilled to announce a groundbreaking partnership between the NCMA Tysons Chapter and [Virginia Minority Chambers, Inc.](#) This collaboration marks a significant step forward in fostering equity, opportunity, and growth within the government contracting and minority business communities. Through this partnership, we aim to:

- **Expand Networking Opportunities:** Bringing together professionals and businesses to drive impactful conversations and meaningful connections.
- **Enhance Educational Programs:** Offering joint workshops, training sessions, and resources to empower businesses and professionals to succeed in government contracting.
- **Strengthen Community Impact:** Working together to champion diversity, equity, and inclusion while driving economic growth for minority-owned businesses.

This partnership symbolizes the beginning of an exciting journey, with innovative events and collaborative initiatives already in the works for 2025. Stay tuned for updates, and join us as we embark on this mission to inspire and support our communities. Together, we're stronger. Together, we succeed.

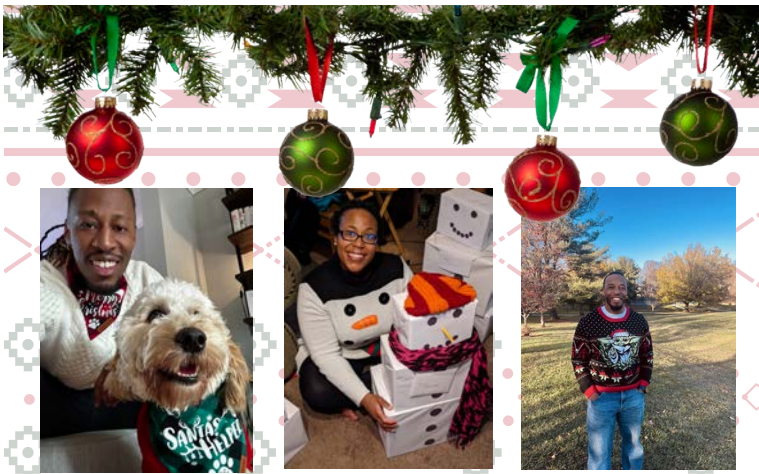
Let's celebrate this partnership and the possibilities it creates! Interested in partnering or sponsoring future events and initiatives? Contact us at sponsorship@ncmatysons.org to explore opportunities and make an impact.

06/11

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Chapter Updates



UGLY HOLIDAY SWEATER PHOTOS!



❄️ Save the Date: NCMA Tysons Chapter Winter Holiday Celebration! ❄️

The NCMA Tysons Chapter invites you to join us for a night of festive fun, celebration, and connection!

📅 Date: Saturday, January 18, 2025
📍 Location: Maggiano's Little Italy
🕒 Time: 5:30 PM – 9:00 PM

🌟 Highlights of the evening include: 🌲 A warm, festive atmosphere to celebrate the season 🍷 A delicious dinner to savor 🏆 Awards Ceremony recognizing the outstanding contributions of our amazing members 🎁 Fun activities and a chance to reconnect with your fellow chapter members AND MUCH MORE!

Let's toast to another successful year and ring in the new one together! This is your chance to celebrate, network, and honor those who make our chapter thrive. Get your tickets now at: [2025WINTERCELEB](https://www.ncma.org/2025WINTERCELEB)

Hope to see you there!

07/11

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Chapter Updates

Celebrating the Success of Our Fall/Winter CFCM and CPCM Boot Camps!

We are proud to announce the successful completion of our Fall/Winter CFCM and CPCM Boot Camps! These programs, which represent a significant step forward in professional development for our members, were a resounding success thanks to the dedication and collaboration of an outstanding team.

This achievement would not have been possible without the invaluable contributions of our facilitators—**Lejla Grozdanic**, **Rebecca Magelitz**, **Kristi Stoddart** and **Dr. Darius Summers**. Their expertise, commitment, and passion created an engaging and impactful learning environment for all participants.

We also extend our deepest gratitude to **Donald Shannon** and **Yolanda Freeman**, who played a pivotal role in ensuring the smooth execution of this program. The collaboration with the Rio Grande Chapter was a testament to the strength and unity of the NCMA community, and we are excited about the opportunities that partnerships like this can bring to our chapters and members.

As we celebrate the success of this program, we are already gearing up for our Winter/Spring Boot Camps. Preparations are underway to continue delivering transformative learning experiences. Keep an eye out for details on how to join and take the next step in your professional journey.

Thank you to everyone who made these boot camps a success—our facilitators, partners, participants, and supporters. Together, we are shaping the future of contract management and fostering excellence within our community!

CMMC Updates - Event

Are you ready to stay ahead in the ever-evolving world of federal contracting? Join us for the highly anticipated [CMMC Update](#) session, where we'll dive deep into the latest developments shaping cybersecurity compliance.

Featured Keynote Speaker Eric Crusius, Partner at Holland & Knight LLP, is a renowned thought leader in federal procurement and cybersecurity law. He'll break down the latest changes to CMMC, their impact on businesses, and how you can prepare to meet compliance requirements confidently.

Date: December 5, 2024 | Location: Hybrid | Time: 8:30am - 11:30am EST

NCMA Tysons Small Business Networking Symposium

Are you ready to elevate your small business game?

📅 February 2025 | ⌚ Time: TBD | 📍 Location: TBD ☀️

This February, join industry leaders, entrepreneurs, and trailblazers for an unforgettable day of networking, insights, and opportunities tailored to empower your growth in the competitive business world.

