

Attachment 2: Request for Sole Source Memo Format

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Justification and Approval

For

Other Than Full and Open Competition

1. **Contracting Activity:**

Department of Veterans Affairs
SAO East
323 North Shore Drive, Suite 500
Pittsburgh, PA 15212

Requesting Activity:

Department of Veterans Affairs
Malcolm Randall VA Medical Center
1601 SW Archer Road
Gainesville, FL 32608

Nature and/or Description of the Action Being Processed: This requirement is for the purchase of Ventilated Animal Racks, Free Flow Bedding Dispensers, and other associated items for these equipment items.

2. Description of Supplies/Services Required to Meet the Agency's Needs: A large number of VA funded investigators at the North Florida South Georgia VAMC at Gainesville Malcom Randall VA Medical Center are performing basic, translational and preclinical studies. The Malcom Randall VAMC has an on-site Veterinary Medical Unit (VMU) which houses mice, rats, and rabbits for use in the research conducted here. The VMU is an AAALAC-accredited center for all animal procurement and housing at the VA. The above listed equipment and systems are necessary to replace our existing worn out rodent cages. Allentown Inc. is the industry leader in manufacturing and supplying institutional animal care products. The equipment required for the immediate purchase is integral to existing rodent cages, housing rack system were purchased previously from this company. Therefore, to maintain the compatibility (size, dimensions etc.) with our existing cages and rack systems, we need to purchase the requested animal housing cages, ventilated rack systems to house these cages and bedding dispenser directly from Allentown Inc.

3. Statutory Authority Permitting Other than Full and Open Competition:

- (X) (1) Only One Responsible Source and No Other Supplies or Services Will Satisfy Agency Requirements per FAR 6.302-1;
- () (2) Unusual and Compelling Urgency per FAR 6.302-2;
- () (3) Industrial Mobilization, Engineering, Developmental or Research Capability or Expert Services per FAR 6.302-3;
- () (4) International Agreement per FAR 6.302-4
- () (5) Authorized or Required by Statute FAR 6.302-5;
- () (6) National Security per FAR 6.302-6;
- () (7) Public Interest per FAR 6.302-7;

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

Allentown is the only manufacturer with the capability to provide the exact requirements to meet the current dimensions and configurations of cages/bedding requirements already in place at the VA Medical Center. Allentown is the manufacturer and supplier of the existing ventilated rack and cage systems for our rodent housing. Familiarity to equipment from the same manufacturer has advantages not only to run the system smoothly, but also follow the routine maintenance easily.

5. Description of Efforts Made to ensure that offers are solicited from as many potential sources as deemed practicable:

The contracting officer posted a sources sought announcement for this, which included the salient features that were required for this piece of equipment. No responses were received to this posting. This will therefore be solicited on a sole source basis, as justified in accordance with this J&A.

6. Determination by the Contracting Officer that the Anticipated Cost to the Government will be Fair and Reasonable:

The anticipated price to the Government is \$182,165.00. As stated above, this price is based on commercial price lists from Allentown, Inc. The contracting officer will request similar commercial invoices from this vendor in order to determine this price as being fair and reasonable prior to contract award.

7. Description of the Market Research Conducted and the Results, or a Statement of the Reasons Market Research Was Not Conducted:

There is no other company that produces same size and dimension of animal care items listed above. A thorough search on animal housing product manufacturers websites, searched for their product lines, database queries, and contacting animal care experts at the University of Florida concluded that Allentown Inc. is the only company that can provide the requested items listed above.

8. Any other Facts Supporting the Use of Other Than Full and Open Competition:

Below are few additional facts that were evaluated:

- VMU Animal care facility's existing system compatibility (the requested animal housing cages, ventilated rack systems to house these cages and bedding dispenser only can work with our existing system since the size and dimension compatibility and had been purchase before from this company.
- Reputation of the vendor and solid customer service. Allentown Inc. is the industry leader in manufacturing and supplying institutional animal care products.
- Past history of excellent service records with Gainesville VA and [REDACTED]
- Quality and durability of the products

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

The contracting officer posted a sources sought for this requirement, to which no responses were received. This requirement will therefore be solicited on a sole source basis, in accordance with this J&A.

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The contracting officer posted a sources sought for this requirement, to which no responses were received. This requirement will therefore be solicited on a sole source basis, in accordance with this J&A.

10. A Statement of the 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:

No responses were received in response to the sources sought posted for this requirement.

11. Requirements Certification: I certify that the requirement outlined in this justification is a Bona Fide 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.

[Redacted]

05/30/2014

Date

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

12. Approvals in accordance with FAR 6.304

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

[Signature]

Cheryl Homison
Contracting Officer
SAO East

08/20/2014

Date

- b. **NCM/PCM (Required \$3K and above):** I certify the justification meets requirements for other than full and open competition.

Digitally signed by [Redacted]
DN: cn=[Redacted], ou=[Redacted], email=[Redacted]
Date: 2014.08.22 08:46:54 -04 00

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

[Redacted]

Date