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PRESS RELEASE

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Business Enterprises of Nevada. Caucus Deli Completes Renovations

Ribbon Cutting To Be Held Jan. 10, 2013

Carson City, NV — The Caucus Deli, a Business Enterprises of Nevada facility, will celebrate its successful renovation with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Thursday, Jan. 10, 2013 at 9 a.m. at the restaurant located on the first floor of the Legislative Counsel Bureau Building at 401 South Carson Street, Carson City Nevada.

“We are pleased with the outcome of the renovation and continue to be encouraged by the success of the BEN Program said Maureen Cole, administrator for the Rehabilitation Division of the Department of Employment, Training and Rehabilitation (DETR). The improved site represents a continuing effort to develop and strengthen the BEN brand into an experience that energizes our operators, host agencies, customers and staff.”

The remodeling cost an estimated \$45,000, which was \$17,000 under budget, Cole said. The funding for the remodeling project was generated from the revenue collected from the operations of all BEN food and vending sites state wide, thus no tax payer dollars were spent on this renovation.

Today approximately 2,300 self-employed men and women who are legally blind operate businesses across the country, under the Randolph-Sheppard Act which gives people who are blind the priority right to run vending facilities in government buildings. The average annual income of these entrepreneurs is about \$56,000, and they provide employment to an additional 14,000 individuals, of whom about 1,700 are people with disabilities, including blindness, Cole said.

In Nevada, DETR manages the Randolph-Sheppard vendor program at federal facilities as well as the Business Enterprises of Nevada (BEN) Program.

DETR Director Frank Woodbeck said that the BEN Program is a positive asset to the economy and to people who are employed by the facilities.

“BEN recognizes the entrepreneurial spirit of men and women across the state who might not otherwise have the opportunity to realize their dreams of business ownership,”

Woodbeck said. “BEN also supports the state’s economic development efforts and when customers patronize these businesses they are supporting business development as well as helping individuals who are blind with their professional goals. It’s a win for everyone involved.”

Carol Ewing is a partner of the Caucus Deli and is excited to have the opportunity to be a business owner.

“The Business Enterprise Program offers me a purpose with independence,” said Ewing, “It is strengthening to interact with other blind people who accomplish great things and it teaches you there is life after blindness.”

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DETR is comprised of the Employment Security Division, Equal Rights Commission, Rehabilitation Division, the Information Development and Processing Division and the Research and Analysis Bureau. DETR works in partnership with the Nevada JobConnect System to provide training and job placement services to job seekers and to assist employers in hiring practices.