

JUSTIFICATION FOR SINGLE SOURCE AWARDS IAW [FAR 13.106-1](#)
(OVER MICRO-PURCHASE THRESHOLD(\$3K) BUT NOT EXCEEDING THE SAT (\$150K))

IAW [FAR13.104](#), COs must promote competition to the maximum extent practicable to obtain supplies and services from the source whose offer is the most advantageous to the Government, considering the administrative cost of the purchase. When competition is not practicable, IAW [FAR13.106-1\(b\)](#), COs solicit from a single source for purchases not exceeding the simplified acquisition threshold. COs may solicit from one source if the CO determines that the circumstances of the contract action deem only one source reasonably available (e.g., urgency, exclusive licensing agreements, brand-name or industrial mobilization). IAW [FAR13.106-3\(b\)\(3\)](#), COs are required to include additional statements **explaining the absence of competition** (see [13.106-1](#) for brand name purchases) if only one source is solicited and the acquisition does not exceed the simplified acquisition threshold (does not apply to an acquisition of utility services available from only one source) or supporting the award decision if other than price-related factors were considered in selecting the supplier. This template when completed can be used to document single source awards IAW [FAR13.106-3\(b\)\(3\)](#). Note: Statements such as "only known source" or "only source which can meet the required delivery date" are inadequate to support a sole source purchase.

1. ACQUISITION PLAN ACTION ID:
VA251-16-AP-1179

1A. PROJECT/TASK
No. N/A

1B. ESTIMATED AMOUNT:
\$105,000.00

2. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SUPPLIES OR SERVICES REQUIRED AND THE INTENDED USE:

This requirement is for reference laboratory testing services for patients of the NIHCS, Marion, IN Campus located at 1700 East 38th Street, Marion, IN 46953. The testing menu will be varied and based upon test orders placed by the clinicians. This request is for the time period of 01/01/2016 through 3/31/2016. Total Estimated value for the three (3) month period of performance is \$105,000.00

3. UNIQUE CHARACTERISTICS THAT LIMIT AVAILABILITY TO ONLY ONE SOURCE, WITH THE REASON NO OTHER SUPPLIES OR SERVICES CAN BE USED:

Laboratory Corporation of America has been performing these services via a VISN wide BPA for the last five years. This three (3) months contract bridges the gap between the end of coverage for FY16 Q1 and the start of the new VISN 10 and 12 BPA estimated to be awarded 3/31/2016, which is being competed among FSS and GSA contract holders. In order to change from LabCorp to another vendor, there are numerous tasks that will take considerable coordination. Programming the new pathology lab codes, calibration, IT issues, and validation issues takes at least three (3) months to successfully change vendors. Utilizing the current reference lab testing vendor best ensures continuity of care. Conversion to a new reference lab for this bridge period would unduly complicate the tracking of patient results and cause the VA to be at significant risk for a patient incident. Changing vendors would also require significant installation of equipment, testing, training of new employees and contractor background investigations which would take at least three (3) months to complete. Currently, Laboratory Corporation of America has all the systems/courier/IT systems/staff in place and no other vendor could be operational by 01/01/2016.

4. REASON THAT SUGGESTED SOURCE IS THE ONLY SOURCE, WHICH CAN PROVIDE THE SUPPLIES OR SERVICES:

Please see Section 3 for details why the suggested source is the only source which can provide the reference laboratory services for the time period of 01/01/2016 through 03/31/2016.

5. DESCRIPTION OF MARKET RESEARCH CONDUCTED AND RESULTS OR STATEMENT WHY IT WAS NOT CONDUCTED:

FSS and the internet were searched; only one reference laboratory was able to provide the required services by 01/01/2016 and that is the incumbent, LabCorp. Market research was conducted by reviewing test menus, services, meeting with Quest Diagnostics and Laboratory Corporation of America representatives. It was evident that only Laboratory Corporation of America could provide the services needed by 01/01/2016 to meet the Government's needs in order to avoid interruption in service.

6. Contracting Officer's Certification: Purchase is approved in accordance with FAR13.106-1(b). I certify that the foregoing justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Signature:

Name: Jared Tritle
Title: Contracting Officer, Network Contracting Office 11