



*DJJ's Michael Joseph discusses City contracting procedures and opportunities with Minority and Women-owned businesses.*

**DJJ's Deputy Agency Chief Contracting Officer Michael Joseph is Guest Speaker at Minority Business Networking Night Sponsored by the Bronx Hispanic Chamber of Commerce**

On Wednesday, October 22, 2008, Department of Juvenile Justice Deputy Agency Chief Contracting Officer Michael Joseph served as guest speaker for the Minority Business Networking Night, sponsored by the Bronx Hispanic Chamber of Commerce. The event was held at Hostos Community College.

Arlene McLaren from the "Arlene McLaren Show" on WVOX 1460 A.M. radio, served as Master of Ceremonies for the evening event, which provided a valuable opportunity for Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises to learn more about procurement opportunities available from the Department of Juvenile Justice. DJJ offers contracts for a wide variety of goods and services that minority businesses can compete for.

During his talk, Michael Joseph offered minority business owners strategic insight into the contracting process and an overview of contracts frequently available through the agency. Last year, the Department provided more than 500 individual procurement opportunities under \$5,000 each, with an aggregate value of \$1,000,000.

The Department of Juvenile Justice has outpaced the citywide average, with 13.1% of micro-purchases having gone to Minority and Women Owned Business Enterprises last year. Much like the City as a whole, DJJ is committed to increasing the level of Minority and Women-owned Business Enterprises participating in the City's procurement process.

Deputy Agency Chief Contracting Officer Joseph said, "Being a Bronxite, I am honored to have represented the Department of Juvenile Justice in assisting vendors from my home community in doing business with the City of New York."

