

Question 1: (General)

How many users currently have access to the incumbent's CALR services?

Answer: Approximately 750 users.

Question 2: (General)

How many subscriptions does the incumbent presently provide for each of the databases listed in the "Description of Deliverable Products" (PWS Section 3.2) and the Price/Cost Schedule (RFP Section B.5)?

Answer: VA current contract does not distinguish among users; all have access to all services included in the current contract.

Question 3: (Page 5, RFP Section B.2)

What other VA offices, outside OGC, will have the ability to use this contract?

Answer: (1) VHA Office of Regulatory and Administrative Affairs; (2) Office of Employment Discrimination Complaint Adjudication (ODECA); (3) Risk Management, and (4) Office of Regulation Policy and Management.

Question 4: (Page 5, RFP Section B.2)

What information can VA share about the potential online research needs of non-OGC offices?

Answer: General tracking of legislative statutes and regulations & Personnel Employment Law

Question 5: Section B.2 - Contract Terms and Conditions, General, Item #1 (page 5). The last sentence of Item #1 of Section B.2, General states, "VA requires the flexibility to use this contract for other online legal research needs which may be outside of OGC."

- Does VA intend to allow other offices and/or divisions within the VA (outside of the Office of General of Counsel) to utilize the contract resulting from this solicitation?

Answer: Yes. VA allows under its current contract; however, the number of users outside of OGC is relatively small.

Question 6: If other offices/divisions are contemplated under this solicitation, can VA please provide a list of eligible offices/divisions under VA that may participate in this contract, as well as the number of expected users for each office/division?

Answer: VA offices which do not currently hold an existing contract for similar services are eligible and may be allowed to participate under this contract. The current numbers are as follows: VHA Office of Regulatory and Administrative Affairs – 13 users; ODECA - 17 users; Risk Management – 1 user; Office of Regulation Policy and Management 3 users. VA does not anticipate a significant increase.

Question 7: (Page 6, RFP Section B.2; Pages 8-10, PWS 1.0, 2.0 & 4.0; and Pages 45-51, RFP Section B.5)

What are VA's expectations for growth (if any) in the numbers of users and subscriptions over the life of contract? Given the task order-based nature of the resultant contract, and its potential use for other online research needs outside of OGC, insight into any anticipated future growth will help offerors develop competitive pricing for the solicited CALR services.

Answer: At this time, VA does not anticipate exceeding 850 users over the life of the contract.

Question 8: (Pages 8-10, PWS 1.0, 2.0 & 4.0 and Pages 45-51, RFP Section B.5)

For approximately how many users and how many subscriptions will VA request access in the first few task orders? Since the period of performance starts on September 30, 2016, an understanding of VA's likely immediate needs will help offerors provide effective plans for transitioning, granting access to, training, and supporting users.

Answer: VA, OGC anticipates a need of at least 650 users on day 1.

Question 9: Section B.4 Performance Work Statement, 3.1 General Research (page 8). In the first bullet of Section 3.1, can VA please clarify the "ability to track changes" requirement? Is this referring to the ability to look at prior versions of statutes?

Answer: At a minimum the ability to look at prior versions; however, an ability to compare them or otherwise highlight changes is preferred.

Question 10: Section B.4 Performance Work Statement, 3.1 General Research (page 8). The last four bullets of Section 3.1 on page 8 do not appear to be covered in Attachment A or Attachment B. Can VA please confirm that these are mandatory research requirements?

Answer: They are not. Section 3.1 lists what VA wants to be available for all users – not just the specialized packages which OGC will add on for some users.

Question 11: Section B.4 Performance Work Statement, 3.1 General Research (page 8). The last bullet of Section 3.1 on page 8 states "Ability to systematically track

court decisions and/or legislation by individual users including automated email updates.” Is it a correct understanding that VA is seeking a research alert service or related functionality?

Answer: Yes. An alert service which each user can use/customize would meet this need

Question 12: (Page 8, PWS Section 3.1)

By “brief bank,” is VA referring to a general database of briefs collected from federal and state jurisdictions? Or to a collection of internal VA briefs?

Answer: General database of briefs collected from federal and state jurisdictions

Question 13: (Page 9, PWS Section 3.2(e) and Pages 45-51, RFP Section B.5)

Does the incumbent currently provide access to U.S. Patent Quarterly (1st-5th)?

