



Recently, the 2012 Tampa Bay Host Committee (“Host Committee”) for the 2012 Republican National Convention (“Convention”) launched the Small Business Network, a program designed to promote and market our local small business community. We are the first host committee for a Republican National Convention in recent memory to have placed such a strong emphasis on the promotion of our local small businesses. **To be successful, we are asking for your help in supporting our small business network.**

I am reaching out to you today to ask for your support as you begin your own planning efforts for the Convention. If there is an opportunity for a local small business to provide your organization with a product or service, you can support the Small Business Network by registering any such opportunities on our website at [www.2012tampa.com](http://www.2012tampa.com) under the “Small Business Network” tab.

I recognize there are several national and out-of-state firms that have been advertising their services to help large organizations plan convention-related events. However, we would be appreciative of any potential business or contracts you are able to allow our local small business community to compete for. We believe our Tampa Bay area small business community is ready, willing, and able to help you fulfill just about any need you will have if you plan to be in the Tampa Bay area this summer.

Our website is now active and open for organizations to submit contracts for our local small businesses to bid on. We will host a Small Business Forum in March 2012, where you can meet with local businesses that fit your criteria in a one-on-one setting.

With the national economy not being as strong as it once was, I believe we have a responsibility to our local small business community to do everything we can to promote, market, and help them aggressively compete for business opportunities in the Tampa Bay area as a result of the Convention. I would be grateful for any efforts you can make to support our local economy and the people who will be helping us make this Convention a huge success.

Sincerely,

Ken Jones  
President and CEO  
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](http://www.2012tampa.com). The following 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 March 2012. In January, local small businesses (the suppliers) that qualify can bid on the uniform contract. In March 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 March 2012 and will submit this contract through the Small Business Network. In March 2012, the host committee will be able to interface with the qualified and bidding small business (the suppliers) to award the contract.