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Robert L. Johnson, the Founder and Chairman of The RLJ Companies

Robert L. Johnson (born April 8, 1946) is an American business magnate best known for being the founder of television network Black Entertainment Television (BET), and is also its former chairman and chief executive officer. Johnson is currently chairman and founder of RLJ Development and former majority owner of the Charlotte Bobcats, a National Basketball Association franchise along with rapper Nelly and NBA legend and current majority owner Michael Jordan. In 2001, Johnson became the first African American billionaire, and the first black person to be listed on any of Forbes world's rich list (excluding black Canadian billionaire Michael Lee-Chin who first appeared on the list the same year, who is of mixed black and Chinese ancestry).

Johnson was born in Hickory, Mississippi on April 8, 1946, but spent almost all of his childhood in Freeport, Illinois. He was the ninth of 10 children born to Edna Johnson and Archie Johnson. Johnson graduated from Freeport High School in 1964. He studied history at the University of Illinois and graduated in 1968 with a bachelor's degree. While at the University of Illinois, Johnson was a member of the Beta chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity. He earned a master's degree in International Affairs from the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton University.

For 33 years from 1969-2002 he was married to Sheila Johnson. Together they founded the entertainment network BET which sold the company to Viacom in 2001. They have two children: daughter Paige Johnson (b. 1986), and a son Brett Johnson (b. 1990). He was the first African American billionaire.

Business career

Black Entertainment Television

In 1979, he left NCTA to create Black Entertainment Television, the first cable television network aimed at African Americans. It was launched in January 1980, initially broadcasting for two hours a week.

In 1991, BET became the first black-controlled company listed on the New York Stock Exchange. As of 2007, BET reaches more than 65 million U.S. homes and expanded into other BET-related television channels that make up the BET Networks: BETJ, and digital cable channels BET Hip-Hop and BET Gospel.

In 2002, Johnson took the company private, buying back all of its publicly traded stock. In 2003, BET was no longer a black owned business when Viacom bought BET for \$3 billion. Johnson's 63% stake made him worth over a billion dollars after taxes, making him the richest black person in the United States until surrendering the title to Oprah Winfrey, when then-wife Sheila Johnson claimed much of his billion in divorce. Johnson continued to be the company's chairman and CEO for six years. In 2005, Johnson turned over the titles of President and Chief Operating Officer of BET to Debra L. Lee, a former BET vice president.

Second Act/RLJ Companies

Upon selling BET Johnson started The RLJ Companies which he calls his "Second Act". Johnson's goal is to create a premier holding company and asset management firm run by a minority businessperson. The RLJ companies is a diverse portfolio of companies in the financial services, real estate, hospitality, professional sports, film production, automotive and gaming industries. An innovative business network, The RLJ Companies seeks to target undiscovered or underserved markets; then exercise solid management to achieve results. The RLJ Companies is headquartered in Bethesda, Maryland, with operations in Charlotte, North Carolina; Los Angeles, California; Orlando, Florida; Little Rock, Arkansas, Mexico and San Juan, Puerto Rico. The RLJ Companies' core businesses include: RLJ Development, a privately held hotel real estate investment company; RLJ Lodging Fund II and RLJ Real Estate Fund III, both of which are private equity real estate funds; the three together have over \$2 billion in combined assets and additional purchasing power of nearly \$4 billion; RolloverSystems, a financial services company providing retirement

Continued on page 3

REQUESTS FOR BIDS & SUB-BIDS

RGW Construction Inc.

is seeking all qualified Underutilized Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (UDBE) owned subcontractors and supplies for the following project:

Alameda County Rural Roads Pavement Rehabilitation of Greenville Road, Mountain House Rd and Tesla Road -Specification #2190 Federal Aid Project No., STPL-5933 (110) Owner: County of Alameda (510) 670-5450 UDBE Goal: 14%

Engineers Estimate: \$2,000,000 70 Working days Bids: August 21 @ 2:00 PM

Requesting Sub-quotes for (including but not limited to): Crack Seal, Electrical, Grinding, Striping/Markers, Surveying, Trucking, Street Sweeper, Raise Iron-Utilities, Concrete Minor, Fabric & Oils, and Traffic Control.

Scope of Work: Asphalt concrete base failure repair, sealing cracks, milling, install striping, adjust utilities, resurfacing and installation of traffic detector loops.

