

## **Courtney Edmonds – Director, Office of Supplier Diversity & Inclusion, WSSC Water**

Courtney Edmonds stands at the forefront of social justice and economic empowerment, establishing herself as a key figure in diversity, equity, and inclusion. As the Director of the Office of Supplier Diversity & Inclusion at WSSC Water, the 8th largest water and wastewater utility in the United States, Courtney is a driving force in promoting contracting equity for diverse and small businesses. Since becoming the Director of the Office of Supplier Diversity & Inclusion, WSSC Water has spent more than \$730 million with diverse businesses and awarded contracts totaling \$875 million to diverse firms. Her efforts are in direct alignment with WSSC Water's priorities of diversity, equity, inclusion and environmental justice, enriching the communities she and her colleagues proudly serve.

With nearly two decades of experience, Courtney has leveraged her skills in communications, diversity planning, and policy development to drive change and foster economic opportunities for underrepresented businesses. Her professional journey includes significant roles in Supplier Diversity, such as serving as Deputy Director for Business Development and Compliance at the State of Indiana's Division of Supplier Diversity where she championed the cause of underrepresented groups.

Born and raised in Indianapolis, Courtney earned her bachelor's degree in public relations at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, acquiring the skills that would later empower her to fearlessly advocate for diversity, equity, and inclusion in her professional life. Additionally, her recognition as a Master Compliance Administrator through Morgan State University and a Certified Professional in Supplier Diversity continues to demonstrate her deep commitment to fostering inclusivity and equity in the supply chain.

This commitment extends into her community engagement, serving on the executive board of the Prince George's Chamber of Commerce and actively participating with the Institute of Supply Management and American Contract Compliance Association.

As a visionary leader, Courtney dismantles barriers and cultivates opportunities for historically marginalized communities. Her unwavering commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion sets a powerful example, inspiring future leaders to advocate for economic empowerment, social equity, and environmental justice.