

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Justification and Approval (J&A)
For
Other Than Full and Open Competition (>\$150K)

Acquisition Plan Action ID: VA257-17-AP-11048

1. **Contracting Activity:** The Department of Veterans Affairs, Network Contracting Office (NCO17), 2002 Scott Blvd., Temple, TX 76504 intends to enter into a sole source contract based on this Justification for Other than Full and Open Competition for the Central Texas Veterans Healthcare System (CTVHCS), Primary Care Service, Austin Outpatient Clinic, Austin, TX. Purchase Request No. 674-18-1-722-0003.
2. **Nature and/or Description of the Action Being Processed:** The CTVHCS Primary Care Service has a continuing need for Primary Care Physician Services to be provided to Veteran beneficiaries of the VA Austin Outpatient Clinic, Austin, TX. This is an urgent requirement due to the unexpected retirement of a current VA primary care physician at the Austin Outpatient Clinic. This requirement is for a follow-on contract to be established for a three (3) month base period, October 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017, with two (2) three (3) month optional renewal periods. Option periods are being included to ensure that physician coverage is provided until a permanent VA physician can be employed and brought on board, which includes credentialing and privileging that may take several months to complete. This requirement is needed to provide continued primary care physician services to ensure that services are not interrupted and direct patient care is not jeopardized.

This procurement is for Primary Care Physician Services, which is a commercial item service, being procured in accordance with FAR 13.5 Simplified Procedures for Certain Commercial Items and specifically FAR 13.501 Special Documentation Requirements, where acquisitions conducted under Simplified Acquisition Procedures are exempt from the requirements of FAR Part 6, but still require a justification using the format of FAR 6.303-2.

3. **Description of Supplies/Services Required to Meet the Agency's Needs:** This requirement is for Primary Care Physician Services to be provided on site at the CTVHCS Austin Outpatient Clinic, Austin, TX. The existing contract will expire on September 30, 2017. Due to the unexpected retirement of a VA Physician at the Austin Outpatient Clinic it is in the Government's best interest to establish a follow-on contract on an emergency basis, which will allow for the Physician currently under contract to be able to continue providing services without interruption to patient clinical care. The estimated costs of this procurement is \$ 225, 000.00 for the base and option periods.

4. **Statutory Authority Permitting Other than Full and Open Competition:**

- (1) Only One Responsible Source and No Other Supplies or Services Will Satisfy Agency Requirements per FAR 6.302-1;
- (2) Unusual and Compelling Urgency per FAR 6.302-2;
- (3) Industrial Mobilization, Engineering, Developmental or Research Capability or Expert Services per FAR 6.302-3;
- (4) International Agreement per FAR 6.302-4
- (5) Authorized or Required by Statute FAR 6.302-5;
- (6) National Security per FAR 6.302-6;
- (7) Public Interest per FAR 6.302-7;

5. **Demonstration that the Contractor's Unique Qualifications or Nature of the Acquisition Requires the Use of the Authority Cited Above (applicability of authority):** The services required by this procurement are essential to direct patient care. This requirement is being procured solely from Ansible Government Solutions, LLC, a Service Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business, to provide continued uninterrupted direct patient care services. The provider providing services under the expiring contract is currently credentialed and privileged; background investigation has been completed; currently holding a valid VA issued PIV; is trained on VA policies and computer (i.e. CPRS) processes; thereby alleviating the need for these lengthy processes and ensure that the services will not be interrupted and patient care will not be jeopardized.

6. **Description of Efforts Made to ensure that offers are solicited from as many potential sources as deemed practicable:** This requirement is being procured in accordance with FAR 6.302-2, Unusual and Compelling Urgency, as cited in paragraph 4 above. Due to the need to continue these direct patient care services without interruption this requirement is being procured as an emergency due a staff shortage caused by the unexpected retirement of a VA Physician at the Austin Outpatient Clinic. Due to the emergent need for the Primary Care Physician on a temporary basis other sources were not sought for this requirement.

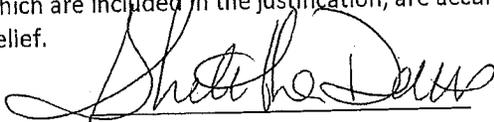
The intent to award this requirement on a sole source basis will be publicized on the Federal Business Opportunities website.

7. **Determination by the CO that the Anticipated Cost to the Government will be Fair and Reasonable:** The cost of this procurement is considered both fair and reasonable to the Government based on current and past procurement history as well as the independent government cost estimate.

8. **Description of the Market Research Conducted and the Results, or a Statement of the Reasons Market Research Was Not Conducted:** Due to the urgency of this requirement market research is not required to be conducted.

VHAPM Part 806.3 Other Than Full and Open Competition (OFOC) SOP
Attachment 2: Request for Sole Source Justification Format >\$150K

9. **Any Other Facts Supporting the Use of Other than Full and Open Competition:** Due to the need for services to continue on an emergency basis beyond September 30, 2017, to prevent compromised direct patient care, it is in the Government's best interest to award the contract to Ansible Government Solutions, LLC on a sole source basis.
10. **Listing of Sources that Expressed, in Writing, an Interest in the Acquisition:** There are no other sources that have expressed, in writing, an interest in this acquisition.
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:** As stated above, this procurement is to provide temporary services for a specific period to ensure patient care is not jeopardized until a full-time permanent VA Physician is brought on board to fill the vacancy caused by the unexpected retirement of a VA Primary Care Physician at the Austin Outpatient Clinic.
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.



Sheletha Davis
Administrative Officer, Ambulatory Care Service
Central Texas Veterans Health Care System

9/25/17
Date

13. **Approvals in accordance with the VHAPM Part 806.3 OFOC SOP:**

- a. **Contracting Officer or Designee's Certification (required):** I certify that the foregoing justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

Sandra K. Archuleta
Contracting Officer
Network Contracting Office (NCO17)

09/26/2017
Date

- b. **One Level Above the Contracting Officer (Required over \$150K but not exceeding \$700K):** I certify the justification meets requirements for other than full and open competition.

Daryl A. Stewart
Chief, Medical Sharing Branch
Network Contracting Office (NCO17)

9/26/2017
Date