



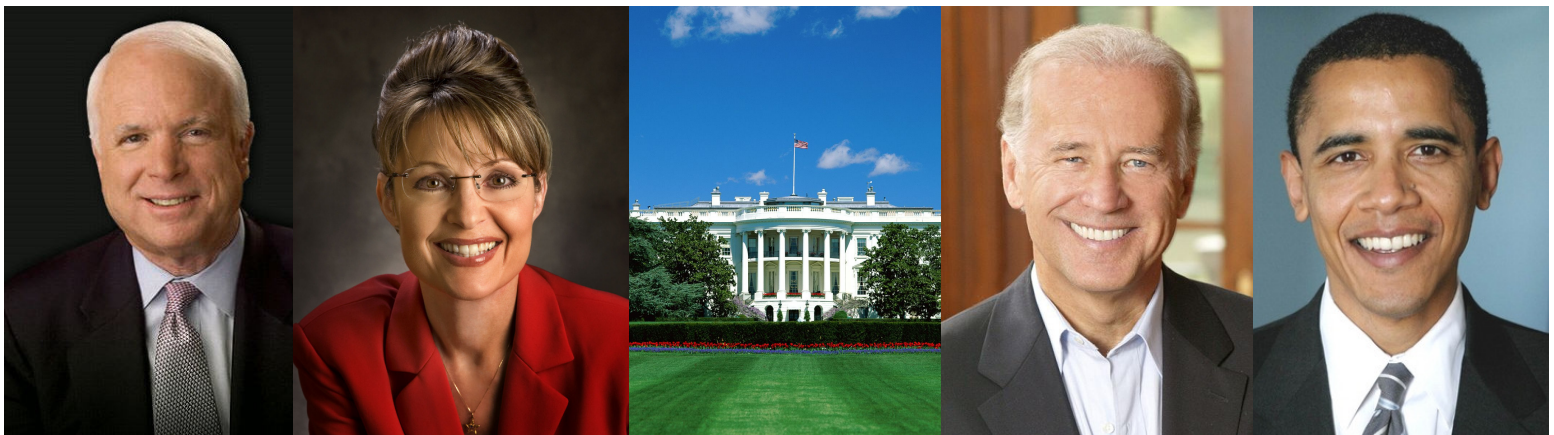
You Are Cordially Invited to Attend
Minority Business RoundTable

And

National Advisory Council

U.S. Economy and Small and Minority Businesses
TOWN HALL SYMPOSIUM

*What Effect Will the New Administration Have on Small and Minority
Businesses & How is the Next President Going to Address the U.S. Economy?*



In Partnership With

MEDWEEK 2008

The Power of Strategic Alliances in the Global Economy
MATCHMAKERS CONFERENCE & DIVERSITY EXPO

OCTOBER 23 - 24, 2008
SIGNATURE GRAND CONFERENCE CENTER
6900 STATE ROAD 84
DAVIE, FLORIDA 33317

For Information, Sponsorship, Exhibitor Space, and Seminars call 202-289-8881.
To register, go to www.mbrt.net

The Minority Business RoundTable (MBRT), a registered non-profit corporation, is the only national membership organization for leading CEOs of African-American-, Hispanic-American-, Asian-American-, and Native-American-owned top-tier businesses, representing a variety of trades and industries.

SMALL AND MINORITY BUSINESSES TOWN HALL SYMPOSIUM

What Effect will the New Administration have on Small and Minority Businesses & How is the Next President Going to Address the U.S. Economy?



“How will the new President and Administration foster the growth of small and minority businesses and support their already important contributions to the American economy?”



The Nation’s minorities account for 30 percent of today’s U.S. population and 90 percent of the projected population growth over the next 50 years. Minority businesses represent an ever increasingly important role in the Nation’s economic well-being with an annual economic impact of \$5.3 billion and the creation of 124,000 jobs nationwide. Currently they comprise 18 percent of the Nation’s businesses, growing three times faster than all non minority owned businesses. There are more than five million minority businesses creating jobs and fueling economic growth. According to the U.S. Census, minority businesses represent the fastest growth segment of the U.S. economy with combined gross sales of \$668 billion dollars employing over 5 million Americans.

