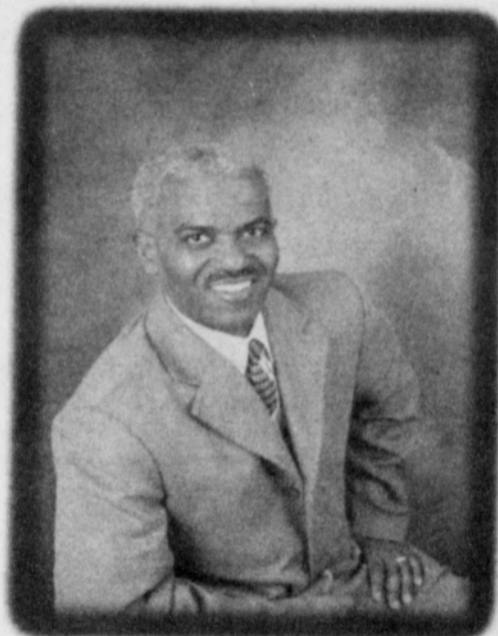


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# LAW & JUSTICE

## Record Minority Hiring for Light Rail

TriMet sets record with \$110 million in construction contracts

When it opens in 2015, the Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Transit Project will improve transit and connections throughout the region. But the benefits of the construction project are already being felt in the community.

TriMet General Manager Neil McFarlane announced that for the first time more than \$110 million in contracts have been awarded to firms owned by people of color and women. These 108 Disadvantaged Business Enterprise firms have reached a new record of contracting for any regional project.

"This is an amazing milestone that was achieved because of our commitment to inclusion, diversity and creating opportunities for these emerging small businesses," said McFarlane.

TriMet's DBE program promotes a level playing field, removes barriers and increases contracting opportunities for people of color and women in both the professional and construction fields.

The light rail project is also bringing family-wage jobs to more of the region's residents at a time when they're needed most. Nearly 24 percent of the construction jobs are held by people of color and about 16 percent by apprentices.

With this influx of new labor, the DBE program is not only providing jobs now, but creating the workforce of the future.

TriMet created its innovative award-winning DBE program back in 2000 when it was getting ready to



Jorge Garcia of Stacy & Witbeck working on TriMet's Portland-Milwaukie Light Rail Transit Project.

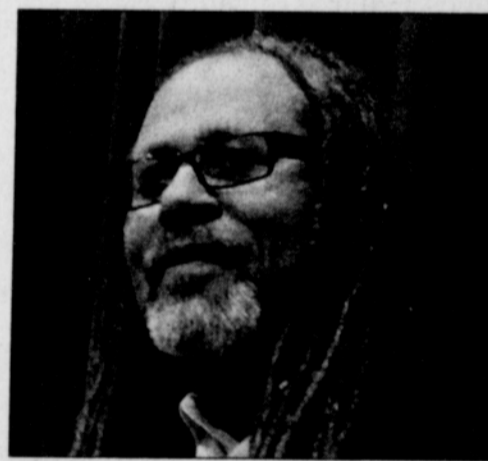
build the Interstate MAX Yellow Line project. The community had concerns that past projects didn't provide enough local opportunities.

TriMet delivered \$36 million in contracts for that project; \$62 million for the MAX Green Line, and now topping \$110 million for the Portland-Milwaukie project. These successes have made TriMet's DBE program a model for the nation.

## Black History Author Featured

African American historian Hari Jones, an assistant director and curator of the African American Civil War Freedom Foundation and Museum in Washington, D.C., will give a free lecture at the University of Portland on Wednesday, June 12 at 7 p.m.

The event is sponsored by Wells Fargo in an effort to help educate students and the public about the history of African Americans in the United States.



Hari Jones

Jones will speak about the Emancipation Proclamation and Juneteenth. The event in Buckley Auditorium, 5000 N. Willamette Blvd., is open to the public. To reserve a seat, contact Lisa Smalley of Wells Fargo at 503-614-5995 by 5 p.m. Monday, June 10.

Jones is a nationally recognized researcher, analyst and former intelligence and artillery officer in the U.S. Marine Corps.

## Neighbor Struck by Bullet

A 17-year-old girl has been treated by a neighbor's rifle. The man who and released from a Portland area fired the gun was identified by police hospital after being accidentally shot as 52-year-old Christopher Morris.

While cleaning his gun in his apartment on May 29 in the 1200 block of Southeast 130th Avenue, a bullet was discharged ripping through the neighboring wall striking the girl once in her leg.

Morris immediately phoned 911. Police detained him at the scene and seized his rifle as evidence. Authorities said he was cooperative with the investigation and has yet to be charged with a crime.

The case will be forwarded to Multnomah County District Attorney's Office for consideration of criminal charges.



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