RGW Construction, Inc.

Contractors License A/B 591940 550 Greenville Road • Livermore, CA 94550 Phone: 925-606-2400 • Fax: 925-961-1925

Plans and Specs are available to view and copy at our office or through Central Blue Print (510) 276-3375, East Bay Blue Print (510) 261-2990 or Custom Blue Print (925) 932-3113. Contact Mark Smith 925-606-2400 for any questions, including bonding, lines of credit, or insurance. Subcontractors should be prepared to submit payment and performance bonds equal to 100% of their quotation. For bonding and other assistance, please call.

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Unisys Corporation is seeking qualified Minority, Woman and

other Businesses to participate in

Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) Access Control and Alarm Monitoring Systems (ACAMS)

Maintenance and Repair Services RFP Bid Date: 08/24/2012

We are seeking MBE/WBE/OBE subcontractors to supply IT services for the following task areas: Programmer, Low Voltage Technician, Security Systems Services (except Locksmiths).

Programmer qualifications include past support of Badging and Credentialing systems, Picture Perfect Technician Certification required, Badge printer support to include Fargo and Zebra brands.

Technician qualifications include preventative maintenance and support of all access control subsystems including badge printers, installation and support of low voltage access control devices (GE 430/435 and HID RD40/RK40 badge readers) and associated infrastructure devices for ACAMS. Picture Perfect Technician Certification is required.

Unisys Corporation

11720 Plaza America Drive • Reston, VA 20190 Contact: **Philip Brooks** Email: Philip Brooks@Unisys.com

For Information on the availability of the plans and specifications and the policy concerning assistance to subcontractors in obtaining both lines of credit, and/or insurance, please contact our office.

REQUESTING SUB-BIDS FROM QUALIFIED MBE/WBE/OBE SUBCONTRACTORS/VENDORS FOR:

ASPHALT CONCRETE AND CONCRETE PAVEMENT TRENCH RESURFACING — SPEC #411 LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND POWER Electronic Bid Date:

> Monday, Aug. 27, 2012 at 2:00 p.m. Sub-Bids Requested byTuesday, 8/21/12 to allow time for review and negotations

TRADES/MATERIALS: AC/Concrete Paving, Asphalt, CAB/CMB, Emulsion, Saw Cutting, Grinding, Truckers (to deliver materials & haul spoils), Pavement Striping, Steel Plates, Dump Sites, Street Sweeping, Installation of Traffic Loops, Ready Mix Plants, Traffic Control and/or Safety Equipment.

For Information on availability of plans & specifications and the bidder's policy concerning assistance to subcontractors in obtaining bonds, lines of credit, and/or insurance, please contact our office.

PAVECO CONSTRUCTION, INC.

Contact: Greg Fleming

5049 Bleecker Street • Baldwin Park, CA 91706 (626) 337-5589 • FAX: (626) 337-0549
E-mail: paveco@pavecoinc.com
Equal Employment Opportunity Employer
Paveco intends to seriously negotiate with qualified
MBE/WBE/OBE firms for project participation

RGW Construction Inc.

is seeking all qualified Disadvantaged Business Enterprises (DBE) owned subcontractors and supplies for the following project:

Dr. Joe Waidhofer Water Treatment Plant 10 MG Reservoir Project Stockton, CA

Owner: Stockton East Water District Engineers Estimate: \$12,000,000 330 days

Bids: August 22 @ 2:00 PM

Requesting Sub-quotes for (including but not limited to): Rebar, Electrical/control/programming, Concrete deck shoring, pump/pour/finish concrete, fencing and trucking.

Scope of Work: New 10 MG filtered water reservoir with modifications to existing piping, new piping, chemical feed, electrical and control system modifications required to provide power, monitoring and lighting for the new reservoir.

RGW Construction, Inc.

Contractors License A/B 591940 550 Greenville Road • Livermore, CA 94550 Phone: 925-606-2400 • Fax: 925-961-1925

Plans and Specs are available to view and copy at our office or can be obtained from Stockton East Water District Office (209)9484-0333. Contact Aaron Heppner 925-606-2400 for any questions, including bonding, lines of credit, or insurance or regarding material/supplies. Subcontractors should be prepared to submit payment and performance bonds equal to 100% of their quotation. For bonding and other assistance, please call.

