

## DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

### Justification and Approval Under Simplified Acquisition Procedures for Restricting Competition

1. **Contracting Activity:** Department of Veterans Affairs, VISN 20, Vancouver, WA
2. **Nature and/or Description of the Action Being Processed:** for PR # 663-12-3-961-0106. This procurement is for housekeeping service provided by TATCO. The requirement comes from *VAPSHCS General Medicine Service Line* where in accordance with FAR 13.5 Test Program for Certain Commercial Items and specifically FAR 13.501 Special Documentation Requirements, 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 IAW the VHA SOP for Other Than Full And Open Competition dated 3-22-2011.
3. **Description of Supplies or Services Required to Meet the Agency's Needs:**  
The requirement is to provide general housekeeping services of the Port Angeles Outreach Clinic - beginning 1 July 2012 to 30 Sep 2012. The total amount of this acquisition is estimated at \$4,236.00.
4. **Statutory Authority Permitting Restriction in Competition:**  
The statutory authority for restricting competition under SAP, or Single Sourcing, for acquisitions over \$150,000 or Simplified Acquisition Threshold (SAT) is 41 U.S.C. 253(c), as implemented by FAR 13.106-1. The specific reason for restricting competition is an urgent and compelling need for a temporary bridge contract. There is not enough time to conduct a proper full open-market competition before the current contract expires. A full and open competitive RFQ will be issued in the coming months to eliminate the need for a second bridge contract.
5. **Demonstration that the Contractor's Unique Qualifications or Nature of the Acquisition Requires the Use of the Authority Cited Above (applicability of authority):**  
Tatco Services, Inc. is the only source that can provide for our urgent requirement, and ensure the VA has uninterrupted continuation of these vital services, as the period of performance will expire on 30 June 2012. During the second option period of this contract, the current contractor notified the Government that services would no longer be provided after 30 June 2012 as the contractor is going out of business. Tatco Services, Inc. was interested in buying the company and a novation would have taken place. The post-award services team was in contact with all parties to coordinate the novation.

The paperwork was signed by both parties to demonstrate their intent and goodwill to carry out this process. A closing date of June 1, 2012 was set. The Government was notified on 5 June 2012 that the novation would not happen. Plan B was set into place whereby the Government would develop a short-term bridge contract to continue critical services. Tatco Services, Inc. agreed to the bridge for both the Bremerton (this contract action) and Port Angeles locations.

Tatco Services, Inc. has staff that has performed this work in the past and has already completed VA background processing. A temporary bridge contract must be established to prevent in order to prevent an unsafe work environment for patients and staff. Loss of housekeeping services for any

length of time is a serious breach of health and safety policy for a healthcare environment, not having these services could potential create a work stoppage at the clinic.

**6. Description of Efforts Made to Ensure that Offers are Solicited from As Many Potential Sources as Deemed Practicable IAW FAR 13.104:**

Under normal circumstances this procurement would fall under usual requirements for open-market competition and be open to bidding by any and all eligible contractors. However, the urgent and compelling nature of the order (described in sections 4 and 5 above) precludes procurement for this bridge requirement, from any source other than the incumbent.

**7. Determination by the Contracting Officer that the Anticipated Cost to the Government will be Fair and Reasonable – IAW FAR 13.106-3:**

Price reasonableness will be based on market research, a comparison with similar pricing in related industry, and a comparison to pricing of current contract.

**8. Description of the Market Research Conducted and the Results, or Statement of Reasons Market Research was not Conducted (FAR 10):**

A limited amount of market research was conducted, due to the urgency of the requirement. A search for other potential suppliers was limited to the current contract. Tatco Services, Inc. and the current contractor, By George, were completing the novation process as of May 2012. The novation will not be taking place. Tatco Services, Inc. is willing to fulfill the requirements of a bridge contract to provide continued critical services. The results of market research indicated the service is commercially available to meet the Government's need; however the urgent need to ensure the uninterrupted continuation of services causes a need to procure from the known incumbent for a temporary bridge contract.

**9. Any Other Facts Supporting the Restriction of Competition:**

No other facts to report.

**10. Listing of Sources that Expressed, in Writing, an Interest in the Acquisition:**

FedBizOpps Posting: The requirement will not be synopsized in accordance with 5.202(a)(2), in that this acquisition is being conducted under unusual and compelling urgency and the Government would be seriously injured if the agency complies with the time periods specified in 5.203, however, this justification will be posted as applicable.

**11. Statement of 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:**

The proposed contract is for 3 (three) months, which allows the VA VISN 20 Network Contracting Activity enough time to compete the requirement. There is a plan to re-compete for the Housekeeping service for a one (1) year base, plus three month option period. The second option period will be 3 months in duration (due to the lease terms ending and the clinic moving). The requirement has been identified and the acquisition planning will commence following the award of this temporary bridge contract. A presolicitation synopsis will be posted in accordance with FAR 5.201 for the new extended term contract.

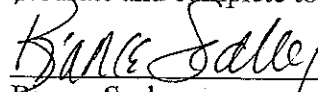
**12. Requirements Certification - IAW FAR 13.501:**

I certify that the requirement outlined in this justification is a bonafide 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.

 6/20/2012  
Chris Foster  
CBOC Coordinator/COTR


**13. Approvals in accordance with FAR 13.501:**

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

  
Bianca Sealey  
Contracting Officer  
NCO 20 Services Acquisitions Team

6/21/2012  
Date

- b. **Acquisition Manager's Review and Approval:** I have reviewed the foregoing justification and find it to be complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief and recommend approval for other than full and open competition.

  
David Stokes  
NCO 20 Services Team Manager

6/21/2012  
Date