



BRICK BY BRICK: BUILDING THE FUTURE OF NC BUSINESS

2025 | ANNUAL PROCUREMENT SUMMIT

AGENDA

AGENDA | SEPTEMBER 18, 2025

DAY 1 //

LAYING THE FIRST BRICKS - VISION, FOUNDATION & FUNDING

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM | Registration, Breakfast & Vendor Expo Opens (*Main Hallway*)

8:30 AM - 9:15 AM | Welcome + Opening (*Main Ballroom*) Mistress of Ceremonies Nia Harden (WBTV) , Keynote Speaker Secretary Jocelyn Mitnaul Mallette/Deputy Sam Metzle (NC DMVA), Dr. Tanya "GLOW" Jones (NCVetBiz), BG (Ret.) Twanda E. Young - LT3 Leadership Solutions.

9:15 AM - 10:30 AM | Panel 1 - Strengthening the Veteran Ecosystem (*Main Ballroom*) Moderated by GI Michelle. Panelists: Aregnaz Mooradian - Deputy District Director, SBA, Charlie Eadie - South Carolina Department of Veterans Affairs (Confirmed), Andrea Allard - NC Department of Military & Veterans Affairs, Dr. Vanessa Guyton - Veteran, PhD, Mental Health Leader

10:30 AM - 10:45 AM | **Networking & Business Expo**

10:45 AM - 11:45 AM | Panel 2 - Fuel the Mission: Accessing Capital (*Main Ballroom*) Moderated by Bob Burton, NCMBC Director of Defense Technologies (with SBIR/STTR focus). Panelists: Aregnaz Mooradian - SBA Funding, including Disaster Loan Program, Scott Davis - NCInnovation, Jim Roberts - Venture Capital Perspective & NC IDEA Grants/Microgrants, Chris Rabassi - Office of Small Business Programs, Marine Corps Installations East

11:45 AM - 12:00 PM | Lunch / Business Expo / Networking

12:00 PM - 12:30 PM | Lunch & Fireside Chat (*Main Ballroom*) Crystal Dawn Miller: From Crisis to Connection - Redefining Veteran Services in NC

12:30 PM - 1:00 PM | Lunch & Keynote Speaker (*Main Ballroom*) NC Secretary of State Ellaine F. Marshall - Elevating NC's Small Businesses & Rural Rise

1:00 PM - 1:30 PM | Networking / Business Expo / NC Sec of State Meet & Greet

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM | Workshop Block A (90 Minutes) (Choose 2 of 5) Federal Contracting Blueprint 101 (*Main Ballroom*), Business Financial Readiness (*See room onsite*), Capabilities Statement Lab (*See room onsite*), Laying the Foundation: Business Preparation to Engage in Local Government Contracting (*See room onsite*), GovCon House: Don't Chase Contracts, Build Relationships and Influence (*See room onsite*).

3:00 PM - 3:30 PM | Networking & Business Expo

3:30 PM - 4:45 PM | Panel 3 - Expanding Your Framework - Building Regional Coalitions (*Main Ballroom*) Moderated by Lindsay Hinger (NCVETBIZ). Panelists: Robin Livingston -VBOC, Crystal Dawn Miller - Governor's Institute, GI Michelle - ABOVE / Negotiations, Dr. Tamara Bowles - BYF Consulting

5:00 PM - 7:30 PM | Evening Social & Vendor Walk through



*MAY BE SUBJECT TO CHANGE



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AGENDA | SEPTEMBER 19, 2025

DAY 2 //

STRENGTHENING THE STRUCTURE - SCALING, CYBERSECURITY & RESILIENCE

7:30 AM - 8:30 AM | Continental Breakfast & Vendor Expo (*Main Hallway*)

8:30 AM - 8:35 AM | Welcome Back & Opening Keynote (*Main Ballroom*) Mistress of Ceremonies: Nia Harden, WBTV and Dr. Tanya "GLOW" Jones (NCVETBIZ)

8:35 AM - 9:45 AM | Panel 4 - Cybersecurity Incident Response: How to Secure Your Business (*Main Ballroom*). Panelists: Laura Rodgers, Director, Cybersecurity Practice, Secure Computing Institute at NC State University. Rob Main, CISA, NC State Cybersecurity Coordinator, Joshua Nicholson, Founder, Darkstack 7 Cyber response

9:45 AM - 10:00 AM | Networking Break / Vendor /Reset

10:00 AM - 10:30 AM | Keynote - SBA in Action: Opening Doors for Veteran Entrepreneurs (*Main Ballroom*) with speaker Mike Arriola, District Director, U.S. Small Business Administration NC

10:30 AM - 11:00 AM | Cybersecurity Keynote: Cyber Hygiene (CMMC) - What Small Businesses Need to Know (*Main Ballroom*). Moderated by Bob Burton, NC Military Business Center with speaker Laura Rodgers, Director, Cybersecurity Practice, Secure Computing Institute at NC State University

11:00 AM - 11:15 AM | Break / Networking / Vendor Expo

11:15 AM - 11:45 AM | Live Matchmaking: Meet directly with Primes/Procurement Specialists (*Main Ballroom*)

11:45 AM - 12:00 PM | Break / Networking / Vendor Expo

12:00 PM - 12:50 PM | Lunch & Keynote: Legacy in Leadership (*Main Ballroom*) with speakers Henry Tilton, The Veterans Legacy - How to Make a Lasting Impact and Major General (Retired) James Mallory III- Clearing the Minefield: Practical Tips for Business Success