Answer: No

Question 14: (Page 9, PWS Section 3.2(e) and Pages 45-51, RFP Section B.5)

As VA may be aware, U.S. Patent Quarterly (USPQ) is a proprietary, brand name publication that is only available from a single vendor: Bloomberg/BNA. Since Bloomberg/BNA has declined to make this content available through a third-party provider, we respectfully request that USPQ be removed from the RFP requirements.

Answer: As U.S. Patent Quarterly (USPQ) is a proprietary, brand name publication please provide similar/equivalent patent materials.

Question 15: Section B.4 Performance Work Statement, 3.2 Specialized User

Groups (page 9). Paragraph (e), Intellectual Property (and CLIN x005) references the U.S. Patent Quarterly, which is a proprietary publication. Would it be a correct understanding that equivalent patent reference materials are acceptable?

Answer: Correct. Section 3.2(e) and Section B.4 of the PWS states, “and any other intellectual property reference or treatise material available.”

Question 16: (Page 10, PWS 4.3)

Who will have administrative rights and authorization to issue user IDs?

Answer: Other than the COR; primarily the OGC Law Librarian – back up – at least one to two other designees from OGC Management, Planning, Analysis (MPA).

Question 17: (Page 10, PWS 3.3)

The “Other Databases Menu” requirement states that vendors are to “offer all other resources currently included in the Contractor’s system which VA may be granted access to.” We respectfully request that VA more fully articulate its specific requirements for additional resources, or otherwise clarify the intent of this broadly written language.

Answer: The intent is to allow OGC to utilize other resources which VA is not aware of at this time but may already be offered, or offered in the future, by the offeror. VA does not want to limit access to resources which the vendor may have available to offer, but we are not currently aware of.

Question 18: Standard industry practice is for access to content outside of a customer’s subscription to be charged at additional transactional rates due to royalty issues, third-party licensing requirements, and other factors. This practice would be in line with (a) VA’s request for terms for such resources (which would specify rates for transactional access) and (b) VA’s intent to restrict user access to them.

Answer: Any additional data base needed not covered in this contract would result in a modification to the contract for the additional cost.

Questions 19-23: (Page 12, PWS Section 4.4.7)

We have the following questions regarding the requirement for access to OGC private files:

- Where are documents currently housed? (i.e., in a document management system, file share, folder, etc.)

Answer: VA, OGC SharePoint System, general file system, and reference collection in its Law Library

- Is there a required hosting location? If not, does VA have a preference for a VA- or offeror-hosted private file?

Answer: No

- How many documents are in the current inventory?

Answer: Approximately 12,000

- How often are documents updated?

Answer: As needed – generally not more than quarterly.

- Approximately how many new documents are created each year?

Answer: In the past year – fewer than 30

Question 24: (Page 13, PWS 4.4.8 and Page 14, PWS 7.0)

In which worldwide locations are OGC users situated?

Answer: The entire United States (including HI & AK), Puerto Rico, and occasionally Guam

Question 25: Section B.4, Performance Work Statement, 5.0 Legislative History

(page 13). Section 5.0 requires access to legislative history materials. This appears to be duplicative of the Section 3.1 requirement for “Legislative history materials” (bullet #4). Can you please clarify how these two requirements may differ, and why Legislative History is the only content requirement to be specifically called out separately in the Evaluation Factors (see page 79)?

Answer: Please provide the “Legislative history” in 5.0. We will evaluate the history there.

Question 26: Section B.4 Performance Work Statement, 3.1 General Research

(page 8)/Attachment A (page 19). Section 3.1 requires access to “State & Federal” briefs. However, Attachment A (Mandatory Resources-Federal) requires only “Supreme Court Briefs”. Can you please clarify what level of briefs coverage VA needs?

Answer: VA seeks State and Federal briefs that are available, unless it is cost prohibitive – please note difference in offer.

