



Charleston County News Release

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County is Platinum Sponsor of the 2012 Black Expo, March 10

For the seventh year in a row, [Charleston County Government](#) will sponsor a local event, the [13th Annual Black Expo](#). The Black Expo will be held on Saturday, March 10, at the North Charleston Convention Center (5001 Coliseum Drive; North Charleston, 29418).

As a platinum sponsor, Charleston County Government contributed \$10,000 to the 2012 Black Expo.

“Charleston County Government is excited to take a lead in the Black Expo again this year,” said Barrett Tolbert, Charleston County’s [Procurement](#) Director, who is coordinating the County’s participation in the event. “We have always supported the Black Expo and are looking forward to being involved again this year. As diversity is a major focus for the County, our participation demonstrates our commitment to broadening our workforce and expanding our business partnerships.”

Representatives from the following Charleston County departments will be available to answer questions and provide information at the Expo:

- [Board of Elections and Voter Registration](#)
- [Charleston Center \(Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services\)](#)
- [Community Services](#)
- [Economic Development](#)
- [Emergency Medical Services \(EMS\)](#)
- [Environmental Management Department](#)
- [Human Resources Department](#)
- [Procurement Department](#) and its [Small Business Enterprise Program](#)
- [Sheriff’s Office](#)
- [Transportation Sales Tax](#)

“Each department will have staff present to give information on Charleston County services,” Tolbert said. “County departments will have laptops, displays, and tons of information to share with the public regarding their programs and services. We welcome local residents and visitors to stop by and see how we support our community.”

According to the Black Expo’s website, the local expo’s concept was taken from Black Expo USA, a former national event that traveled the country. Black Expos are now successfully held in cities such as Chicago, New York and Indianapolis, and are the largest events that directly targeting the African-American community.

The purpose of the Black Expo is to promote economic development through increased exposure for minority-owned businesses. It is a family-oriented event that exposes the community to business opportunities and cultural resources.

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