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REQUESTING SUB-BIDS FROM QUALI-FIED MBE/WBE/OBE SUBCONTRACTORS/VENDORS FOR:

RFP #90062 - Identity Management System Enhancement

Department of Water and Power, of the City of Los Angeles Due August 20, 2012, 2:00 PM

Areas of work included in, but not limited to, the specialties: Requirement gathering and department analysis, Creating test cases for Oracle Identity Management, Creating Functional test cases for LADWP, Conducting functional testing of Oracle Identity Management, and conducting functional testing of LADWPs current applications.

For information on the availability of plans and specifications and the bidder's policy concerning assistance to subcontractors in obtaining bond, lines of credit, and/or insurance. Please contact our office before August 8, 2012 to review with us your proposed scope of work.

AST Corporation

Stacie Henn

1755 Park Street, Suite 100 • Naperville, IL 60563 (630) 778-1180, ext. 224 • (630) 778-1179 – fax shenn@astcorporation.com

REQUESTS FOR BIDS & SUB-BIDS

REQUESTING SUB-QUOTES FROM QUALIFIED UDBE SUBCONTRACTORS/SUPPLIERS FOR:

I-280 / I-880 / Stevens Creek Boulevard Interchange Improvements

Contract No.: C12048F
Federal Project No. HPLUL-6264 (053)
Owner: Santa Clara VTA
Engineers' Estimate: \$30,000,000.
BID DATE: August 23, 2012 @ 2:00 PM

Items of work include but are not limited to: Street Sweeping, CAS, Striping, Electrical, Crash Cushions, Signs, Landscape, Minor Concrete, Jacked Pipe, MBGR, Excavation, Trucking, Portable Changeable Message Signs, Survey, Clearing & Grubbing, Structural Concrete, Fence, Bridge Removal, SWPPP, Traffic Control, Cold Plane AC Placement, Erosion Control, AC Dike, Rebar, Misc. Metals, Retaining Walls and Concrete Barrier.

Plans/Specs available to view or copy at Pavex San Jose office. 100% payment and 100% performance bonds in the amount of the subcontractors bid will be required from a qualified surety company. Bonding assistance is available. Granite Rock Company dba Pavex Construction Division will pay bond premium up to 1.5%. Subcontractors are encouraged to contact Pavex Estimating for insurance requirements, or if any other assistance is needed.

Granite Rock Company DBA Pavex Construction Division

120 Granite Rock Way • San Jose, CA 95136 • Phone (408) 574-1400 • Fax (408) 365-9548 Contact: **Bob Williams** Email: bwilliams@graniterock.com • We Are An Equal Opportunity Employer



Robert L. Johnson, the Founder and Chairman of The RLJ Companies

■ Continued from page 1

planning services based in Charlotte, North Carolina; RLJ Equity Partners, a private equity fund that seeks expansion capital and buy out investment opportunities in six core industries; RLJ Select Investments, a multi-strategy hedge fund of funds platform; Urban Trust Holdings, a company that holds Urban Trust Bank, a federal thrift institution with operations in Florida, Washington, D.C., and Maryland, and a nationwide credit card operation; the NBA Charlotte Bobcats and Charlotte Arena Operations; Our Stories Films, a film production company based in Los Angeles; Caribbean Gaming & Entertainment (CAGE), a video lottery gaming company based in Puerto Rico with operations in St. Kitts and Barbados; and RLJ-McLarty-Landers Automotive Group.

Other ventures

Johnson also serves on the boards of General Mills. He is the first Black American to be the principal owner of a North American major-league sports franchise: He and minority investor Michael Jordan led the group that acquired the Charlotte Bobcats NBA expansion franchise, which began play in the fall of 2004. Until December 2006, he also owned the Charlotte Sting of the WNBA. However, he gave up his ownership of the Sting; when the WNBA was unable to find a buyer, the team folded on January 3, 2007. On February 26, 2010, Johnson entered into a definite agreement to sell the Bobcats to Jordan, who served as head of basketball operations under Johnson's ownership. Terms of the agreement were not immediately available, in the brief statement Johnson gave to the media. Johnson, had been seeking a buyer for months and there was another group bidding to buy the team. The NBA Board of Governors unanimously approved the sale to Jordan on March 17, 2010. Johnson planned to remain as a minority investor in Jordan's ownership group.

