

**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**Justification and Approval  
Under**

**Simplified Acquisition Procedures (SAP)  
Simplified Acquisition Threshold (\$3K to \$150K)  
For Restricting Competition under FAR 13.106-1(b)(1) "Single Source"**

**1. Contracting Activity:**

Department of Veterans Affairs, Network Contracting Office (NCO) 20, for the Puget Sound VA Healthcare System in Seattle, WA.

**2. Nature of the Action Being Processed:**

This is a request for other than full and open competition to enter into a new firm fixed price contract with Hospitality Properties Trust doing business as Marriott for transplant patient lodging for the Puget Sound VA Healthcare System in Seattle, WA.

**3. Description of Services Required to Meet the Agency's Needs:**

This procurement under Purchase Request number 663-14-3-068-0025 is to prevent the displacement of veteran patients from the Marriott TownePlace Suites. The lodging was initially acquired under a BPA order with Lynnlux Logistics; however Lynnlux failed to pay the hotel and Marriott revoked Lynnlux's credit privileges as of March 27, 2014 and termination of the contract is in progress.

The estimated cost of a three month purchase order is \$120,000.00. This estimated cost is based on an average of 13 veterans staying in two-bedroom suites and 3 veterans staying in studio rooms per day. The TownePlace charges \$129.00 for a two-bedroom suite and \$89.00 for a studio. The VA authorizes lodging for the patient and one non-medical attendant. The performance period will be March 27, 2014 through June 1, 2014.

**4. Statutory Authority Permitting Restriction in Competition:**

The statutory authority for restricting competition under SAP, or Single Sourcing, for acquisitions under \$150,000.00 or Simplified Acquisition Threshold (SAT) is 41 U.S.C. 253 (c), as implemented by FAR 13.106-1(b)(1). The specific reason for restricting competition is that an urgent and compelling need exists, specifically to avoid further disruption in services that affect patient care. This justification is in accordance with FAR 6.001(a), acquisitions conducted under FAR 13 for SAP are exempt from the requirements of FAR Part 6, but still require a justification using the format of FAR 6.303-2, IAW the VHA SOP for Other Than Full And Open Competition dated 3-22-2011.

**5. Demonstration that the Contractor's Unique Qualifications or Nature of the Acquisition Requires the Use of the Authority Cited Above (applicability of authority):**

Bone marrow transplant patients are lodged in two separate extended stay hotels in the vicinity of the Puget Sound VA Healthcare System; Lynnlux Logistics acquired the rooms at the TownePlace Suites on credit for VA patient use. Lynnlux then paid the credit on a weekly basis. On March 24, 2014, Contracting received notice that Lynnlux Logistics was over 120 days past due and that the veterans would have to arrange for payment of their rooms beginning March 27 if Lynnlux did not make payment. Lynnlux failed to respond. TownePlace Suites was called and the manager agreed not to displace or request payment from the veterans until a suitable arrangement could be made.

Keeping the patients with TownePlace Suites is in the best interest of the veterans because the transplant patients are immune-compromised by nature of their conditions and the facility maintains the highest standards in cleanliness. In addition, of the two extended stay hotels used by the VA, only the TownePlace Suites had two-bedroom suites available for use by the veterans and their non-medical attendants. TownePlace Suites has adapted all of their common areas for ADA accessibility, offers shuttle service to and from the hospital, and the staff is familiar with the unique needs of the transplant patients.

**6. Description of Efforts Made to Ensure that Offers are Solicited from As Many Potential Sources as Deemed Practicable IAW FAR 13.104:**

Based on the circumstances outlined in Paragraph 5, no other sources were solicited at this time.

**7. Determination by the Contracting Officer that the Anticipated Cost to the Government will be Fair and Reasonable – IAW FAR 13.106-3:**

The estimated cost to the Government of \$129.00 for a two-bedroom suite and \$89.00 for a studio is considered fair and reasonable based on past procurements for the same type of service and represents a discount over current GSA per diem rates for King County, WA. Previously competed VA BPA VA260-13-A-0099 was written for the same rates. GSA per diem rates for lodging in Seattle is \$152.00.

**8. Description of the Market Research Conducted and the Results, or Statement of Reasons Market Research was not Conducted (FAR 10):**

No market research was conducted due to the short suspense time.

**9. Any Other Facts Supporting the Restriction of Competition:**

No other facts beyond what has been described above are available to support restricting competition.

**10. Listing of Sources that Expressed, in Writing, an Interest in the Acquisition:**

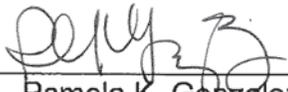
No vendors expressed interest in writing at this time.

**11. Statement of Actions, if any, the Agency May Take to Remove or Overcome any Barriers to Competition before Making Subsequent Acquisitions for the Supplies or Services Required:**

If additional accommodations are required past June 30, 2014, the contract specialist will continue to seek competition to the fullest extent possible.

**12. Requirements Certification - IAW FAR 6.303-2(c):**

I certify that the requirement outlined in this justification is a bonafide need of the Department of Veterans Affairs and that the supporting data under my cognizance, which are included in the justification, are accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Pamela K. Gonzalez  
Administrative Officer

4/22/14  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**13. Approvals IAW VHAPM, Volume Six, Chapter VI, SOP 3.2.1:**

- a. **Contracting Officer's Certification: (required)** I certify that the foregoing justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

  
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Krystal K. Weeks  
Contract Specialist  
NCO 20 Services Team

4/22/14  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

- b. **Acquisition Manager's Review and Approval:** I have reviewed the foregoing justification and find it to be complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief and recommend approval for other than full and open competition.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Andres Arredondo  
Contracting Officer  
NCO 20 Services 2 Team Manager

04/21/14  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date