

## North Carolina Department of Administration Office for Historically Underutilized Businesses

Machelle Sanders
Secretary

Tammie Hall
Director

January 2, 2020

Patricia Combs Pierce Insurance Agency, Inc. (Woman Owned) 3766 South Main Street Farmville, NC 27828

## Dear Patricia Combs:

The Office for Historically Underutilized Businesses (HUB Office) is pleased to inform you that your company is now certified as a Historically Underutilized Business. Your firm is listed in the Statewide Uniform Certification (SWUC) Program database. This certification will remain in effect for four (4) years from the date of this letter.

You must notify the HUB Office in writing within 30 days of any changes affecting your compliance with SWUC Program eligibility requirements, including changes in ownership, day-to-day management and operational control. Failure to notify the HUB Office of these changes or reapply for certification in a timely manner may cause your HUB Certification to be revoked. In addition, please be advised your status may be changed if there is a 3rd party challenge granted against your firm. The link to the HUB Office 3rd party challenge form can be located at http://www.doa.nc.gov/hub/documents/ThirdpartyEligibilityChallengerev080811.pdf. All information submitted to the Office for Historically Underutilized Business is subject to audit and review.

The HUB Office collaborates with local Minority/Women/Small Business (M/W/SBE)Offices who offer assistance to certified HUB firms with identifying contract opportunities with state and local government. Many of these offices also offer assistance with business development. Please visit our website at <a href="http://www.doa.nc.gov/hub/programs.aspx?pid=swuc">http://www.doa.nc.gov/hub/programs.aspx?pid=swuc</a> to locate the local office near you. Another great resource is the Small Business and Technology Development Center at www.sbtdc.org for free personalized business assistance and counseling.

It is important to note that although your status as a certified HUB firm greatly improves your access to state and local government contracts, this certification does not guarantee contract awards. Your ability to research opportunities and bid competitively will be important to your success in this program. We are committed to assisting you through the process with the completion of the Preliminary Business Development and Supportive Services Assessment Survey, located on the HUB Office website under the Certification Tab. The information will provide an overview of your company which will assist us in appropriately aligning contract opportunities that you are ready, willing and able to persue.

Thank you for your interest and participation in the SWUC Program as a Historically Underutilized Business firm with the State of North Carolina.

Sincerely,

Tammie Hall

Tammie Hall Director