12:50 PM - 1:00 PM | Networking / Vendor Expo/ Matchmaking

1:00 PM - 1:30 PM | Pitch Competition: Empowering the Next Generation of Veteran/Military Spouse Entrepreneurs (*Main Ballroom*). Moderated by Lindsay Hinger. Judges: Mark Haupt, Legacy Founder, Converged Services, Chris Rabassi-Marine Corps Installations East, Steve Cole- Veterans Bridge Home

1:30 PM - 3:00 PM | Workshop Block B (90 Minutes) (Choose 2 of 5). SBA 101: How to Win Your First Federal Contract (*See room onsite*), Procurement Lifecycle and Acquisition Timezones (*See room onsite*), Disaster Recovery 2026 - How Veterans Can Lead in FEMA's New Era (*See room onsite*), AI & Automation for Small Business (*See room onsite*), Workshop Innovation Pathways: SBIR/STTR, OTAs & Beyond (*See room onsite*).

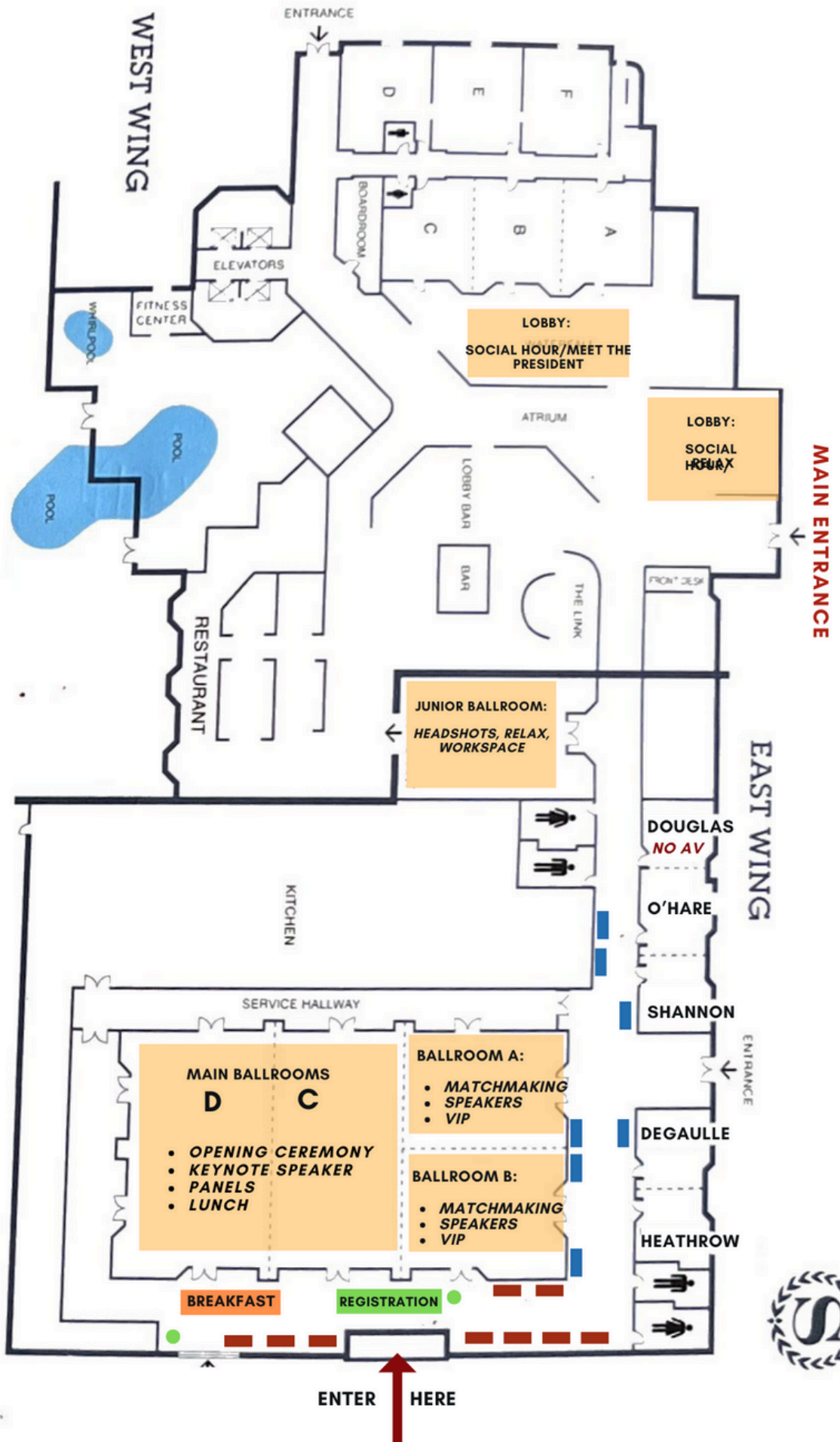
3:00 PM - 3:15 PM | Networking/ Business Expo / Matchmaking

3:15 PM - 3:45 PM | Closing Ceremony & Awards (*Main Ballroom*)



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2025 PROCUREMENT SUMMIT // FLOOR PLAN



● BANNERS/PROMO DISPLAYS

VENDOR BOOTHS

- PREMIUM
- STANDARD