Minority owned businesses face a multitude of challenges that are shaped by federal, state and local public policies. At the **Small and Minority Businesses Town Hall Symposium**, to be held on the morning of October 23, 2008, in Florida in conjunction with Minority Enterprise Development Week (MEDWEEK), the Minority Business RoundTable (MBRT) & the National Corporate Advisory Council will convene two panels. The first panel, **Top Voices in Minority Business** (9:00- 10:30am) consists of minority CEOs of top companies and influential advocates who will discuss the state of minority enterprise and policy issues that are of greatest importance to small and minority businesses. The second panel, **Town Hall with Presidential Candidates** (10:30-12:00pm) will have the Presidential candidates and/or their representatives explain how they will affect change and support the growth of small and minority-owned businesses.

The Small and Minority Businesses Town Hall Symposium October 23, 2008	
9:00-10:30am	Top Voices in Minority Business Moderator: Fox News (TBD) Invited Panelists: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Thomas Boston, PhD CEO, EuQuant • Dr. Leonard Greenhalph, PhD, Dartmouth Tuck School of Business • Margot Dorfman, CEO, U.S. Women’s Chamber of Commerce • Jacqueline Johnson, Executive Director, National Congress of American Indians • Anthony Robinson, President, Minority Business Enterprise Legal Defense and Education Fund • Rawley Soberano, President, Asian American Business Roundtable • Stephen Denlinger, President & CEO, Latin American Management Association (Procurement Advocate, U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce)
10:30-12:00pm	Town Hall with Presidential Candidates Moderator: Fox News (TBD)



TOP ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED

1. Reauthorization of Small Businesses Administration (SBA) Legislation –The extensive overhaul of the current shape and form of the SBA to include: a) Modernize the 8a program increasing size standards, net worth criteria, and contract limitations from \$3 million to \$10 million for services and \$5 million to \$20 million for manufacturing; b) Provide more assistance and guidance to small businesses, especially in the provision of loans, micro loans and venture capital; c) Enforce and expand federal contracting activities in areas of potential contract abuse: big business passing as small businesses, reform protest burden of proof procedures to require primes to adhere to subcontract plans (count actual dollars received by small and minority businesses rather than amounts awarded).

2. Federal and Private Sector Contracting – A small number of minority firms have benefited from their relationships with the federal government. We need to provide opportunities for more businesses to participate in the federal pipeline. Many aspects of federal procurement policy need to be changed to improve the growth prospects of minority owned small businesses. MBRT supports proposals to increase the percentage of all federal contracts awarded to small and minority owned businesses from 23% to 30%.

3. Controlling the Cost of Health Care – Many minority small business owners list this as a top three concern and a number one cost pressure. The spiraling cost of health care has limited the growth potential of small and minority businesses. Providing tax breaks for small businesses to addresses spiraling health care costs is a top priority.

4. Collecting Better Data on Small and Minority Businesses – MBRT and its members support better data collection efforts on the characteristics of small and minority businesses. Minority owned businesses lag in census bureau tracking and only better and regular data collection efforts can more effective policy be crafted and implemented.

5. Providing Affordable and Reliable Energy – Affordable and reliable supplies of energy are an important concern of minority owned small businesses. This is especially true today as prices of all forms of energy are higher, and rising. Compared to 10 years ago, the instability in energy prices adversely impacts the growth plans of small businesses. Working for an affordable and stable supply of energy is a top concern of many minority owned small businesses.

6. Sustaining World Technological Leadership – Continued support and improvement of the U.S. educational system. In many respects, large numbers of America's youth are not receiving the educational resources needed to be valuable contributors to the U.S. economy. This negatively impacts small businesses, which do not have the ability to do any off shore outsourcing like larger firms.

7. Other Topics Affecting Small and Minority Business Competition, Growth, and Success

- Revamping the contracting system
- Evaluating SBA's size standards systems
- Need for Federal policy to preclude any award made to a Fortune 1000 firm, its subsidiaries, or any of its divisions from being reported as a small business award
- A company's small business status should end the day that the firm is acquired by a large business
- The federal market is enormous and small businesses must work together to identify opportunities to participate in this concentrated market
- Create innovative ways for minority and small businesses to compete for larger contracts
- Encourage teaming arrangements among small businesses and by developing incentives for agencies to award contracts small business teams
- Fairness in Set-Aside Procurement Coalition Initiatives
- Enforce penalties against large businesses taking federal contracts from small businesses for misrepresenting themselves as small
- Contract Bundling
- Modernize the SBA 8(a) program
- Reauthorization of SBA Funding for 8(a) program
- Amend the Small Business Act to require annual re-certification

TOWN HALL WITH PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATES

The above issues will be addressed directly by the Presidential candidates and/or their representatives in a Town Hall setting to find out how they will affect change and support growth for small and minority businesses.

After this event, MBRT and the National Corporate Advisory Council will draft a letter to both Presidential candidates and Members of Congress transmitting the issues of common concern and advocating adoption of small and minority business supported recommendations.

We would like small and minority business owners and associations to participate and join us in this important discussion and possibly the only opportunity to raise our voices on small and minority issues to the Presidential Candidates, the next President of the United States and the New Administration. We encourage all minority business owners, trade associations, individuals and organizations to join our efforts and participate in this important event.



“Events like the Minority Business RoundTable Summit help create a dialogue to ensure that the issues facing minority business owners will be solved. These companies have the power to grow the economy, and with our help, they will succeed. I applaud the MBRT's efforts in supporting the entrepreneurial spirit of our country's entrepreneurs. We look forward to continuing our work together.” – *Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi*



“The good work of the Minority Business RoundTable is critical to the success of minority business owners....and if there were no Minority Business RoundTable, Congress would have to create one” – *Rep . Elijah Cummings, Chairman Congressional Black Caucus*



“The Minority Business RoundTable plays a crucial role in both the business community and among many different minority populations. I commend them for their efforts and look forward to continuing to work with them on an agenda that promotes economic growth, opportunity, and ownership” – *Rep. Ileana Ros-Lehtinen, Chairman of the Republican Hispanic Conference.*



“We need to expand opportunities for minority business owners. As a member of the Senate Small Business Committee, I am committed to working with the members of the Minority Business RoundTable to ensure minority businesses have the opportunities to succeed and grow.” – *Senator Benjamin L. Cardin*



MEDWeek 2008

The Power of Strategic Alliances in the Global Economy

Florida's MEDWeek 2008 Business Matchmaker Conference and Expo offers corporate and government buyers easy access to the largely untapped market of Asian-Americans; African-Americans; Hispanic-Americans; Native Americans; Veterans; Women-Owned Businesses, and a burgeoning Caribbean-American market in Florida and the Northeastern U.S.

Our NEW Online Opportunities Portal now provides our Corporate MEDWeek partners with access to our extensive local, regional, and national database of qualified Small, Minority and Women Business Enterprises, with 8(a), SDB, HUBZone, M/WBE, GSA, DBE, SBE and Local/National Purchasing Council Certifications, many already having successful track records of doing business with corporations and government.

This year's Theme "The Power of Strategic Alliances in the Global Economy" is an indication of our level of achievement and forward-thinking approach, as we applaud and continue to encourage Small, Minority and Women Business Owners who think globally, are innovative, as they build partnerships and focus on value added customer service.

Meet with the CEO's of the MBRT Executive Committee & Board of Directors and provide collaborative support and leadership that build MBRT's organizational capacity and advance minority businesses economic goals. You are invited to address diversity issues in U.S. business and promote the interests of your company and minority-owned businesses through effective public policies developed by MBRT in collaboration with the National Council.

Florida's MEDWeek 2008 Business Matchmaker Conference and Expo offers corporate and government buyers easy access to the largely untapped market of Asian-Americans; African-Americans; Hispanic-Americans; Native-Americans; Veterans; Women-Owned Businesses, and a burgeoning Caribbean-American market in Florida and the Northeastern U.S.

