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**LOCAL BUSINESS COMMUNITY ASKED TO JOIN THE LAUNCH OF**

**THE CITY OF AUGUSTA’S 2021 DISPARITY STUDY**

***Your Input Will Benefit Your Business***

**AUGUSTA, GA (November 30, 2020)** -The City of Augusta, GA has engaged Griffin & Strong, P.C to conduct a Disparity Study to evaluate whether Women and Minority owned firms are receiving the number of contracts to be expected based upon the availability of businesses in the marketplace. In addition, the Study will also include a review and analysis of Augusta’s Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) program for federal, state, and locally-funded projects and, more particularly, Augusta’s contracting and subcontracting policies, procedures, and practices relative to the solicitation of, and participation by DBEs in federal, state, and locally-funded prime contracts and subcontracts.

A Disparity Study is an objective research tool whose findings of discrimination, if any, are a prerequisite to any race or gender based remedial program. Griffin & Strong, a law and public policy consulting firm based in Atlanta, Georgia, is a nationally recognized expert in disparity research. Public participation in the Study is critical to the accuracy of the Study findings and recommendations which will result in policy recommendations to The City of Augusta.

Griffin & Strong, P.C. will kick off the study by hosting an informational webinar on December 16th. This online session will provide the community with the opportunity to ask questions, learn about the study process, and discuss how they can participate. The meeting will be hosted:

 **Tuesday, February 2nd, 2021**

**6:00 pm – 7:00pm EST**

**Please RSVP at this link** [**http://bit.ly/3mZwzN7**](http://bit.ly/3mZwzN7)

Registration is free and advanced registration is recommended but not required to participate.

For questions or concerns, please email Griffin & Strong at AugustaStudy@gspclaw.com. Please note all comments may be recorded and potentially used in the Study.

*Griffin & Strong, P.C. is a law and public policy consulting firm based in Atlanta, GA. Since 1992, the firm has represented individual clients, small businesses, corporations, and government entities in public policy consulting, legislation, contract compliance, supplier diversity consulting, and disparity research.*

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