

NCMA TYSONS NEWSLETTER

WWW.NCMATYSONS.ORG



July 2025



NCMA Tysons Monthly Talks

Welcome to the July 2025 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

Member Articles: Of Interest in Federal Contracts and The Everchanging Acquisition Landscape

Member Spotlight: Tonya Lovelace and Alphonzo Lister

Event Recaps, Chapter Updates, and More!





Event Recap–June 19th , 2025

End of Year Celebration Recap

On June 19th, we met at American Prime in Tysons Corner for a night of pure fun, inspiration, and excitement!

We celebrated the accomplishments made over the past year by our leaders, members, and the chapter as a whole. We dined, shared stories, and built lasting connections. Together, we closed out Program Year 2024 with smiles, gratitude, and warmth.

Let's look forward with excitement and momentum for what's next!

A huge thank you to Consuella Hopkins, Lawrence Davies, and American Prime for coordinating quite the fantastic evening! What a way to call in the upcoming Program Year 2025!

To gather pictures , please visit this link:

[CLICK HERE FOR PICTURES](#)





Event Recap-June 19th, 2025





The Everchanging Acquisition Landscape – One in a Series

John Dobriansky

President Donald Trump has issued a number of Executive Orders intending to streamline the Federal Government Acquisition process. Key themes and specific Executive Orders include:

- **Prioritizing commercial solutions:** Executive Order 14271 emphasizes procuring commercially available products and services, as required by the Federal Acquisition Streamlining Act of 1994 (FASA). This order directs agencies to review non-commercial procurements and justify their necessity with market research and price analysis. Agencies must also submit reports on their compliance with FASA and implementation of the order's policies.
- **Revolutionary FAR Overhaul (Executive Order 14275):** This order aims to simplify and streamline the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) by reducing it to only essential provisions required by statute or for efficiency and security. Agencies are also directed to revise their FAR supplements to align with the streamlined FAR, and a regulatory sunset provision for non-statutory FAR provisions is being considered.
- **Consolidating IT and other procurements (Executive Order 14240):** This order seeks to consolidate domestic federal procurement for "common goods and services" under the General Services Administration (GSA), aiming to improve efficiency and eliminate duplicative contracts.
- **Modernizing defense acquisitions (Executive Order 14265):** This order focuses on reforming the Department of Defense's (DoD) acquisition processes to expedite the procurement of advanced technologies. It prioritizes commercial solutions and encourages innovation within the defense sector.

The implementation of these Executives Orders is a work in progress. Accordingly, the full operational impact is to be determined. Defense Secretary Pete Hegseth has significantly impacted the Department of Defense (DOD) approach to software acquisition and contracting through various memos and directives.

Mandating the Software Acquisition Pathway (SWP): Hegseth's March 6, 2025, memo, "Directing Modern Software Acquisition to Maximize Lethality," mandates the use of the Software Acquisition Pathway (SWP) as the preferred method for all software development within the DOD.

- **Prioritizing flexible contracting tools:** The memo also directs DOD components to use Commercial Solutions Openings (CSO) and Other Transactions (OT) by default when acquiring capabilities under the SWP. These tools are designed to streamline the procurement process and foster innovation.



The Everchanging Acquisition Landscape – One in a Series Contd.

- **Emphasis on rapid and iterative development:** The SWP facilitates rapid and iterative delivery of software capabilities by integrating modern development practices like Agile, DevSecOps, and Lean.
- **Focus on commercial innovation and speed:** Hegseth's directive aims to reduce bureaucracy, facilitate faster software delivery, and leverage commercial innovation to ensure the DOD maintains a technological edge.

Significance:

- **Shift from traditional procurement:** This move marks a decisive shift away from traditional DOD procurement practices towards a more agile and software-centric approach.
- **Empowering acceleration:** The directive is expected to energize and empower the department to accelerate software modernization efforts.
- **Potential impact on industry:** Industry can expect a shift in software development acquisitions towards adaptive methods like OTs and CSOs, with greater potential for doing business with non-traditional defense contractors.

