



DELAWARE CONNECTIONS

DELAWARE PUBLIC PURCHASING ASSOCIATION, INC.



www.dppa1.org

Procurement Newsletter for The First State

NIGP Chapter #77



President's Message



Chapter Members,

I would like to thank all who were able to attend our first quarter meeting held at Appoquinimink Library. I am sure we all enjoyed seeing each other in person and to finally have a normal meeting. During the meeting we covered the chapter finances, the 2022-2023 Budget and Strategic Plans, and discussed future upcoming events for Delaware.

Since DPPA had to postpone the 2020 Mid Atlantic Reverse Trade Show (MARTS) due to COVID, we are in the beginning stages of planning for the event. Please start thinking about vendors who would benefit from education on how to do business with Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Washington DC, as well as obtaining information from the Procurement Technical Assistance Center – PTAC. In addition, we are looking to finalize a location for the event so if you have any suggestions, please let the Executive Board know and we will reach out to them.

Last, but certainly not least, we are so grateful to have, CEO of **Bid Locker by Equity Hub**, Mr. Steve Havelka sponsor another one of our chapter meetings. It was nice to finally see Steve, in person and not over Zoom. Thank you Steve for all your support over the last few years.

Respectfully,

Kimber'



1 QTR Meeting Sponsor



Chapter Sponsors



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GOT AN IDEA ?

Educational Topics, Community Service
Events, Meeting Locations...

Let us know because your Ideas are
important!



Chapter News & Updates



CHAPTER MEETING SPONSOR

Steve Havelka, CEO of Equity Hub

Bid Locker is a secure on-line bid submission service used by agencies throughout the United States. Nearly every government agency already posts their solicitations online, many don't have a way to accept bid submissions electronically as well. Bid Locker gives agencies a simple straightforward tool to let these vendors submit bids on-line. Bid Locker is a service run by Equity Hub, a Philadelphia based company. They build tools and software with an equality focus, for local government and non profit buyers, to help connect them with a more diverse supplier pool. In other words, they have leveled the playing field for diverse business.



Once again, we would like to thank Steve for his continued sponsorship and for presenting, in person at our 1st quarter meeting.

More information can be found on the Chapter website on how Bid Locker can assist you and your agency in electronic bid submissions. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact [Steve at 267-225-1407](mailto:steve@equityhub.us) or email him at steve@equityhub.us



WWW.EQUITYHUB.US

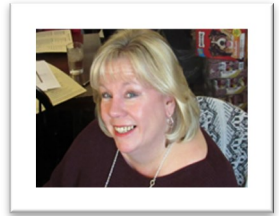
We ♥ Our Sponsors

Chapter News & Updates



Congratulations, Ruth Kowalski

“37 Years Serving the People of New Castle County”

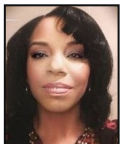


After serving New Castle County for 37 years, the members of DPPA would like to congratulate **Ruth Kowalski** on her retirement. Ruth started working for the County in March 1985 as a Clerk in the Prothonotary's Office and took various jobs within County Government until she found a home in Purchasing in 1988 as an Account Clerk III. In 1998, she became a Purchasing Agent and moved her way up to Chief of Procurement in 2016. Ruth has been a member of DPPA for over 20 years with a certification of Certified Public Purchasing Buyer (CPPB). Ruth has served on various committees and held various titles within DPPA, such as President, 1VP, and 2VP. Because of her commitment, as well as other long time members, DPPA has grown in numbers, knowledge, and experience. After 37 years of service, we congratulate Ruth on her wonderful career and wish her all the best in her retirement .



Sincerely,

Your Delaware Public Purchasing Family



Congratulations, Kimberly Cuffee

“Delaware State Police Civilian of the Year”



On April 1, 2022 , our very own **Kimberly Cuffee** was nominated and awarded the **2021 Civilian of the Year** by the DSP Executive Staff. At a special awards ceremony held in Cheswold, she was presented with this honor in front of Governor John Carney, Attorney General Kathleen Jennings, DSP Colonel Melissa Zebley, Secretary of Safety & Homeland Security Nathaniel McQueen and representing the Delaware State Troopers Association, MCPL Mark Ryde.

Way to go, Kim!

