

JUSTIFICATION FOR AN EXCEPTION TO FAIR OPPORTUNITY

1. Contracting Activity: Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
Office of Acquisition Operations
Technology Acquisition Center
23 Christopher Way
Eatontown, New Jersey 07724
2. Description of Action: The proposed action is for a Firm-Fixed-Price modification to Task Order (TO) VA118-1007-0024 issued under the Transformation Twenty-One Total Technology (T4) Contract VA118-11-D-1007. This modification will be for increased technical support to accommodate additional, high priority defects in the BOSS enterprise solution under the Application Sustainment requirement. The period of performance of this effort will be from June 30, 2016 through June 29, 2017.
3. Description of the Supplies or Services: The TO described above is for the procurement of contractor support to provide software engineering services necessary to support Product Support activities; all necessary software development services; any necessary software licenses, short-term software maintenance, installation, testing and quality assurance, training, application marginal sustainment; and all documentation required to operate, maintain, and update the Burial Operations Support System (BOSS) Enterprise. Specifically, the Contractor shall analyze, assess, develop, and implement approximately 10 change requests (CR) for the BOSS Enterprise per month. On September 15, 2015, TO VA118-1007-0024 was awarded, and the Firm-Fixed-Price base period was fully funded. The Task Order is now in Option Period One Period of Performance (September 16, 2015 through September 15, 2016). At time of contract onset, the Government anticipated that 10 CRs per month would be suitable to address the backlog of trouble tickets managed by Product Support as, at that time, the BOSS enterprise solution was thought to be stable. However, in April, 2016, the Government was made aware of additional, high priority defects in the BOSS enterprise solution; specifically within the First Notice of Death (FNOD) functionality that requires immediate remediation. To accommodate these new defects, and not impact the National Cemetery Administration (NCA) business operations, the number of tickets addressed each month needs to be increased from 10 to 15. The total estimated price for this proposed modification is
4. Statutory Authority: The Statutory authority permitting an exception to fair opportunity is Section 41 U.S.C. 4106(c)(3) as implemented by the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Subpart 16.505(b)(2)(i)(C), entitled "The order must be issued on a sole-source basis in the interest of economy and efficiency because it is a logical follow-on to an order already used under the contract, provided that all awardees were given fair opportunity to be considered for the original order."
5. Rationale Supporting Use of Authority Cited Above: The proposed source for this action is CACI Technologies, Inc. (CACI), 14370 Newbrook Dr. Chantilly, VA, 20151. was awarded the original TO on September 15, 2014, on a competitive basis under the

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T4 contract vehicle. Awarding the proposed action as a logical follow-on provides significant economic and efficient value to the Government.

CACI currently provides Tier 3 sustainment support for the Memorial Affairs Legacy applications which includes the BOSS Enterprise. The Government has been made aware of additional, high priority defects related to the FNOD functionality in the BOSS enterprise solution that require immediate remediation and include the need to increase the number of change requests from 10 to 15 per month. CACI is the only vendor with the current resources and expertise required to remediate these newly identified defects in a timeframe that does not significantly impact Veterans. If a contractor other than CACI were tasked to complete this work, the new contractor would need to complete significant system discovery and requirements analysis in order to understand the BOSS architecture and design, which CACI has already completed. It is estimated that the discovery and analysis requirements process would take no less than 60 days in addition to the time required to begin the work and remediate the defects. The impact of this delay would have a significant impact on VA and Veterans. The FNOD functionality provides an automated process by which actions are taken to establish or update the Beneficiary Identification and Records Locator Subsystem record upon the death of their Veteran or their spouse and automatically cancels any benefits being provided. Also, individual users can view any unpaid spousal benefits and submit a request for any found to be unpaid. Expedient and accurate remediation of these defects is essential for VA to maintain the trust of the Veterans it services, and only CACI has the resident skillset and code level understanding to remediate these issues with the least impact to Veterans and Veteran's families. CACI, as the current contractor, has the ability to perform work without additional impact to the Government's schedule. Utilizing CACI for the additional work will ensure no impact to the NCA Business operations through expedient and accurate remediation of the aforementioned FNOD defects, for the duration of the surge in FNOD requirements. Therefore, CACI should provide support for the additional CRs to be addressed each month for the period of June 30, 2016-June 29, 2017.

6. Efforts to Obtain Competition: Market research was conducted, details of which are in the market research section of this document. This effort did not yield any additional potential sources that could provide the seamless support while the competitive procurement is solicited and awarded. Due to the critical need for continuity of support, there is no competition for this acquisition. In accordance with FAR 5.301(a)(2)(ii) the proposed action will be synopsisized on the Federal Business Opportunities (FBO) Page and this Justification for an Exception to Fair Opportunity will be also be posted to FBO.

7. Actions to Increase Competition: Barriers to future competition are not anticipated. Competitive procurements for the future requirements of the Sustainment of Memorial Affairs Legacy Tier 3 Support are anticipated.

8. Market Research: Market Research was performed in June 2016 by the Government's technical experts to determine the availability of other sources that are capable of satisfying the aforementioned requirements. Market Research was performed by researching various Contractors' capabilities under T4. While sources

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were found that could meet VA's general capabilities, no sources were found that could reasonably have the requisite code level review and skillset required to immediately remediate the significant defects in the VLER BOSS legacy application. As such, no other vendor than CACI could economically and efficiently meet VA's requirements in a seamless manner within the immediate timeframe required. It was determined that utilizing the already existing TO is the most efficient and suitable method for completing the Tier 3 sustainment support for the Memorial Affairs Legacy applications. Based on market research, CACI, as the incumbent contractor, has the already established technical expertise, technical approach, and approved access for completing the sustainment tasks under the current TO in the most time efficient and cost effective manner. Finally, schedule constraints do not allow for a separate TO to be competed and awarded under T4 before the current period of performance ends.

9. Other Facts: In accordance with FAR 16.505(b)(2)(i)(C), this logical follow-on effort shall be awarded on a sole-source basis as all awardees were given a fair opportunity to be considered for the original order.

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10. Technical and Requirements Certification: I certify that the supporting data under my cognizance, which are included in this justification, are accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.