In summary, Pete Hegseth's directives are aimed at fundamentally transforming how the DOD acquires and develops software, emphasizing speed, flexibility, commercial innovation, and a more streamlined contracting process. In particular-- with software acquisition-- there are ongoing discussions between the DoD and GSA to determine ownership and responsibility for IT systems and services acquisitions. This will be the first in a series of articles articulating the changes and challenges in the Federal Contracting Landscape as the policy issuance and operational implementation of the President Trump Executive Orders and the Pete Hegseth's directives takes place.

JOHN DOBRIANSKY, MBA, MS, CPCM, NCMA

Fellow provides senior leadership with 30 years of experience in government contracting with the DoD, civilian agencies and industry. His leadership as a



Defense Department Director spans multiple DoD agencies including the DoD 4th Estate, U.S. Army Contracting Command, and the U.S. Navy Systems Commands.

Please note this overview information represents the opinion of John Dobriansky and does not represent official notice from the DoD.



Of Interest in Federal Contracts

Tiffany Thomas

FAR Overhaul: “The goal is clear: faster acquisitions, greater competition, and better results.”

[FAR Overhaul - FAR Part Deviation Guidance | Acquisition.GOV](#)

June Update- The FAR council released the following revisions:

- FAR parts 18, 39 & 43 on June 12, 2025
- Part 11 on June 18, 2025
- FAR part 6 on June 27, 2025

GAO Decisions:

[DirectViz Solutions, LLC | U.S. GAO](#)

DirectViz asserts that the agency did not adequately consider and investigate unmitigated OCIs from Peraton's work under a separate task order supporting the Army Cyber Command (ARCYBER). The GAO determined that the agency did not sufficiently address an impaired objectivity OCI related to Peraton's tasks under the ARCYBER order.

The FAR mandates contracting officials to identify and assess organization conflicts of interest as early as possible, and to avoid, neutralize, or mitigate significant potential conflicts to prevent an unfair competitive advantage or conflicting roles that could impair a contractor's objectivity. Identifying conflicts of interest involves a fact-specific inquiry requiring considerable discretion. To successfully allege a conflict of interest, a protester must present concrete facts indicating the existence or potential existence of a conflict; mere inference or suspicion is insufficient. Our Office evaluates OCI investigations for reasonableness, and if an agency has meaningfully considered whether a significant conflict of interest exists, we will not replace our judgment with the agency's unless there is clear evidence that the agency's conclusion is unreasonable.

Agencies must go beyond surface-level reviews when assessing potential OCIs. Simply relying on contractor statements or high-level summaries is insufficient. Ensure detailed, documented OCI analyses are part of the acquisition planning and source selection process.



Of Interest in Federal Contracts– contd.

Tiffany Thomas

Lockheed Martin Corporation | U.S. GAO

Lockheed Martin argues that SAIC should be excluded from the competition due to unmitigated organizational conflicts of interest (OCIs). Additionally, Lockheed Martin contends that the solicitation lacks sufficient information for offerors to prepare their proposals fairly. The protest is denied after considering all arguments.

The agency conducted an OCI investigation and found no actual OCIs with SAIC, determining that any potential conflicts had been mitigated. The FAR mandates contracting officials to avoid, neutralize, or mitigate significant conflicts of interest to prevent unfair competitive advantages and conflicting roles that could impair objectivity. The primary responsibility for identifying and addressing OCIs rests with the contracting agency, and their determinations are reviewed for reasonableness. Identifying conflicts of interest requires a fact-specific inquiry, and a protester must present concrete facts indicating a conflict; mere suspicion is insufficient.

When potential OCIs exist, agencies can still proceed if they implement robust mitigation strategies, such as firewalls, contract separation, or oversight mechanisms. Agencies should consider OCI mitigation plans in solicitations and document how they are enforced.

Presidential Actions:

Simplifying the Funding of Energy Infrastructure and Critical Mineral and Material Projects – The White House

On June 30, 2025, the President issued a memorandum aimed at improving the efficiency and coordination of federal funding decisions for strategic infrastructure projects, particularly those related to energy and critical minerals. This directive applies to several key agencies, including the Department of Defense (DoD), Department of Energy (DOE), Small Business Administration (SBA), and the Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM Bank).



Of Interest in Federal Contracts– contd.