Question 27: Section B.5 Price/Cost Schedule (pages 45-52). CLINs x001-x011 for each Period of Performance line up with Section 3.2 Specialized User Groups (pages 9-10). However, the CLINs do not address Section 3.1 (pages 8-9) at all. Shouldn’t there be a separate CLIN for the General Research content intended for up to 800 users (Section 3.1)? As the Price/Cost Schedule is currently written, VA users will not have access to Section 3.1 General Research content. This offeror respectfully suggests modifying the Section B.5 Price/Cost Schedule as outlined below (adding a new CLIN for Section 3.1 and modifying the final CLIN to specifically address all of Section 3.2):

Base Year: Period of Performance - October 1, 2016 to September 30, 2017

CLINS	Databases	Unit of Issue	Monthly Rate	# Of Subscriptions	Price
001	<u>Section 3.1 General Research and Section 5.0 Legislative History</u>	12 MO		800	
0002	<u>Employment Law:</u> Access to federal arbitrator's statistics, treatises, internal handbooks and manuals of the EEOC, FLRA, MSPB, and Department of Labor, worker's compensation decisions, and employment law.	12 MO		250	
0003	<u>Government Contracting:</u> Access to historical government contract material Federal Code and Regulations Federal and State court decisions. The Contractor database shall have capability to cross-check against other contract databases of current law with treatises, periodicals, newsletters, or reference books.	12 MO		200	
0004	<u>Medical Reference Material:</u> Access to medical reference material, such as the PDR, DSM, Dorland's, etc. Contractor database shall cross check against all treatises, manuals, and reference material in their databases.	12 MO		190	
0005	<u>Federal and State Jury Decisions and Settlements:</u> Access to compilations of jury decisions and Settlements from the 50 states and the territory of Puerto Rico. Offerors should provide a list of all combined and separate databases included in their proposal.	12 MO		190	
0006	<u>Intellectual Property:</u> Access to	12		10	

	accounts with access to the U.S. Patent Quarterly (1st-5th) and any other intellectual property reference or treatise material available.	MO			
0007	<u>Environmental Law:</u> Access to any specialized environmental law materials, including agency documents and manuals, reference materials, treatises, newsletters and periodicals.	12 MO		5	
0008	<u>Immigration Law:</u> Access to any specialized immigration law materials. Materials included in the offering should be listed and may include treatises, government handbooks, manuals and guides, decisions of immigration adjudicative bodies in Department of Labor and Department of Homeland Security, reference books, newsletters and other specific periodicals.	12 MO		1	
0009	<u>Information Law:</u> Access to any specialized information law material inclusive of the FOIA, Privacy Law, Information Security, and eDiscovery.	12 MO		30	
0010	<u>Appropriations and Fiscal Law:</u> Access to any specialized appropriations and fiscal law history inclusive of GAO Red Book, Opinions and Reports from the GAO, and Opinions and Reports from the OMB.	12 MO		30	
0011	<u>Veteran Benefits and Veteran Law:</u> Access to any specialized Veteran's law to include historical regulations, laws and Congressional history related; but not limited to, medical, housing, disability, benefits and compensation as well as Court	12 MO		30	

	of Appeals for Veteran Claims rulings and decisions.				
0012	Federal Histories, Regulations and Agency Rulemaking Related to; but not limited to Veterans, Veterans Affairs, Board of Veteran Appeals or Veteran Hospital Administration. The Contract databases shall cross check and reference other relevant case law or regulations.	12 MO		30	
0013	All-inclusive access to <u>Section 3.2 Specialized User Groups</u> databases (CLINs 0002 – 0012)	12 MO		400	
		TOTAL:			

Answer:

The Section B.5 Price/Cost Schedule is changed as Identified below. Please use the below pricing schedule for your proposal:

B.5 PRICE/COST SCHEDULE

NOTE: The pricing schedule below shall establish each offers proposed monthly subscription rate for each individual database. The contractor shall provide pricing for all the identified CLINs. The number of subscriptions column is only an estimate of the potential usage, and will be for evaluation purposes only. The Government does not guarantee the total number of subscriptions outlined.

Base Year: Period of Performance - September 30, 2016 to September 29, 2017

CLINS	Databases	Unit of Issue	Monthly Rate	# Of Subscriptions	Price
0001	<u>Section 3.1 General Research and Section 5.0 Legislative History</u>	12 MO		800	
0002	<u>Employment Law:</u> Access to federal arbitrator's statistics, treatises, internal handbooks and manuals of the EEOC, FLRA, MSPB, and Department of Labor, worker's compensation decisions, and employment law.	12 MO		250	
0003	<u>Government Contracting:</u> Access to historical government contract material Federal Code and	12 MO		200	

