



On behalf of the 2012 Tampa Bay Host Committee, we would like to thank you for your support of the Host Committee and our efforts to showcase Tampa Bay. It is our goal to involve the Tampa Bay community in the 2012 Republican National Convention and the Small Business Network is a great opportunity to accomplish this.

The Small Business Network is an unprecedented effort by the Republican National Convention Host Committee to support our local small businesses and our local economy. Your support of the network is critical to the success of the program.

The emphasis of the Small Business Network is to use the platform of the 2012 Republican National Convention to drive interest to and promote local Tampa Bay small business. This program intends to foster business opportunities for Tampa Bay Area small businesses through the promotion of our local small businesses, including matchmaking efforts, and the legacy of the Small Business Network Directory.

We are reaching out to you for help in identifying local and national companies that you may have relationships with who can submit contracts for our local small business community to bid on. Our online portal is now open for local and national companies to place any available contracts out for bid. The portal can be found at www.2012tampa.com under the “**Small Business Network**” tab. A forum will be held in March 2012 for the Small Business Network where buyers and suppliers (the local small businesses) will also meet in one-on-one live sessions to discuss these available contracts.

Please help the Tampa Bay community by helping us communicate with the region to support this fantastic opportunity. Our success in the matchmaking portion of the program depends on large companies supporting local Tampa Bay Area small businesses. In the attachment below you will find a step by step process on putting a contract out to bid. Starting in January, our local small business community will be able to begin submitting bids on these contracts.

It is the Host Committee’s hope that Tampa Bay’s small business community will benefit from new business relationships created leading up to and during the 2012 Republican National Convention and that these relationships will continue long after the convention ends. Your efforts in helping us communicate this message will lead to great opportunities for our local small business community.

Sincerely,

Ken Jones
CEO and President
2012 Tampa Bay Host Committee

Matt Becker
Chief Operating Officer
2012 Tampa Bay Host Committee



Local and national companies are encouraged to support the Tampa Bay small business community by registering their contracts through the small business network link at www.2012tampa.com. These examples demonstrate how different types of companies can participate.

Example 1:

A Tampa Bay company (the buyer) plans to order company uniforms early next year. That Tampa Bay company may register their uniform contract through the Small Business Network as a buyer before January 12, 2012. In January, local small businesses (the suppliers) that qualify can bid on the uniform contract. In March of 2012, that same Tampa Bay company (the buyer) will be able to interface with the qualified and bidding small business (the suppliers) to award the contract to a Tampa Bay business.

Example 2:

The 2012 Tampa Bay Host Committee (the buyer) plans to order ponchos for the 7,500 volunteers during the week of the Convention. The Host Committee will register as a buyer before January 12, 2012 and will submit this contract through the Small Business Network. In March of 2012, the Host Committee will be able to interface with the qualified and bidding small business (the suppliers) to award the contract.