

# NATIONAL STATE DATA CENTER STEERING COMMITTEE

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Pam Schenker (FL)  
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Jane Traynham (MD)

*Representing a Network of 1,800  
SDC/BIDC Data Centers and Affiliates Nationwide*

*We Bring Value-Added Census Data and Education to the User*

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## State Data Center Conference Call Meeting Minutes August 7, 2007

The conference call meeting commenced at 3:00 pm EDT. All steering committee members were present on the call with the exception of Carol Rogers. Sai Mullapudi represented the CIC network on the call, and the Customer Liaison Office was represented by: Renee Jefferson-Copeland, Barbara LaFleur, and Maria Olmedo.

The agenda items for this conference call were:

- SDC News
- Elections Update
- Agenda for the Annual Meeting
- Joint Project Agreements Between U.S. Census Bureau and State Data Centers
- 2006 ACS Data Release
- Other Items

### ***SDC News***

The Customer Liaison Office and the Marketing Services Office have merged. This new unit is referred to as CLMSO and has the following offices: Marketing, Governmental Programs (where the SDC program resides), Nongovernmental Programs (where the CIC program resides), Census in the Schools, National Partnerships, and Customer Service Center.

### ***Elections Update***

There are six candidates for the three SDC steering committee openings. The candidates are: Jane Traynham (MD), Arlene Wallace (OR), Will "Chip" Sawyer (VT), Barbara Ronningen (MN), Amy Bittner (WY), and Dan Veroff (WI).

Elections are open from today (August 7<sup>th</sup>) through 5 pm CDT on September 20<sup>th</sup>. Each state network has one vote, to be cast by the Lead Agency.

### ***Agenda for the Annual Meeting***

The steering committee reviewed the draft agenda for the annual meeting (in October 2007). Discussion centered on presenters and moderators for the sessions. CLMSO expects to mail out administrative letters to the network next week.

### ***Joint Project Agreement Between U.S. Census Bureau and State Data Centers***

Census Bureau staff from the ACS Office (ACSO) joined the call to discuss the Template for Joint Project Agreements Between US Census Bureau and State Data Centers for a joint research project relating to rural statistical areas. Doug Hillmer led the discussion on the rural areas project. ASCO

requested that the steering committee consolidate their questions into one email and also agreed to prepare a timeline for the project.

### **2006 ACS Data Release**

Clive Richmond from ACSO led the discussion on 2006 ACS Data Release schedule and products. The items included:

1. **Redesigned first page for ACS web site.**
2. **Webinar:** A powerpoint presentation highlighting the 2006 ACS data release, how to access the data, etc. (will be shared on 8-15-07)
3. **2006 ACS Data Users Handbook:** a detailed description and explanation of the 2006 ACS data and their use.
4. **ACS at a Glance:** A short powerpoint presentation on the 2006 data release suitable for presentation to general audiences.
5. **One-page Overview of Data Release:** A single-page (both sides) document highlighting key information about the data release; suitable for distribution as a handout.
6. **One-page U.S. Geographic Overview:** A single-page (both sides) description of the kinds of geographic areas for which data will be released; suitable for distribution as a handout.
7. **One-page Overview of Data Product Sets:** A single-page (one side) description of the kinds of data products (e.g., base tables, data profiles, geographic ranking tables, thematic maps) that will be available for the data release; suitable for distribution as a handout.
8. **Data Release Questions and Answers:** A document providing responses to anticipated questions relating to the data release.
9. **Briefing Package:** a folder containing some of the documents listed above, in addition to a few data tables reflecting the 2006 ACS data, used to brief Members of Congress, the Dept. of Commerce, the OMB, and selected additional audiences regarding the data release.
10. **Comparison Document:** A document describing the comparability of 2006 ACS data with 2005 ACS data and data from the Census 2000 long form.
11. **HEO Letter:** A courtesy letter sent in Sept. 2007 to highest elected officials (HEOs) of governmental entities for which 2006 ACS data will be provided.

Debbie Griffin (ACSO) discussed the preparation of an ACS comparison document. This document will list every data item in 2006 ACS and reference whether it can be compared, compared with caution, or not compared to items in 2005 ACS and Census 2000. In addition, there will be information as to why data items should not be compared or compared with caution.

### **Other Items**

There was no other business discussed.

Next conference call will be Tuesday, September 11th, 2007.

Conference call ended 4:15pm EDT.