

A MESSAGE FROM...

M. Jodi Rell, Governor, State of Connecticut



M. Jodi Rell
GOVERNOR
STATE OF CONNECTICUT

January 2009

Dr. Fred McKinney
President/CEO – GNEMSDC
4133 Whitney Avenue
Hamden, CT 06518

Dear Dr. Fred:

As Governor of the State of Connecticut, I would like to send along my sincere best wishes and heartfelt congratulations to you and your members for the exciting merger that has taken place between the Connecticut Minority Supplier Development Council (CMSDC) and the New England Minority Supplier Development Council (NEMSDC).

This merger will create one of the largest business organizations in the country and we are pleased you chose Connecticut as the newly named Greater New England Minority Supplier Development Council's (GNEMSDC) headquarters – a state that has earned a reputation of helping MBEs succeed and grow in the business community.

I also want to congratulate Dr. Fred as he continues his leadership role as President and CEO for MBEs in Connecticut and now throughout New England. As Dr. Fred wrote in the introduction of his book, *And Finally*, "As a non-profit working to increase opportunities for certified minority-owned businesses (MBEs), it is necessary to make the connections between our role in this worthy process and the day-to-day struggle of MBEs and the strategic goals of our corporate members." This has been Dr. Fred's vision for CMSDC for many years and it is exactly the reason why he is the best leader to take GNEMSDC to a new level in New England and across the nation.

Again, congratulations to all of you and please know that you have my full support of your mission to increase the opportunities for certified minority-owned businesses.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "M. Jodi Rell".

M. Jodi Rell
Governor

MJR/aj

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