The Event and EXPO includes the following:

- Venture Capital, Mezzanine and Angel Investment Financing Program
- "Going Green" – Contracting Opportunities in the Energy Sector
- Corporate & Government Procurement Opportunities
- Building Strategic Alliances – The New Wave of Global Marketing
- International Breakfast Program – "Trade Agreements and MBE Opportunities"
- Success Strategies & MEDWeek Awards Luncheon
- EXPO featuring - over 150 Corporate, Government and MBE Exhibitors
- One-on-One Matchmaker Sessions
- On-the-spot Contract Opportunities

MATCHMAKER SESSIONS

If you plan to participate in the Matchmaker Sessions (MBE, Corporation or Government), kindly provide a paragraph stating the goods and/or services that you are offering (MBEs) or that you are seeking (corporation or government) so that we may begin to identify appropriate matches for you. You will be provided with a list of potential matches and the times that have been assigned for those meetings.

Matchmaker Sessions will be scheduled for 15 minutes each in the AFTERNOON ONLY on October 24th at the Signature Grand, during the EXPO. Corporate and Government Matchmakers are asked to indicate the number of Matchmaker Representatives so that we may arrange appropriate space for your one-on-one meetings.



SMALL AND MINORITY BUSINESS TOWN HALL SYMPOSIUM AND MEDWEEK 2008 MATCHMAKERS CONFERENCE AND DIVERSITY EXPO

Thursday, October 23, 2008

MBRT Small and Minority Business Town Hall Symposium

8:00am – 9:00am	Registration and MBRT Executive Board Meeting
9:00am – 10:30am	<p>Session I – Top Voices in Minority Business Panel comprised of CEOs and Advocates and Participants will raise and discuss issues that are of greatest importance to small and minority businesses.</p> <p>Moderator: Fox News (TBD) Invited Panelists: Dr. Thomas Boston, PhD CEO, EuQuant Dr. Leonard Greenhalph, PhD, Dartmouth Tuck School of Business Margot Dorfman, CEO, U.S. Womens Chamber of Commerce Jacqueline Johnson, Executive Director, National Congress of American Indians Anthony Robinson, President, Minority Business Enterprise Legal Defense and Education Fund Rawley Soberano, President, Asian American Business Roundtable Stephen Denlinger, President & CEO, Latin American Management Association (procurement advocate U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce)</p> <p>Topics:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Reauthorization of Small Businesses Administration (SBA) legislation 2. Federal contracting 3. Controlling the cost of Health care 4. Collecting better data on small and minority businesses 5. Providing Affordable and Reliable Energy 6. Sustaining world technological leadership 7. Other Discussion topics that affect small and minority business competition, growth and success
10:30am – 12:00pm	<p>Presidential Candidate Town Hall Meeting addressing Small and Minority Business Issues Small and Minority business issues will be addressed directly by the Presidential candidates and/or their representatives in a Town Hall setting to find out how they, under their new Administration, will affect change and support growth for small and minority businesses.</p> <p>Moderator: Fox News (TBD) Panelists: MBRT National Corporate Advisory Council</p>
12:00pm – 2:00pm	MBRT Luncheon (Members, Selected Guests, and Sponsors) – Small and Minority Business Issues and Opportunities Speakers – TBD
1:00pm – 3:00pm	<p>Going Green with Opportunities Seminar Panel presentations from utility companies and from a successful “green” small business, featuring “green” opportunities for small and minority businesses in the energy sector.</p>
3:15pm – 5:00pm	<p>Financing Options for Your Business in Tough Times Speakers: VC and angel investors, Mezzanine and other alternative programs.</p>
3:00pm – 7:00pm	Exhibitor Set-Up



**SMALL AND MINORITY BUSINESS TOWN HALL SYMPOSIUM AND MEDWEEK
2008 MATCHMAKERS CONFERENCE AND DIVERSITY EXPO (Continued)**

