




Press Release

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MEMORANDUM: Fostering Greater Transparency through Better Contracting

7/28/2015

TO: Interested Media
FROM: Ashley Carr, Director of Communications
Chief Financial Officer Jeff Atwater
RE: Fostering Greater Transparency through Better Contracting

Continuing his efforts to achieve greater transparency for the people of Florida, Chief Financial Officer Jeff Atwater recently penned the attached letter inviting state agencies to contact the Department of Financial Services for guidance when navigating the state contracting process. The letter was mailed to the head of each state agency.

Since taking office, the CFO has made accountability in government spending a top priority, and with the cooperation of state agencies, he launched the Florida Accountability Contract Tracking System or FACTS in 2011. FACTS affords Floridians an inside look at how taxpayer dollars are spent and in the last four years, Floridians have gained access to nearly 70,000 contracts.

In addition to providing access to these contracts, the Department of Financial Services also conducts routine contract audits to ensure more efficient and effective use of every taxpayer dollar. Because of the Department's commitment to better contracting, many agencies have requested assistance from the Department to strengthen their respective contracts and more clearly document what's required of those who conduct business with the state of Florida.

With the recent start of a new fiscal year, an open invitation has been extended to all agencies to contact our Department for guidance on crafting smarter contracts. Agencies are also encouraged to take advantage of the Department's certification process that is offered to those who managed contracts greater than \$100,000. Better contracts are better for all Floridians.

To learn more, visit CFO Atwater's FACTS website:
<http://www.myfloridacfo.com/division/aa/FACTSReporting/>

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