What to Expect:

- 🌟 Dynamic Guest Speakers
- 🌟 Expert-Led Panels
- 🌟 Real Opportunities to Connect with Government and Industry Leaders
- 🌟 Exclusive Access to Tools for Small Business Success 📁

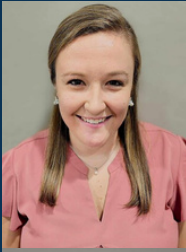
Don't miss this chance to build bridges, spark ideas, and make 2025 your breakthrough year!

Mark your calendars now. More details coming soon!

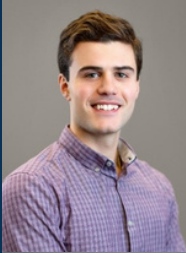
08/11

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Member Spotlight



Lexy Sheets – VP of Communications: Lexy has been instrumental in ensuring our chapter stays connected and informed. Lexy's creative and strategic approach to communications has amplified our chapter's presence, particularly on social media, where she continues to elevate our visibility and outreach.



Panos Lagos – VP of Professional Development and Growth: Panos has shown exceptional leadership in driving collaboration between our chapter and George Mason University for the joint career fair. His efforts have been key in securing companies to participate in the event, bridging opportunities between students and industry professionals. Panos' dedication to fostering meaningful connections is making a lasting impact on both the chapter and the university community.



Meghan Blaul – Director of CMLDP and Young Professionals: Megan has been a powerhouse advocate for young professionals. She spearheaded the planning of our chapter's virtual event, "GovCon Journeys, Insights, and the Road Ahead," aimed at engaging and inspiring the next generation of leaders in the contracting space. Her ability to balance outreach, event planning, and mentorship support is truly commendable.

Happy Holidays!

As the year draws to a close, we want to take a moment to express our heartfelt gratitude to all who make our community extraordinary.

To Our Members – Thank you for your dedication, engagement, and unwavering support. You inspire us every day.

To Our Sponsors and Partners – Your generosity and collaboration empower us to achieve our mission and make a meaningful impact.

To the Community at Large – You are the foundation of everything we do, and we're grateful for your continued connection and encouragement.

This season, we celebrate you all with joy, warmth, and appreciation. Here's to a year of success and a bright new chapter ahead! Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a Joyful New Year! Let's make 2025 even more incredible—together!

Thank you to our Partners!



Thank you to our Sponsors!



09/11

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Upcoming

Events

- Tuesday December 3rd, Giving Tuesday
- Thursday, December 5- CMMC Updates w/ Eric Crusius
- Thursday December 14th- Women Giving Back
 - Holiday Elf Volunteering
 - Client Registration for Santa's Workshop
- January 2025 - date TBD - Virtual Event w/ Meryl Agelicola
- Thursday, January 18th- Holiday Celebration
- February 2025- Date TBD - NCMA Tysons Small Business Networking Symposium
- February 2025 - Winter/Spring Certification Bootcamp(s) begin

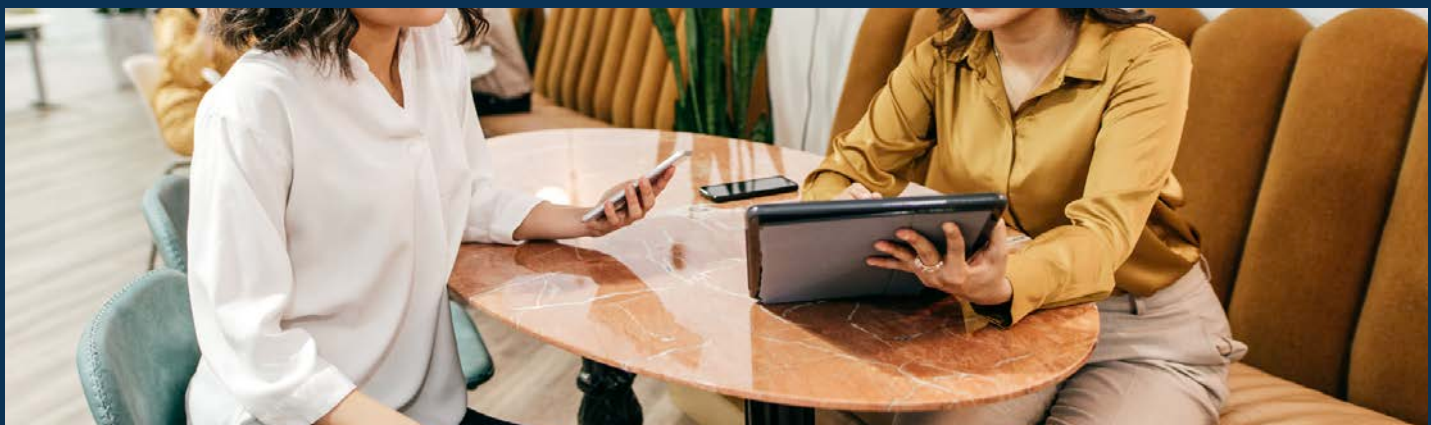
Chapter Board Opportunities

- Become a Tysons Chapter Mentor/Mentee
- Director of Awards
- Director of Chapter Recognition
- Director of Mentoring
- Director of Government Relations & Regulations
- Director of Policies and Guidelines, Procedures & Guidelines

*"Move forward.
Good things are
up ahead."*

10/11

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CALL TO ACTION

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Get Involved

Volunteer your time and talents to support our initiatives.

outreach@ncmatysonson.org



Attend Events

Join us for our upcoming events and network with our community.

programs@ncmatysonson.org



Sponsorship

Consider becoming a sponsor. Your sponsorship will enable us to continue our vital work and reach even more individual needs.

sponsorship@ncmatysonson.org



Spread the Word

Repost and engage with our Social Media accounts. Share this newsletter and invite others to get involved.

Together, we can continue to make a meaningful impact on our community.
We look forward to your participation and support.