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**GEORGIA MINORITY SUPPLIER DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL SALUTES
NATIONAL MINORITY ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT MONTH WITH NEW MBE SERVICE OFFERINGS**
Staff Shifts, MBE/Corporate Educational Events Extend Commitment to Minority Business Development

ATLANTA (August 2008) – In support of Minority Enterprise Development (MED) Month national observance, the Georgia Minority Supplier Development Council (GMSDC) -- Georgia's authority on minority business development and supplier diversity -- announces the promotion of Tiffannie Smart to GMSDC's MBE Services Division. Smart's promotion is part of the organization's "New Day" strategy, which recently installed its new president & CEO and promises a revitalized commitment to leadership, constituent services, operational excellence and economic value creation through minority business development in Georgia. Additionally, GMSDC will also host a mix of business-building events during MED Month (go to gmsdc.org for details):

- **Business Opportunity Luncheon – August 12**
- **IT Supplier Night with the Atlanta Braves – August 13**
- **Corporate Education Session hosted in conjunction with Cox Enterprises – August 15**
- **Global Opportunities in Latin America hosted by GMSDC Academy and MARTA, August 19**
- **Understanding the Sourcing Process in conjunction with Hadley International, August 22**
- **New MBE Orientation Session hosted by GMSDC Certifications Department – August 27**

"Every month is MED month at GMSDC. We are committed to evolving our organizational offerings as needed to meet the changing needs of our entire constituency," said Stacey J. Key, GMSDC President & CEO. "Tiffannie's energy, talent and experience will be fully engaged through a dedicated focus on our valuable MBE partners," added Key.

Under the direction of GMSDC Corporate and MBE Services Manager Lorene Gregory, Smart will serve as a dedicated resource to GMSDC's entrepreneur based where she will manage MBE programming, development, committee activation and New Certification Orientation. Not only does this shift enhance GMSDC's ability to address the evolving needs of ethnic minority businesses in Georgia, but it also allows for increased integration of the organization's MBE and Corporate member service platforms.

"Believe it or not, GMSDC is a non-profit and we diligently work toward realizing our mission to affect positive change on minority business development," said Gregory. "From our reloaded level of programs and events more closely tailored to the needs of our constituency to new leadership and staff re-assignments, we've all experienced tangible change and a revitalized sense of purpose as a result of it," Gregory concluded.

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Reporting directly to the President & CEO, Doris Holmes also joins GMSDC to expand its office administration capacity and efficiency across its Atlanta Headquarters. Holmes comes to GMSDC with more than 20 years of office management experience in the public and private sectors including small businesses and non-profits. She most recently worked for Sheltering Arms.

About GMSDC

The Georgia Minority Supplier Development Council is a not-for-profit organization that fosters value-driven partnerships that may otherwise not be possible between corporate entities, ethnic-minority owned businesses and government entities in the state of Georgia. With more than 150 local and national corporate members and constituency of more than 500 certified MBEs, GMSDC offers innovative programs and industry-leading resources for enhancing the economic landscape for minority development in Georgia. GMSDC is located in Atlanta, Georgia well as a regional affiliate of the National Minority Supplier Development Council.

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