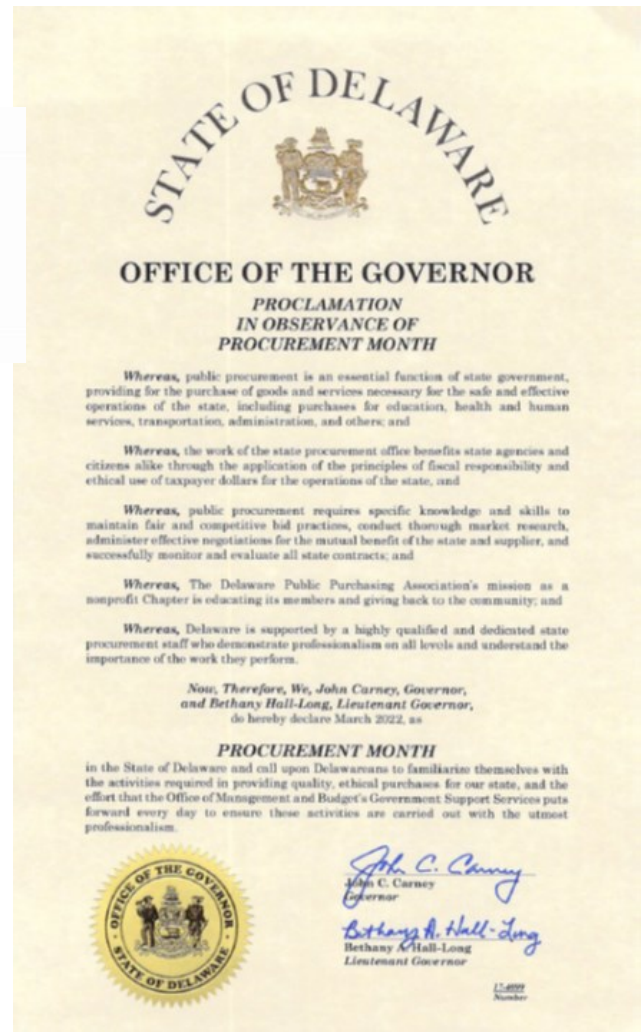


In Honor of Procurement Month

In honor of **March - "Procurement Month"**, the chapter received proclamations from Governor John Carney, City of Dover Mayor Robin Christiansen, and Senator Nicole Poore. The proclamations recognized the value and resources the Delaware Public Purchasing Association provide for the state procurement community.



Pictured below are the proclamations presented to the Chapter.



When we celebrate Procurement Month, we acknowledge an elite group of professionals that have made a difference in governmental efficiency and effectiveness. This month, March, provides the opportunity to help educate elected officials, administrators, taxpayers and vendors about the procurement process and the admirable work you perform every day.” - NIGP

Upcoming EVENTS

2022 NIGP National Forum

Boston, Massachusetts



Location: Boston Convention & Exhibition Center

Date: Saturday, August 20 to Wednesday, August 24, 2022

Registration: Early Registration ends May 31st!

\$897.00 NIGP Members (Full Conference)

\$1097 Non Members (Full Conference)



For more information, go to www.nigp.org



2022 Area 2 Conference

Hosted by : Pennsylvania Public Purchasing Association

Wyndham Grand in Pittsburgh, PA

Wednesday, October 19 to Friday, October 21, 2022

Registration: \$250.00 with and early bird discount of \$25.00

For more information, go to www.pappainc.org



Rhonda Figueroa

Rhonda's name was drawn during the 1st QTR meeting to attend the next Area 2 Conference **FREE !**

Don't worry,...you have one more chance to win!

One more name will be drawn during the meeting in June. To qualify you must have your dues paid for 2022 and must have attended the last 2 meetings prior to the drawing .

GOOD LUCK!

And Finally.....

Did you know we are **ALL** leaders in some form or fashion?



LEADERSHIP

What is leadership?

Leadership is the act of guiding a team or individual to achieve a certain goal through direction and motivation.

Benefits of strong leadership skills are:

You can recognize quickly your strengths and weaknesses

You can better understand your agency's' direction

You can increase the motivation of your team

You can unify you team

The top qualities of effective leaders are:

Flexibility Empathy

Decisiveness Communication

2022 -2024

Officers & Committee Members

President

Kimberly Cuffee

First Vice President

Clifton Crawford

Second Vice President

Rhonda Figueroa

Financial Treasurer

Deborah Dennis

Recording Secretary

Kimberly Jones

Membership Committee Chairperson

Barry Wolfgang

Website /Newsletter Chairperson

Kimberly Cuffee

Editor-in-Chief

Barry Wolfgang

Sponsorship Chairperson

Sussanne Jara

Budget Chairpersons

Susan Smith / Clifton Crawford

Electronic Media Chairperson

Rhonda Figueroa

Education Chairperson

Travis Crawford



Are You A Member of NIGP ??

Some of the many membership benefits are:

- ◆ Tools to support your day to day activities.
- ◆ Online document library containing thousands of RFP's
- ◆ Members discounts on all educational programs and classes
- ◆ Various procurement resources
- ◆ 18 Free webinars on relevant, real world trending procurement topics
- ◆ Study Tools to help you prepare for your certification or recertification's
- ◆ Discounts to attend NIGP National Forums and much more....

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