Tiffany Thomas

The memorandum mandates that these agencies share funding application data to prevent duplication of effort and streamline the overall application process. It emphasizes the need for a more cohesive and transparent approach to evaluating and supporting projects that are vital to national energy infrastructure and supply chain resilience. Importantly, the memorandum also stipulates that no federal funds may be obligated unless the applicant has explicitly consented to the sharing of their data among agencies.

This action reflects a broader push toward interagency collaboration and administrative simplification, with the ultimate goal of accelerating the deployment of critical infrastructure while safeguarding applicant privacy and reducing bureaucratic friction.

Rules:

Federal Register :: Federal Acquisition Regulation: Protests of Orders Under Certain Multiple-Award Contracts

FAR Case 2024-007 – Withdrawal of Proposed Rule on Protests of Orders Under Multiple-Award Contracts

- Published: June 12, 2025
- Summary: The FAR Council (DoD, GSA, NASA, OFPP) withdrew a proposed rule that would have clarified protest rights for orders under certain multiple-award contracts.
- Reason: The withdrawal followed the rescission of Executive Order 14091 by EO 14148, which had previously directed agencies to expand small business participation.
- Impact: The FAR Council is shifting focus to reducing regulatory burdens for all small businesses, rather than expanding protest rights under specific contract vehicles.

This article is member-submitted and does not, in any way, represent the opinions of NCMA Tysons Chapter, or the broader National Contract Management Association. Member-submitted articles are included as-is, without warranty, representation, or liability of any kind.



Updates

2025 Dulles Plane Pull!

Join the team or donate below

Join our team, NCMA Tysons Chapter!

We are fundraising for the 2025 Dulles Plane Pull! You should join us and work together to support Special Olympics Virginia and a truly awesome cause.

Let's make it happen!

NCMA Tysons

[Join my team](#)

Please help us in support of the Special Olympics Virginia by making a donation through our team's fundraising page for the 2025 Dulles Day Plane Pull®. Even a small donation will help us achieve our goal in supporting the athletes of Special Olympics Virginia! The process is fast, easy, and secure. Thanks so much

for your support.

NCMA Tysons

[Donate to my page](#)

World Congress 2025 is Fast Approaching!

July 13-16: [NCMA World Congress 2025 | Grapevine, TX](#)

Change is here. Mandates are in motion. NCMA World Congress 2025 is your mission-critical response.

Join us July 13–16 in Grapevine, TX, for the only acquisition event designed to directly support new Presidential directives—from cutting costs and reducing reliance on contractors to overhauling outdated regulations and embracing commercial, cost-effective solutions.

[Time's Running Out | Register Now](#)

**WORLD
CONGRESS**
GRAPEVINE, TEXAS | JULY 13 - 16, 2025



Updates

Welcome to our newest members of the Tysons Chapter!

Please join us in celebrating the growth of our community as we welcome these dedicated professionals who have recently joined as official chapter members:

Lynne	Mann	Chris	Kindelan	Daniela	Mullins	Mica	Soto
Margaret	Edmond	Lisa	Montanez	John	Barker	Marwand	Helal
Rebecca	Pulliam	Azza	Farhan	Carter	Saunders	Jason	Whetsell
Claude	Barnett	Lorena	Aceff-Coorsh	Samantha	Taylor	Justin	Gunnoe
Crystal	Ober	Daniel	Johnson	Souk	Rios	Bill	Walter
Ronald	Lambo	Amanda	Lofthus	Thuy	Pisone	Marquita	Williams
Sohail	Salman	Curtis	Harrington	Asif	Gangat	Paul	Traher

Their commitment to advancing in the contract management field and engaging with our chapter helps strengthen the mission of NCMA Tysons. We're proud to have them in our network and look forward to supporting their professional journey.

Welcome to the chapter—we're so glad you're here!

Member Spotlight: Tonya Lovelace & Al Lister



Tonya Lovelace

This month, we are proud to spotlight two exceptional members of our chapter who also serve on our esteemed Board of Directors: Tonya Lovelace and Al Lister. Both Tonya and Al have demonstrated unwavering dedication to the mission and values of our chapter. Through their leadership, insight, and active participation, they have helped guide our strategic direction and ensure our programs meet the evolving needs of our community.

