

## BRAND NAME ONLY

### JUSTIFICATION FOR SINGLE SOURCE AWARDS IAW [FAR 13.106-1](#) (OVER MICRO-PURCHASE THRESHOLD(\$3.5K) 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:  
[VA246-17-AP-6168](#)

1A. PROJECT/TASK  
No.

1B. ESTIMATED AMOUNT:  
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#### 2. BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF SUPPLIES OR SERVICES REQUIRED AND THE INTENDED USE:

The Research service line at the Durham VA Medical Center is requesting Brand Name ONLY- Hyclone Fetal Bovine Serum cell culture Lot# AB10092300. The fetal bovine serum is added to culture medium to grow and maintain cell and tissue cultures in vitro (outside a living organism). In vitro experiments are used in research as a quick, efficient, and cost-effective method of developing and iterating tissue engineering protocols without the need to use expensive and time-consuming live animal studies.

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

Hyclone (a product of GE Healthcare) is the only brand which can supply the specific lot of serum needed. The research service line has already screened three (3) lots of serum from 3 different manufacturers to evaluate cell growth and differentiation. Growth and differentiation are sensitive to this specific serum lot. Hyclone was identified as the brand as being most successful to use for the research studies.

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

Market research was conducted by first checking GSA eLibrary and GSA Advantage. Fetal bovine serum as found but not when the word Hyclone as added. The VIP website was searched using NAICS code 339113 and the word "Hyclone". The search yielded 0 vendors. A Sources Sought notice (VA246-17-N-0128) was posted on FBO on 3/2/17 to seek small business sources. There were no responses from any small businesses. There are two (2) known sources - GE Healthcare and VWR International – both are large businesses.

**5. 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. Note: COs are required to make a determination of price reasonableness IAW FAR 13.106-3. See the [Commercial Supply and Service SOP](#) for Price Reasonableness templates.*



Dori Dabbs 3/9/2017  
Contracting Officer  
NCO 6