	Regulations Federal and State court decisions. The Contractor database shall have capability to cross-check against other contract databases of current law with treatises, periodicals, newsletters, or reference books.				
0004	Medical Reference Material: Access to medical reference material, such as the PDR, DSM, Dorland's, etc. Contractor database shall cross check against all treatises, manuals, and reference material in their databases.	12 MO		190	
0005	Federal and State Jury Decisions and Settlements: Access to compilations of jury decisions and Settlements from the 50 states and the territory of Puerto Rico. Offerors should provide a list of all combined and separate databases included in their proposal.	12 MO		190	
0006	Intellectual Property: Access to accounts with access to the U.S. Patent Quarterly (1st-5th) and any other intellectual property reference or treatise material available.	12 MO		10	
0007	Environmental Law: Access to any specialized environmental law materials, including agency documents and manuals, reference materials, treatises, newsletters and periodicals.	12 MO		5	
0008	Immigration Law: Access to any specialized immigration law materials. Materials included in the offering should be listed and may include treatises, government handbooks, manuals and guides, decisions of immigration adjudicative bodies in Department of Labor and Department of Homeland Security, reference books, newsletters and other specific periodicals.	12 MO		1	
0009	Information Law: Access to any specialized information law material inclusive of the FOIA, Privacy Law, Information Security, and eDiscovery.	12 MO		30	
0010	Appropriations and Fiscal Law: Access to any specialized appropriations and fiscal law history inclusive of GAO Red Book, Opinions and Reports from the GAO, and Opinions and Reports from the OMB.	12 MO		30	
0011	Veteran Benefits and Veteran Law: Access to any specialized Veteran's law to include historical regulations, laws and Congressional history related; but not limited to, medical, housing, disability, benefits and compensation as well as Court of Appeals for Veteran Claims rulings and decisions.	12 MO		30	

0012	Federal Histories, Regulations and Agency Rulemaking Related to; but not limited to Veterans, Veterans Affairs, Board of Veteran Appeals or Veteran Hospital Administration. The Contract databases shall cross check and reference other relevant case law or regulations.	12 MO		30	
		TOTAL:			

Option One Year: Period of Performance - September 30, 2017 to September 29, 2018

CLINS	Databases	Unit of Issue	Monthly Rate	# Of Subscriptions	Price
1001	<u>Section 3.1 General Research and Section 5.0 Legislative History</u>	12 MO		800	
1002	<u>Employment Law:</u> Access to federal arbitrator's statistics, treatises, internal handbooks and manuals of the EEOC, FLRA, MSPB, and Department of Labor, worker's compensation decisions, and employment law.	12 MO		250	
1003	<u>Government Contracting:</u> Access to historical government contract material Federal Code and Regulations Federal and State court decisions. The Contractor database shall have capability to cross-check against other contract databases of current law with treatises, periodicals, newsletters, or reference books.	12 MO		200	
1004	<u>Medical Reference Material:</u> Access to medical reference material, such as the PDR, DSM, Dorland's, etc. Contractor database shall cross check against all treatises, manuals, and reference material in their databases.	12 MO		190	
1005	<u>Federal and State Jury Decisions and Settlements:</u> Access to compilations of jury decisions and Settlements from the 50 states and the territory of Puerto Rico. Offerors should provide a list of all combined and separate databases included in their proposal.	12 MO		190	
1006	<u>Intellectual Property:</u> Access to accounts with access to the U.S. Patent Quarterly (1st-5th) and any other intellectual property reference or treatise material available.	12 MO		10	
1007	<u>Environmental Law:</u> Access to any specialized environmental law materials, including agency documents and manuals, reference materials, treatises, newsletters and periodicals.	12 MO		5	

1008	<u>Immigration Law:</u> Access to any specialized immigration law materials. Materials included in the offering should be listed and may include treatises, government handbooks, manuals and guides, decisions of immigration adjudicative bodies in Department of Labor and Department of Homeland Security, reference books, newsletters and other specific periodicals.	12 MO		1	
1009	<u>Information Law:</u> Access to any specialized information law material inclusive of the FOIA, Privacy Law, Information Security, and eDiscovery.	12 MO		30	
1010	<u>Appropriations and Fiscal Law:</u> Access to any specialized appropriations and fiscal law history inclusive of GAO Red Book, Opinions and Reports from the GAO, and Opinions and Reports from the OMB.	12 MO		30	
1011	<u>Veteran Benefits and Veteran Law:</u> Access to any specialized Veteran's law to include historical regulations, laws and Congressional history related; but not limited to, medical, housing, disability, benefits and compensation as well as Court of Appeals for Veteran Claims rulings and decisions.	12 MO		30	
1012	Federal Histories, Regulations and Agency Rulemaking Related to; but not limited to Veterans, Veterans Affairs, Board of Veteran Appeals or Veteran Hospital Administration. The Contract databases shall cross check and reference other relevant case law or regulations.	12 MO		30	
		TOTAL:			

