



**The Greater Cleveland  
Regional Transit Authority**

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**Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority  
DBE Program Policy**

The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority (GCRTA) has established a Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) program in accordance with regulations of the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), 49 CFR Part 26. The GCRTA has received Federal financial assistance from the Department of Transportation, and as a condition of receiving this assistance, the Authority has signed an assurance that it will comply with 49 CFR Part 26.

It is the policy of the Authority to ensure that DBEs, as defined in Part 26 of the Code of Federal Regulations, have an equal opportunity to receive and participate in DOT-assisted contracts. It is also the Authority's policy:

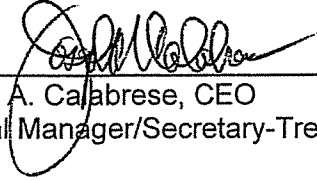
- To ensure nondiscrimination in the award and administration of DOT-assisted contracts;
- To create a level playing field on which DBEs can compete fairly for DOT-assisted contracts;
- To ensure that the DBE Program is narrowly tailored in accordance with applicable law;
- To ensure that only firms that fully meet 49 CFR Part 26 eligibility standards are permitted to participate as DBEs;
- To help remove barriers to the participation of DBEs in DOT-assisted contracts;
- To assist in the development of firms that can compete successfully in the market place outside the DBE Program.

**Joseph A. Calabrese, CEO**  
General Manager/  
Secretary-Treasurer

The Authority will never exclude any person(s) from participation in, deny any person(s) the benefits of, or otherwise discriminate against anyone in connection with the award and performance of any contract covered by 49 CFR Part 26 on the basis of race, color, sex, or national origin. In administering its DBE program, the Authority will not, directly or through contractual or other arrangements, use criteria or methods of administration that have the effect of defeating or substantially impairing accomplishment of the objectives of the DBE program with respect to individuals of a particular race, color, sex, or national origin.

Loretta Kirk, Deputy General Manager of Finance and Administration has been delegated as the DBE Liaison Officer. In that capacity, Loretta Kirk, Deputy General Manager of Finance and Administration is responsible for implementing all aspects of the DBE program. Implementation of the DBE program is given the same priority as compliance with all other legal obligations incurred by the Authority in its financial assistance agreements with the Department of Transportation.

The Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority has disseminated this policy statement to the Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority Board of Trustees and all of the components of the organization. The Authority has distributed this statement to DBE and non-DBE business communities that perform work for the Authority on DOT-assisted contracts.



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Joseph A. Calabrese, CEO  
General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer

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9-21-04

Date