

**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**  
**Justification and Approval (J&A)**  
**For**  
**Other Than Full and Open Competition**

1. **Contracting Activity:** Department of Veterans Affairs, Network Contracting Office 23, 708 South Third Street, Suite 200E, Minneapolis, MN 55415, on behalf of the Des Moines VA Medical Center. This is a Justification for Other Than Full and Open Competition.
2. **Nature and/or Description of the Action Being Processed:** Justification and approval for a new interim contract for \$67,696.00. The interim contract is for an Ophthalmology on-call service contract at the VA Central Iowa Health Care System (VA-CIHCS) main campus in Des Moines, IA. The contract will be a short term sole source fixed price HCR contract. There is no current contract in place to cover on-call coverage and has been paid previously on fee basis. It was recently identified that fee basis payment for on-call coverage is not allowed, leaving an immediate gap in on-call services.
3. **Description of Supplies/Services Required to Meet the Agency's Needs:** VA-CIHCS needs immediate services on contract with Des Moines Eye Surgeons for ophthalmology in-patient consultation and on-call services at the main Des Moines, IA campus. The interim contract will be for a six (6) month base period, with an option to extend for an additional six (6) months. Dr. David Ball at Des Moines Eye Surgeons has provided these services previously on fee-basis.
4. **Statutory Authority Permitting Other than Full and Open Competition:** 41 USC §253(c)(1), as implemented by FAR 6.302-1.

( XX ) (2) Unusual and Compelling Urgency per FAR 6.302-2;

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

There is not enough time to allow open competition of this requirement and maintain care to Veterans. There is no current contract in place to cover this requirement. The effective date for this short term must be August 1, 2015 due to these services being patient and mission critical. The VA cannot do without these services for the patients/Veterans, as well as supporting the local residency program. The incumbent service provider from fee basis, Des Moines Eye Surgeons, will continue the services under contract for the time being. This contractor has the resources (credentialed manpower, experience, physical location, technical/operational knowledge and computer system access) to perform these critical mission services for the short term contract. It is anticipated that a *minimum* of two hundred and twenty business days will be required to compete, procure and potentially transition the current workload to another contractor without disruption in services after a complete procurement package is developed by the Integrated Product Team (IPT).

It would not be practicable to complete an interim competitive contract for this shorter period due to the short timeframe needed to prevent a lapse in critical services. It would not be possible for other vendors to transition the current workload, credentialing and privileging without a significant disruption in services in the time required.

6. **Description of Efforts Made to ensure that offers are solicited from as many potential sources as deemed practicable:** N/A

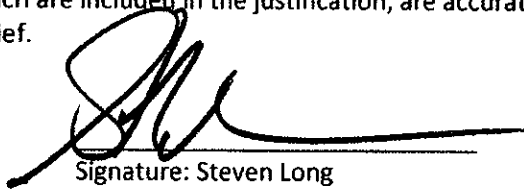
7. **Determination by the Contracting Officer that the Anticipated Cost to the Government will be Fair and Reasonable:** The Contracting Officer will determine the price fair and reasonable.
8. **Description of the Market Research Conducted and the Results, or a Statement of the Reasons Market Research Was Not Conducted:** Current market research has determined that there are no additional vendors in the area that could provide the required services in the short term. The long term contract may have additional competition but the contractors would have to go through significant costs and credentialing to provide the service and it would not be feasible for the short term and immediate need for this requirement.
9. **Any Other Facts Supporting the Use of Other than Full and Open Competition:** None
10. **Listing of Sources that Expressed, in Writing, an Interest in the Acquisition:**

Dr David Ball  
DBall@dmesurgeons.com  
Des Moines Eye Surgeons  
5901 Westtown Pkwy #200  
West Des Moines, Iowa 50266  
(515)225-3546 (main)

11. **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:**

An Integrated Product Team (IPT) was established and is working on the documentation required to release a long-term solicitation Ophthalmology service contract for VA-CIHCS.

12. **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.



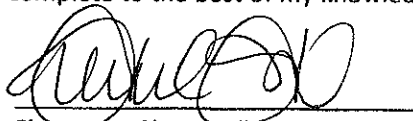
Signature: Steven Long  
COR Liaison  
VA-CIHCS



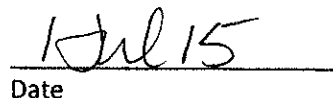
Date

13. **Approvals in accordance with the VHAPM, Volume 6, Chapter VI: OFOC SOP.**

- 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: Chara Collins  
Contract Officer  
NCO 23



Date