



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ChicagoMSDC Selects Dan Seals as Next President & CEO

Seasoned executive chosen following national search; assumes role August 25, 2025

CHICAGO, IL – August 25, 2025 – The Chicago Minority Supplier Development Council (ChicagoMSDC) announced today that Dan Seals has been named its next President & CEO. Seals was selected after a rigorous national search led by the ChicagoMSDC Board’s Search Committee in partnership with [Koya Partners](#). He succeeds Interim President & CEO Debra Jennings-Johnson, who has guided the organization since 2022.



Seals most recently served as CEO of Intersect Illinois, where he transformed the organization into a key driver of statewide economic growth. Under his leadership, Intersect Illinois delivered more than 5,000 new jobs and nearly \$4 billion in investment, launched its first national campaign to attract business, and built the strongest project pipeline in its history. His career spans the public, private, and nonprofit sectors, including serving as Chief Operating Officer of the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity. He has also held senior marketing positions with the American Medical Association, GE Capital, and T-Mobile.

“We proudly welcome Dan as the next leader of ChicagoMSDC,” said Gregorio Salinas, Board Vice Chair of ChicagoMSDC and Strategic Partners Manager at Burns & McDonnell. “With a proven history of success and a clear vision for the future, he steps into this role with the full confidence of our Board leadership and key stakeholders. His arrival signals the beginning of an exciting new chapter for the Council.”

Interim President & CEO Debra Jennings-Johnson added, “It has been an honor to lead ChicagoMSDC during this pivotal period of stabilization and renewal. I am proud of the progress we’ve made together, and I know Dan will continue to strengthen the organization and its impact in the years ahead.”

Since taking on the interim role in 2022, Jennings-Johnson has drawn on more than 30 years of experience advocating for diverse businesses. A respected voice in supplier diversity, she led bp America's efforts for over two decades as Senior Director of Supplier Diversity and has served on multiple boards, including the Women's Business Development Center and the Women's Business Enterprise National Council. Widely recognized for her leadership, she has earned national honors for her commitment to expanding opportunities and driving impact for minority-owned businesses.

ChicagoMSDC now enters its next chapter, propelled by Jennings-Johnson's contributions – well-positioned for continued growth, even stronger partnerships, and expanded influence.

"I'm honored to join ChicagoMSDC at such a pivotal time," said Dan Seals. "We have a great opportunity to build Chicago's minority businesses, the local supply chain, and Chicago's economy. It's exactly what we need right now."

Seals officially assumes his role on August 25 and will work closely with ChicagoMSDC's Board, staff, and stakeholders to set a forward-looking agenda and shape his vision for the Council's future. Details on his priorities and initiatives will be shared in the weeks and months ahead.

About ChicagoMSDC

The [Chicago Minority Supplier Development Council](#) (ChicagoMSDC) is one of 23 regional affiliates of the [National Minority Supplier Development Council](#) (NMSDC). ChicagoMSDC is dedicated to expanding business opportunities for minority-owned enterprises by fostering strategic partnerships, advocating for supplier diversity, and driving inclusive economic growth across industries.