Friday, October 24, 2008

ALL DAY - Business Matchmaker Conference and EXPO

8:00am – 9:00am	International Trade Power Breakfast
9:15am	Ribbon Cutting – EXPO OPENS
9:30am – 10:45am	Corporate and Government Procurement Opportunities Seminar Panel presentations with contracting opportunities from government and corporations.
10:00am – 11:30am	One on One Business Matchmaker Sessions
11:00am – 11:45am	Email Marketing Strategies – The New Wave of Global Connections Presentation by Constant Contact
12:00pm – 2:00pm	ANNUAL SUCCESS STRATEGIES & AWARDS LUNCHEON Speaker: Janice Howroyd is the Founder and CEO of Act-1 Group and Chairwoman of the Minority Business RoundTable. Act-1 Group has sales approaching \$1 billion and was ranked #3 by 2008 Black Enterprise Magazine.
2:15pm – 4:00pm	One on One Matchmaker continues
4:00pm	CONFERENCE CLOSES

ACCOMODATIONS

CONFERENCE HOTEL

Special Corporate Rates will be available for MBRT and MEDWeek patrons at the Comfort Suites Hotel at 2540 Davie Road (just a few blocks from the Signature Grand). For reservations, please call 954-585-7071 or visit their website www.comforsuites.com/hotel/fl591



MBRT SYMPOSIUM SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES

Event Sponsor and Platinum Level Sponsorship - \$10,000

- Speaker Role at MBRT and MEDWEEK Events and Membership in MBRT National Corporate Advisory Council
- Two Tables to the National Corporate Advisory Council Luncheon
- Two Tables at the MEDWEEK BREAKFAST
- Two Tables at the MEDWEEK AWARDS LUNCHEON
- Access to the Private Sponsor and Speaker Lounge
- Optional EXHIBITOR BOOTH at the MEDWEEK EXPO
- Free attendance at MBRT Symposium & MEDWEEK Program Sessions, Matchmaking & EXPO
- One Year MBRT Board Membership & Benefits
- Membership on the National Corporate Advisory Council
- Full Page Ad in Program
- Recognition as event sponsor in program/signage/website & link/newsletter
- Corporate logo included in collateral materials
- Receive media recognition and other exhibitor and advertising privileges including exposure in the South Florida Business Journal, Miami Times, The Miami Herald and El Nuevo Herald, the Sun-Sentinel, an array of Caribbean Newspapers and local tabloids, and Magazines*

MBRT Sponsor and Gold Level Sponsorship - \$7,500

- Speaker Role at MBRT and MEDWEEK Events and Membership in MBRT National Corporate Advisory Council
- One Table to the National Corporate Advisory Council Luncheon
- One Table at the MEDWEEK BREAKFAST
- One Table at the MEDWEEK AWARDS LUNCHEON
- Access to the Private Sponsor and Speaker Lounge
- Optional EXHIBITOR BOOTH at the MEDWEEK EXPO
- Free attendance at MBRT Symposium & MEDWEEK Program Sessions, Matchmaking & EXPO
- One Year MBRT Board Membership & Benefits
- Membership on the National Corporate Advisory Council
- Half Page Ad in Program
- Recognition as event sponsor in program/signage/website & link/newsletter
- Corporate logo included in collateral materials
- Receive media recognition and other exhibitor and advertising privileges including exposure in the South Florida Business Journal, Miami Times, The Miami Herald and El Nuevo Herald, the Sun-Sentinel, an array of Caribbean Newspapers and local tabloids, and Magazines*

* Clear Channel Worldwide, Radio One-Miami, WAVS-1170, HOT-105 Radio, and a plethora of online media houses and PR Wire Services, will give our sponsors added exposure to South Florida's diverse small/minority/women-owned businesses, career prospects, and general consumers.