Tonya Lovelace brings a wealth of experience and a deep passion for equity and organizational development. Her efforts have strengthened our chapter's outreach and enhanced our impact through thoughtful engagement and innovative initiatives.



Alphonzo Lister

Al Lister has been instrumental in driving operational excellence and supporting the development of new partnerships. His commitment to mentorship and collaboration has been a cornerstone in fostering a more inclusive and forward-looking chapter culture.

We thank both Tonya and Al for their continued service and invaluable contributions. Their work exemplifies what it means to lead with purpose and to serve with integrity.

Thank you to our Partners!



Thank you to our Sponsors!



Exciting Opportunities Ahead

Are you interested in becoming more involved with the NCMA Tysons Chapter? We're gearing up for an exciting new program year, and there will be opportunities to join our Board of Directors! **See the next page for a list of open positions.**

Be on the lookout on our social media platforms and in the next monthly newsletter for details about how you can apply.

Whether you're looking to enhance your leadership skills, give back to the contracting community, or expand your professional network — your next opportunity to lead could be just around the corner!



Upcoming

Events

- July 13th–July 16th– World Congress: Grapevine, TX
- September 2025– Dulles Plane Pull

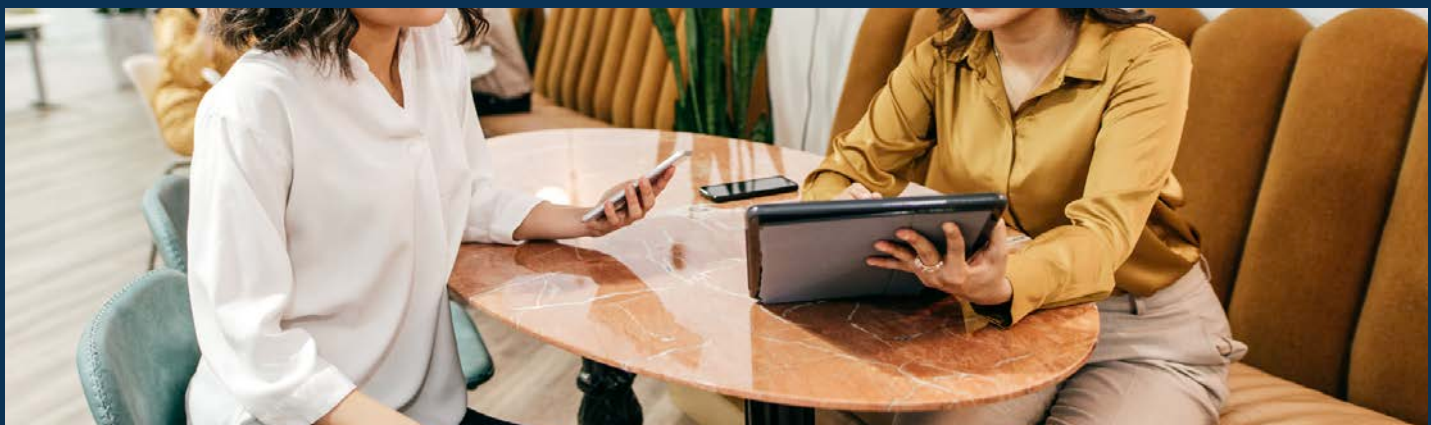
More to come!

Chapter Board Opportunities

- Director of Fellows
- Director Controller
- Director of Sponsorships
- Director of Chapter Volunteers
- Director of CMLDP & Young Professionals
- Director of Mentorship
- Director of Budget & Finance
- Director of Chapter-to-Chapter Relations
- Director of Program Support
- Director of Government Relations & Policies
- Director of Training
- Director of Social Media

[SIGN UP TODAY](#)

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



CALL TO ACTION

EMBRACE THE ERA OF RENEWAL! EMPOWERING FUTURES & BUILDING BRIDGES



Get Involved

Volunteer your time and talents to support our initiatives.

outreach@ncmatysons.org



Attend Events

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

programs@ncmatysons.org



Sponsorship

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

sponsorship@ncmatysons.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.