Option Two Year: Period of Performance - September 30, 2018 to September 29, 2019

CLINS	Databases	Unit of Issue	Monthly Rate	# Of Subscriptions	Price
2001	<u>Section 3.1 General Research and Section 5.0 Legislative History</u>	12 MO		800	
2002	<u>Employment Law:</u> Access to federal arbitrator's statistics, treatises, internal handbooks and manuals of the EEOC, FLRA, MSPB, and Department of Labor, worker's compensation decisions, and employment law.	12 MO		250	
2003	<u>Government Contracting:</u> Access to historical government contract material Federal Code and Regulations Federal and State court decisions. The Contractor database shall have capability to cross-check against other contract databases of current law with treatises, periodicals, newsletters, or reference books.	12 MO		200	
2004	<u>Medical Reference Material:</u> Access to medical reference material, such as the PDR, DSM, Dorland's, etc. Contractor database shall cross check against all treatises, manuals, and reference material in their databases.	12 MO		190	
2005	<u>Federal and State Jury Decisions and Settlements:</u> Access to compilations of jury decisions and Settlements from the 50 states and the territory of Puerto Rico. Offerors should provide a list of all combined and separate databases included in their proposal.	12 MO		190	
2006	<u>Intellectual Property:</u> Access to accounts with access to the U.S. Patent Quarterly (1st-5th) and any other intellectual property reference or treatise material available.	12 MO		10	
2007	<u>Environmental Law:</u> Access to any specialized environmental law materials, including agency documents and manuals, reference materials, treatises, newsletters and periodicals.	12 MO		5	
2008	<u>Immigration Law:</u> Access to any specialized immigration law materials. Materials included in the offering should be listed and may include treatises, government handbooks, manuals and guides, decisions of immigration adjudicative bodies in Department of Labor and Department of Homeland Security, reference books, newsletters and other specific periodicals.	12 MO		1	
2009	<u>Information Law:</u> Access to any specialized information law material inclusive of the FOIA,	12 MO		30	

	Privacy Law, Information Security, and eDiscovery.				
2010	Appropriations and Fiscal Law: Access to any specialized appropriations and fiscal law history inclusive of GAO Red Book, Opinions and Reports from the GAO, and Opinions and Reports from the OMB.	12 MO		30	
2011	Veteran Benefits and Veteran Law: Access to any specialized Veteran's law to include historical regulations, laws and Congressional history related; but not limited to, medical, housing, disability, benefits and compensation as well as Court of Appeals for Veteran Claims rulings and decisions.	12 MO		30	
2012	Federal Histories, Regulations and Agency Rulemaking Related to; but not limited to Veterans, Veterans Affairs, Board of Veteran Appeals or Veteran Hospital Administration. The Contract databases shall cross check and reference other relevant case law or regulations.	12 MO		30	
		TOTAL:			

Option Three Year: Period of Performance - September 30, 2019 to September 29, 2020

CLINS	Databases	Unit of Issue	Monthly Rate	# of Subscriptions	Price
3001	Section 3.1 General Research and Section 5.0 Legislative History	12 MO		800	
3002	Employment Law: Access to federal arbitrator's statistics, treatises, internal handbooks and manuals of the EEOC, FLRA, MSPB, and Department of Labor, worker's compensation decisions, and employment law.	12 MO		250	
3003	Government Contracting: Access to historical government contract material Federal Code and Regulations Federal and State court decisions. The Contractor database shall have capability to cross-check against other contract databases of current law with treatises, periodicals, newsletters, or reference books.	12 MO		200	
3004	Medical Reference Material: Access to medical reference material, such as the PDR, DSM, Dorland's, etc. Contractor database shall cross check against all treatises, manuals, and reference material in their databases.	12 MO		190	

