

# NATIONAL WOMEN'S SMALL BUSINESS MONTH



*Spotlight:*

**Gina Medina**  
Owner/President  
Apogee Security & Investigation Services

## **Mission & Vision**

To provide the apogee of investigations, safety and security by incorporating our ideas, enthusiasm and initiative to affect the efficient running of our clients' investigation and security needs. (c) 2011 gm

To become a well-known consultant that is known throughout the United States and expand, expand, expand. "If you think there's only the Queen of England. Then you never met the Lady of Brooklyn!!!" (c) 2011 gm

## **What service or product does your business provide?**

Apogee Security & Investigation Services is an ACDBE certified agency licensed in the states of Georgia and Florida. We provide pre-employment background checks, protection of clients' infringement rights and trademarks (anti-piracy counterfeiting and fraud). In addition, we provide undercover operative services, executive protection, bodyguards, security guard services for on set movie filming, to name a few.

## **Are you DBE certified? What was your reason for becoming certified? How has the certification benefitted you or your business?**

My reason for becoming certified as an ACDBE [Airport Concessions Disadvantaged Business Enterprise] is because as a minority business, the competition is hard to beat especially being a black, woman-owned business. As a private investigator and the owner of a security guard consulting agency, most companies turn me away because of my innocent face and my petite build. What they fail to look at is my level of experience. I was an Officer in the Special Operations Division on Rikers Island in NYC. I then received a certificate of recognition from Senator Carl Andrews after graduation of Aux. Police Department assigned to Precinct PSA2 Housing Police in Brownsville Brooklyn. My experience extended from NYC and now I have been a Private Investigator since 2006. I have been contracted as a Field Investigator by both RIAA and MPAA.

Being DBE certified has benefitted my agency because it gives me visibility and further exposes my business to larger companies. It allows them, through my NAICS [North American Industry Classification System] codes classifications, to review my agency as a whole and my level of expertise. As a result, I was recently awarded a sub-contract from MARTA for Pre-Employment Background Screening, which begins shortly.

## **As a woman and small-business owner, what advice would you give to other women, small-business owners or women wanting to explore entrepreneurship?**

As a woman and small business owner, I would advise other woman and other small business owners to join our team of DBE's. The Disadvantage Business Enterprise works to build your business so use the ladder they provide for you and start climbing.



MARTA  
DBE Program:

