## <u>REQUEST FOR PRESS COVERAGE</u>

CONTACT: Doris Carson Williams, President

African American Chamber of Commerce

Phone: 412-392-0610

## **Public Hearing**

Pennsylvania General Services Secretary Donald Cunningham will hold a press conference in Pittsburgh on Thursday, October 9, 2003 at 2:00 p.m. to announce Governor Edward Rendell's new initiative for Minority and Women-Owned Businesses.

This pivotal public hearing will focus on increasing participation in State contracting for women and minority enterprises.

Secretary Donald Cunningham will be joined by Pennsylvania State Representatives Joseph Preston, Jr. and Jake Wheatley to accept public comment from minority and women business enterprises on their previous experiences in participating in state contracting, and highlighting issues that may have an affect on the successful implementation of the initiatives, such as:

- Unified Certification
- > Access to Capital
- > Governmental Commitment

Also in attendance will be representatives from the Governor's Advisory Committee on Minority and Business Opportunities, The Allegheny County Department of Women and Minority Disadvantaged Business Enterprises, and the U.S. Small Business Administration.

Join us for this important event!

Thursday, October 9, 2003 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Regional Enterprise Tower The Theatre 7<sup>th</sup> Floor