3005	<u>Federal and State Jury Decisions and Settlements:</u> Access to compilations of jury decisions and Settlements from the 50 states and the territory of Puerto Rico. Offerors should provide a list of all combined and separate databases included in their proposal.	12 MO		190	
3006	<u>Intellectual Property:</u> Access to accounts with access to the U.S. Patent Quarterly (1st-5th) and any other intellectual property reference or treatise material available.	12 MO		10	
3007	<u>Environmental Law:</u> Access to any specialized environmental law materials, including agency documents and manuals, reference materials, treatises, newsletters and periodicals.	12 MO		5	
3008	<u>Immigration Law:</u> Access to any specialized immigration law materials. Materials included in the offering should be listed and may include treatises, government handbooks, manuals and guides, decisions of immigration adjudicative bodies in Department of Labor and Department of Homeland Security, reference books, newsletters and other specific periodicals.	12 MO		1	
3009	<u>Information Law:</u> Access to any specialized information law material inclusive of the FOIA, Privacy Law, Information Security, and eDiscovery.	12 MO		30	
3010	<u>Appropriations and Fiscal Law:</u> Access to any specialized appropriations and fiscal law history inclusive of GAO Red Book, Opinions and Reports from the GAO, and Opinions and Reports from the OMB.	12 MO		30	
3011	<u>Veteran Benefits and Veteran Law:</u> Access to any specialized Veteran's law to include historical regulations, laws and Congressional history related; but not limited to, medical, housing, disability, benefits and compensation as well as Court of Appeals for Veteran Claims rulings and decisions.	12 MO		30	
3012	Federal Histories, Regulations and Agency Rulemaking Related to; but not limited to Veterans, Veterans Affairs, Board of Veteran Appeals or Veteran Hospital Administration. The Contract databases shall cross check and reference other relevant case law or regulations.	12 MO		30	
		TOTAL:			

Option Four Year: Period of Performance - September 30, 2020 to September 29, 2021

CLINS	Databases	Unit of Issue	Monthly Rate	# Of Subscriptions	Price
4001	<u>Section 3.1 General Research and Section 5.0 Legislative History</u>	12 MO		800	
4002	<u>Employment Law:</u> Access to federal arbitrator's statistics, treatises, internal handbooks and manuals of the EEOC, FLRA, MSPB, and Department of Labor, worker's compensation decisions, and employment law.	12 MO		250	
4003	<u>Government Contracting:</u> Access to historical government contract material Federal Code and Regulations Federal and State court decisions. The Contractor database shall have capability to cross-check against other contract databases of current law with treatises, periodicals, newsletters, or reference books.	12 MO		200	
4004	<u>Medical Reference Material:</u> Access to medical reference material, such as the PDR, DSM, Dorland's, etc. Contractor database shall cross check against all treatises, manuals, and reference material in their databases.	12 MO		190	
4005	<u>Federal and State Jury Decisions and Settlements:</u> Access to compilations of jury decisions and Settlements from the 50 states and the territory of Puerto Rico. Offerors should provide a list of all combined and separate databases included in their proposal.	12 MO		190	
4006	<u>Intellectual Property:</u> Access to accounts with access to the U.S. Patent Quarterly (1st-5th) and any other intellectual property reference or treatise material available.	12 MO		10	
4007	<u>Environmental Law:</u> Access to any specialized environmental law materials, including agency documents and manuals, reference materials, treatises, newsletters and periodicals.	12 MO		5	
4008	<u>Immigration Law:</u> Access to any specialized immigration law materials. Materials included in the offering should be listed and may include treatises, government handbooks, manuals and guides, decisions of immigration adjudicative bodies in Department of Labor and Department of Homeland Security, reference books, newsletters and other specific periodicals.	12 MO		1	
4009	<u>Information Law:</u> Access to any specialized information law material inclusive of the FOIA,	12 MO		30	

	Privacy Law, Information Security, and eDiscovery.				
4010	Appropriations and Fiscal Law: Access to any specialized appropriations and fiscal law history inclusive of GAO Red Book, Opinions and Reports from the GAO, and Opinions and Reports from the OMB.	12 MO		30	
4011	Veteran Benefits and Veteran Law: Access to any specialized Veteran's law to include historical regulations, laws and Congressional history related; but not limited to, medical, housing, disability, benefits and compensation as well as Court of Appeals for Veteran Claims rulings and decisions.	12 MO		30	
4012	Federal Histories, Regulations and Agency Rulemaking Related to; but not limited to Veterans, Veterans Affairs, Board of Veteran Appeals or Veteran Hospital Administration. The Contract databases shall cross check and reference other relevant case law or regulations.	12 MO		30	
		TOTAL:			

Grand Total _____

Question 28-29: Section B.5 Price/Cost Schedule (pages 45-52). CLIN x012 in the Base Year and subsequent Option Years refers to "All-inclusive access to all databases (CLINs x001-x011)".

