



2024 Diversity at the Border Conference El Paso, TX

Hotel Paso del Norte, 10 Henry Trost Ct., El Paso, TX 79901

WEDNESDAY – September 11, 2024

Start	End	Event	Description	Location
5:30 p.m.	- 6:00 p.m.	Registration		El Mirador Foyer 10 th floor
6:00 p.m.	- 8:00 p.m.	25 th Anniversary Celebration Reception	Join us in a relaxed and fun environment as we kick off the 2024 Diversity at the Border Conference and celebrate 25 Years of Excellence! Catch up with old friends and business acquaintances while enjoying delicious hors d'oeuvres and refreshing cocktails.	El Mirador 10 th floor

THURSDAY – September 12, 2024

Start	End	Session	Speakers/Description	Location
8:30 a.m.	- 9:30 a.m.	Registration & Breakfast	Sign in and/or register onsite.	North Mezzanine 2 nd floor
9:30 a.m.	- 10:00 a.m.	SMSDC President's Welcome SMSDC Chairman Welcome Video Title Sponsor Welcome Video Office of Congresswoman Veronica Escobar (TX-16)	Karen Box, President & CEO, SMSDC Carlos Dones, Chairman of the Board Jesus Sanchez, Vice President, Supplier Diversity & Sustainability, Johnson Controls, Inc. Emily Loya, District Director	Salon A&B 2 nd floor
10:00 a.m.	- 12:00 p.m.	Buyers' Breakfast Roundtable	Meet with corporate buyers who are actively seeking to purchase your products and/or services in the near term. This session will include a series of interactive sessions led by our corporate members and buyers. Each registered attendee will have an opportunity to sit with different corporations that will include buyers from each corporation.	Salon A&B 2 nd floor
12:00 p.m.	- 12:15 p.m.	NETWORKING BREAK		
12:15 p.m.	- 2:00 p.m.	"From Underdog to Champion: Success Stories from the Frontlines of Supplier Diversity" Introduction of New President & CEO, Ricardo Mora, El Paso Chamber of Commerce Awards Ceremony	Reginald Layton will incorporate storytelling elements to address challenges in supplier diversity. Focusing on diverse-owned businesses and supplier management, Mr. Layton's discussion will allow supplier diversity practitioners, procurement professionals, and diverse suppliers to explore real-world scenarios, providing valuable insights and actionable takeaways. He will highlight challenges faced, solutions implemented, and positive outcomes achieved. He will show how small actions resulted in big impact. Keynote Speaker: Reginald K. Layton, Managing Partner of Strategetics, Chief Technology Officer for the RGMA Digital Suite Speaker: Ricardo Mora, President & CEO, El Paso Chamber of Commerce Award winners will be announced during this ceremony for Corporation, Supplier and Advocate of the Year.	Salon A&B 2 nd floor
2:00 p.m.	- 2:15 p.m.	NETWORKING BREAK		



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2:15 p.m.	-	3:00 p.m.	Empowering Minority Manufacturers: Leveraging Enablers for MBEs' Stability and Growth in Advanced Manufacturing	<p>In this session, Javid will introduce you to the business development services that MBE manufacturers can benefit from to support and enhance their growth and success through various strategic and operational means. To help MBEs strengthen their enablers, Javid will discuss technical assistance available to improve business efficiency and effectiveness under three approaches: resource-oriented, process-oriented, and market-oriented.</p> <p>Javid HajVaziri, MBA, MSIE, CMC®, Project Manager MBDA Advanced Manufacturing Centers San Antonio</p>	Salon A&B 2 nd floor
3:00 p.m.	-	4:00 p.m.	Matchmaker Pavilion 1x1 – By Appointment Only	<p>A private, <i>by appointment only</i>, matchmaking session with corporate & state agency buying entities. The buying entities will discuss upcoming opportunities in the next 12-18 months during this One-on-One setting.</p>	Salon A&B 2 nd floor