In late 2006, Johnson founded Our Stories Films, a Los Angeles-based film company. His partner is Harvey Weinstein, whose own new enterprise, the Weinstein Company, will serve as his distributor. JPMorgan Chase invested \$175 million into Our Stories. His private equity fund is financed partly by the Washington-based Carlyle Group, while his hedge fund has backing from Deutsche Bank. Further Johnson has recently petitioned for a license to place a new cable network known as UTV on ION Group's network which will hold an 49% percent stake while RLJ companies will hold an 51% stake in the company. The network, Johnson said, will not only focus on the black community but would be a multi-faceted network.

In 2007, Johnson was so inspired by new Liberian President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf that he and a delegation of several Black-American leaders toured Liberia and committed to revitalizing the historic relationship between Black-Americans and the war-torn country. This led to the creation of the \$30 million Liberia Enterprise Development Fund. Months later Johnson wrote a controversial letter to the Washington Post advocating that the new AFRICOM Military Command be based in Liberia. Johnson has also called for "African-Americans to support Liberia like Jewish-Americans support Israel". He was inducted into Junior Achievement's U.S. Business Hall of Fame in 2008.

On October 24, 2008 Barbados' Daily Nation newspaper revealed that the Cabinet of Barbados named Robert Johnson as their honorary Consul to North and South Carolina.

Involvement in 2008 Democratic Presidential Primary

In January 2008, Johnson became the target of criticism for remarks he made to supporters of Hillary Clinton about Barack Obama. Johnson said, "As an African-American, I'm frankly insulted that the Obama campaign would imply that we are so stupid that we would think Bill and Hillary Clinton, who have been deeply and emotionally involved in black issues when Barack Obama was doing something in the neighborhood that I won't say what he was doing, [but] he said it in his book." This statement was widely interpreted as a criticism of Obama's acknowledged use of marijuana and cocaine in his youth. The Clinton campaign denied this, submitting that the comments were referring to Obama's work as a community organizer. In subsequent days, Johnson was roundly criticized for his comments as hypocritical given the prodigious glorification of drug use and sale by artists prominently featured on BET.

On January 17, 2008, Johnson sent Obama the following apology: "I'm writing to apologize to you and your family personally for the un-called-for comments I made at a recent Clinton event. In my zeal to support Senator Clinton, I made some very inappropriate remarks for which I am truly sorry. I hope that you will accept this apology. Good luck on the campaign trail."

On April 14, 2008, Johnson made comments to the effect that Obama would not be the Democratic Party's leading candidate if he were not black, in support of the prior statement made by Geraldine Ferraro. He also went on to say "I make a joke about Obama doing drugs (and it's) 'Oh my God, a black man tearing down another black man.'

Source: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robert_L._Johnson



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REQUESTS FOR BIDS & SUB-BIDS

RGW Construction Inc.

is seeking all qualified UDBE (Black Americans, Native Americans, Asian-Pacific Americans and Women) DBE & SBE owned subcontractors and suppliers for the following project:

I-280/I-880/Stevens Creek Blvd. Interchange Improvements VTA Contract C12048F UDBE Goal 6.4%

Engineer's Estimate \$ 40,000,000 · 760 calendar days <u>Bids: August 23, 2012 @ 2:00 PM</u>

Requesting Sub-quotes for (including but not limited to): Construction Area/Roadside Signs, Type 60 Barrier, Bore & Jack, CIDH, Clear and Grub, Minor Concrete, Minor Concrete Structures, Concrete Paving, Demolition, AC Dike, Electrical, Erosion Control, Fence, Four and Pour Barrier, Joint Seal, Landscape and Irrigation, MBGR, Painting, Sign Structures, Soil Nail, Striping, Groove & Grind PCC, Pile Driving, Polyester Concrete, Lean Concrete Base, Micro Surfacing, Prestressing, Survey/ Staking and Trucking.

Scope of Work: Modifications to the I-880/Stevens Creek Boulevard Interchange and the SR-17/ I280/I-880 Interchange including Earthwork, paving, drainage, retaining walls, overcrossing structure modifications, signals, ramp meters and electrical work to convert the interchange into a partial clover-leaf, widening and adding ramps and an auxiliary lane.

RGW Construction, Inc.

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