Since CLIN x012 refers specifically to CLINs x001-x011, is it a correct understanding that this line item refers specifically to the content specified in Section 3.2 Specialized User Groups, and not Section 3.1 General Research? Please clarify.

Answer: Please see the new CLIN structure as the answer to question 27 above.

If that is a correct understanding, shouldn't the number of Subscriptions be listed as 300, not 400, as Section 3.2 specifically states that Specialized User Groups is for "as many as 300 users (page 9)? Please clarify.

Answer: Please see the new CLIN structure as the answer to question 27 above.

Question 30-31: (Pages 45-51, RFP Sections B.5 and B.2 and PWS 3.3)

Is the flexibility for offerors to propose additional CLINs? Allowing offerors to suggest CLINs for firm-fixed price (FFP) access to other content and solutions will help support VA's goal to use this contract for other, non-OGC research needs. It will also help OGC users meet their own evolving legal needs.

Answer: No. Please leave CLIN structure as written.

If offerors are permitted to propose CLINs, please describe how such CLINs will be evaluated.

Answer: See above response.

Question 32: (Pages 45-51, RFP Section B.5 and PWS 1.0)

Is there a one-to-one correspondence between users and subscriptions (i.e., each user requires one database subscription)? Or, are there users that require multiple subscriptions? If the latter, approximately how many users require more than one database subscription?

Answer: User needs vary. Some users will require / receive only the General Research, and others may require one, two, three or possibly four databases. OGC desires to ensure that all VA users have what they require while providing the greatest value to the government.

Question 33: (Pages 79-80, Section E.8)

How long will offerors' representatives have to perform the product demonstration referenced under Technical Subfactor 3?

Answer: Total of two hours (including Q&A's).

Question 34: (Pages 79-80, Section E.8)

Will offerors have access to an Internet connection to demonstrate their products?

Answer: VA expects a demonstration to be performed using the same tool which the offeror intends to use for online training pursuant to the contract.

Question 35: (Pages 79-80, Section E.8)

Roughly how long after the RFP's closing date does VA expect to schedule product demonstrations? Understanding this anticipated timeframe will help all offerors coordinate schedules to ensure the necessary resources and experts are available.

Answer: 7 – 10 calendar days after the closing of the RFP. Although VA is willing to be as flexible with the day for a demonstration, all demonstrations should be scheduled and completed by Sept. 5th.

Question 36-37: (Page 80, Section E.8)

The RFP's Price Factor Evaluation Approach indicates that VA will evaluate offerors' Price Schedules based upon their respectively proposed monthly rates. While the Price Schedule in Section B.5 is based upon a number of subscriptions (a total of either 966 or 1,366, depending on which CLINs are included), many other RFP sections refer to a different quantity: the number of users (approximately 800). As written, it is unclear as to how much the definitions of user and subscription may differ or overlap. Their varied uses results in uncertainty about the quantities that may be used to propose monthly rates and perform the price evaluation.

Answer: All users will have General Research, additional specialized "subscriptions" we expect to be priced per user per subscription. Please see the new CLIN structure as the answer to question 27 above.

Will VA be evaluating offerors' monthly per-user rate or monthly per-subscription rate?

Answer: All users will have General Research, additional specialized "subscriptions" we expect to be priced per user per subscription. Please see the new CLIN structure as the answer to question 27 above.

Question 38: Attachment 4 Potential Demonstration Criteria. Item #8 in Attachment 4 states "ability to cross reference state legislative materials." Can you please clarify what you are seeking here?

Answer: Links from state statutes to legislative materials where the state statute relies on criteria which are set by legislative adjustments, such as damages caps.

Question 39: Attachment 4 Potential Demonstration Criteria. Attachment 4 provides a list of potential questions or actions for the demonstration. This offeror notes that #12 is related to public records and #24 is related to white papers. The solicitation does not require access to public records or white papers. Also, this content is not available under the current CALR contract (but could be made available at an additional cost). This offeror respectfully recommends that the demonstration be limited to content and/or functionality that is actually included in the solicitation requirements.

Answer: I believe that item "k" under deliverables does speak to white papers – so might "f". Might not Public records or other white papers as needed may be available under 3.3?

Answer: VA identifies public records and white papers as falling within Section 3.2 and 3.3, respectively.

