


Great Lakes Water Authority's Sonya Collins, Procurement Manager, speaks at the National Minority Supplier Development Council annual conference in October 2018.

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Sonya Collins



Sonya Collins
Manger of Procurement
Great Lakes Water Authority

Session:
[Doing Business With Public Utilities \(Water\)](#)
Wednesday Oct. 17, 2018
9:45 PM

Sonya Collins is Manger of Procurement for Great Lakes Water Authority.

She has over 15 years of experience in procurement with over 8 years in the public sector, and is responsible for managing sourcing solutions for construction, design, and operations.

She joined the Great Lakes Water Authority (GLWA) shortly after its start-up in January 2016.

She is part of a team that annually manages a spend of \$222 million in operations and maintenance costs as well as a five-year capital plan of \$1.3 billion to provide water of unquestionable quality to nearly 4 million people and water resource recovery service to nearly 3 million people in the State of Michigan. In addition, she is responsible for the professional staff development program for a procurement group of 24 team members.


Sonya is a member of the National Institute of Government Procurement, and a Certified Professional Public Buyer (CPPB).
Most recently, GLWA received the Michigan Public Purchasing Officers Association Agency of the Year Award for 2018, with Sonya being a key contributor for this honor.

Sonya holds a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, with a Minor in Health Care Administration, from Michigan State University.

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The Economic Impact of Diversity

GSDA-NMSDC International Program – Together: Expanding Our Impact

Mon. 10.15.18
10:15 AM – 12:15 PM
Session Length: 120 Min

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W02 Doing Business With Public Utilities (Water)



Wednesday, Oct. 17 2018
9:45 AM
Session Length: 60 Min

Description

This session will review the many opportunities to do business within the water industry. For example, water companies and authorities use Smart Meters to assist both customers and companies efficiently and accurately read usage meters.

Also, technology is being used to assist customers in reducing water waste and more efficiently detect leaks. And, increasingly, companies are investing in security systems and measures to protect water from possible contamination by terrorist groups.

We will also review the barriers to business, to help you with planning, including how capital intensive the industry can be, stringent safety guidelines to follow, and our limited national supplier base.

You will leave the session with a clearer understanding of the opportunities that exist within this essential industry.

MODERATOR

Moderator:
Terrez Marriott Thompson
Vice President, Global Supplier Diversity
The Coca-Cola Company

Panelists:
Joshua King
Vice President and Chief Procurement Officer
American Water Company

Sonya Collins
Manager, Procurement
Great Lakes Water Authority

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Program - Together. Expanding Our Impact

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