****A portion of the proceeds will benefit the MBRT scholarship and internship program.****



MBRT SYMPOSIUM SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES (Cont.1)

MBRT Sponsor and Silver Level Sponsorship - \$5,000

- One Table to the National Corporate Advisory Council Luncheon
- One Table at the MEDWEEK BREAKFAST
- One Table at the MEDWEEK AWARDS LUNCHEON
- Access to the Private Sponsor and Speaker Lounge
- Optional EXHIBITOR BOOTH at the MEDWEEK EXPO
- Free attendance at MBRT Symposium & MEDWEEK Program Sessions, Matchmaking & EXPO
- One Year MBRT Associate Membership & Benefits
- Quarter Page Ad in Program
- Recognition as Silver sponsor in program/signage/website & link/newsletter
- Corporate logo included in collateral materials
- Receive media recognition and other exhibitor and advertising privileges including exposure in the South Florida Business Journal, Miami Times, The Miami Herald and El Nuevo Herald, the Sun-Sentinel, an array of Caribbean Newspapers and local tabloids, and Magazines*

MBRT Executive Symposium Sponsorship - \$2,500

- Five tickets to the National Corporate Advisory Council Luncheon
- Five tickets at the MEDWEEK BREAKFAST
- Five Tickets at the MEDWEEK AWARDS LUNCHEON
- Free attendance at MBRT Symposium & MEDWEEK Program Sessions, Matchmaking & EXPO
- Quarter Page Ad in Program
- Recognition as sponsor in program/signage/website & link/newsletter
- Corporate logo included in collateral materials
- Receive media recognition and other exhibitor and advertising privileges including exposure in the South Florida Business Journal, Miami Times, The Miami Herald and El Nuevo Herald, the Sun-Sentinel, an array of Caribbean Newspapers and local tabloids, and Magazines*

MBRT Symposium Sponsorship - \$1,000

- Two tickets to the National Corporate Advisory Council Luncheon
- Two tickets at the MEDWEEK BREAKFAST
- Two Tickets at the MEDWEEK AWARDS LUNCHEON
- Free attendance at MBRT Symposium & MEDWEEK Program Sessions, Matchmaking & EXPO
- Recognition as sponsor in program/signage/website & link/newsletter
- Corporate logo included in collateral materials
- Receive media recognition and other exhibitor and advertising privileges including exposure in the South Florida Business Journal, Miami Times, The Miami Herald and El Nuevo Herald, the Sun-Sentinel, an array of Caribbean Newspapers and local tabloids, and Magazines*

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MBRT SYMPOSIUM SPONSORSHIP PACKAGES (Cont.2)

MBRT Symposium and MEDWeek Attendee - \$175

- One ticket to the National Corporate Advisory Council Luncheon
- One ticket at the MEDWEEK BREAKFAST
- One Ticket at the MEDWEEK AWARDS LUNCHEON
- Free attendance at MBRT Symposium & MEDWEEK Program Sessions, Matchmaking & EXPO

About the National Corporate Advisory Council

The Minority Business RoundTable Corporate Advisory Council was established to advance MBRT's mission and keep minority businesses and various stakeholder groups informed on issues relating to minority enterprise development, procurement, supplier and workforce diversity issues. The National Corporate Advisory Council provides advice and assistance to MBRT in formulating effective corporate and public policies by working with Congress, the White House, Cabinet Agencies, the Small Business Administration, State Governors and State Legislatures with respect to minority businesses and economic and business development. It is the intent of the Advisory Council to promote bold initiatives, policies and programs to support minority businesses and provide education, advocacy and business development opportunities at all stages of development in the corporate and public sector marketplaces.

About the Minority Business RoundTable

The Minority Business RoundTable is a non profit, registered 501 (c) 3 membership organization for CEOs of the nation's leading African-American, Asian-American, Hispanic-American, Native-American and other minority-owned businesses representing a variety of trades and industries. Its members analyze and help formulate effective public policies that impact minority-owned business. MBRT firms earned gross sales from \$53 million to more than \$5 billion per company, and these firms each employ between 80 and 4,000 people.

Strategic Partnerships

The Minority Business RoundTable is proud to have Equifax, GlaxoSmithKline, Aerotech, the Allegis Group, the Business Roundtable, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, the Small Business Administration, the U.S. Department of Labor, the U.S. Department of Energy, and other federal agencies as strategic partners. For more information on the Minority Business RoundTable, please visit www.mbrt.net.

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To register, go to www.mbrt.net**

The Minority Business RoundTable (MBRT) is the only national non-profit 501(c) 3 organization representing CEOs of the Nation's leading minority owned companies, representing a variety of trades and industries. All donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

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