



NEW YORK STATE SENATOR

Patty Ritchie

## REMINDER: RITCHIE TO HOST WORKSHOPS AIMED AT HELPING LOCAL WOMEN GROW THEIR BUSINESSES

PATTY RITCHIE May 3, 2016



[CLICK HERE TO PRE-REGISTER FOR JEFFERSON COUNTY EVENTS](#)

[CLICK HERE TO PRE-REGISTER FOR OSWEGO COUNTY EVENTS](#)

State Senator Patty Ritchie is reminding women who are looking to grow their businesses through contracts with state government that she will be hosting informational and certification events with the state Division of Minority and Women's Business Development on Thursday, May 5th in Watertown and Friday, May 6th in Oswego.

Both events will feature state business development experts who will offer information and guidance to those looking to become a certified minority and/or women-owned business enterprise (MWBE), a designation that can help small businesses land state contracts.

“For many businesses across our state, government contracts have proven to be a great way to expand, boost a business’s bottom line and create jobs,” said Senator Ritchie.

“I want to make sure our local business owners aren’t missing out on these opportunities and am encouraging anyone who might be considering pursuing state contract work to attend these events in Jefferson and Oswego Counties.

Since 2014, the value of state contracts held by certified women-owned and minority-owned businesses has doubled. Recently, Governor Cuomo announced he will expand the requirement for certified women-owned and minority-owned firms participation in state contracts. As such, Senator Ritchie requested that events familiarizing local business owners with the new rules be held in the area.

Details of the May 5th Jefferson County event are as follows:

***Location: Dulles State Office Building, 317 Washington Street, Watertown, 11th floor meeting room***

***9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.: Explaining MWBE program and requirements***

***11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.: “Certification Made Easy” workshop***

***2:00 to 5:00 p.m.: One-on-one meetings with state business development experts. Please note, appointments are required, and can be made by calling (212) 803-3243.***

Details of the May 6th Oswego event are as follows:

***Location: SUNY Oswego’s Culkin Hall, Room 211 (second floor), 7060 NY-104***

*9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.: “Train the Trainer Workshop,” a “how-to” guide on NYS MWBE certification for technical assistance providers.*

*12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.: One-on-one meetings with state business development experts. Please note, appointments are required, and can be made by calling (212) 803-3243.*

Senator Ritchie encourages those planning to attend to [pre-register here for Jefferson County](#), or [here of Oswego County](#). Individuals can also pre-register by calling (315) 782-3418.