

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS

Justification and Approval For Other Than Full and Open Competition

1. **Contracting Activity:** Department of Veterans Affairs, VISN 7, *Atlanta VA Medical Center*
2. **Nature and/or Description of the Action Being Processed:** This is a request for other than full and open competition for the procurement of Research Assistant services for VAI2 Stroke Telerehabilitation.
3. **Description of Supplies/Services Required to Meet the Agency's Needs:** This contract is needed in support of the VAI2 project. Pawan Basati Co. (a Small Business) will be responsible for helping organize administrative paperwork (e.g. maintaining the regulatory binder & managing IRB/R&D paperwork); overseeing accurate data entry into a secure database; providing updated study binders and related documentation, informed consent documents, completed and scored test protocol forms, and summary sheets for study participants. They will also provide regular internal consistency reports in order to minimize testing-related errors that could affect data integrity.
4. **Statutory Authority Permitting Other than Full and Open Competition:** (1) Only one responsible source and no other supplies will satisfy agency requirements. Agency Requirements per FAR 6.302-1;
5. **Demonstration that the Contractor's Unique Qualifications or Nature of the Acquisition Requires the Use of the Authority Cited Above (applicability of authority):** This company must have extensive knowledge of clinical research protocols, a background in health related research, statistics, and expertise in psychophysical test administration, scoring, and interpretation. The company has several practitioners who have completed doctoral coursework in clinical medicine (including neuroanatomy and statistics). Moreover, many of them have well over 2000 hours of test-related experience in multiple environments (hospitals, universities, community, etc.) and with a wide variety of patient populations. Thus, Pawan Basati Co. is uniquely qualified to perform the required duties that are critical for this study.
6. **Description of Efforts Made to ensure that offers are solicited from as many potential sources as deemed practicable:** A sources sought notice was publicized via FedBizOpps (100% Small Business Set-Aside) on April 10, 2012 through April 13, 2012. No capability literature was received.
7. **Determination by the Contracting Officer that the Anticipated Cost to the Government will be Fair and Reasonable:** IAW FAR Part 13.106-3(a)(2)(iv), a comparison with similar items in a related industry may be used as a basis to establish price reasonableness. Subsequent comparisons with competitive commercial price lists for similar Research Assistant services offered by the Contractor determine the price of \$35.68 per hour (x1400 hours= \$49,952.00) to be fair and reasonable to the Government. The hourly rate for equivalent services can range from \$ 47.88 to \$82.60. The below table depicts the market research findings for this requirement:

CONTRACTOR	PRICE
Pawan Basati Co. (IGE)	\$35.68
Bert & Smith Co.	\$47.88
RTI International	\$73.33
Rocky Research	\$82.60

8. **Description of the Market Research Conducted and the Results, or a Statement of the Reasons Market Research Was Not Conducted:** A sources sought notice was publicized via FedBizOpps (100% Small Business Set-Aside) on April 10, 2012 through April 13, 2012. No capability literature was received
9. **Any Other Facts Supporting the Use of Other than Full and Open Competition:** Clinicians within Pawan Basati Co. have completed all VA Research educational requirements and are certified by the VA to participate in human subject research. This includes, VA Information Security Awareness, Information security 201 for Research and Development Personnel, VHA Privacy Policy Training and Biosafety Hazzwhopper course and Research CITI training.
10. **Listing of Sources that Expressed, in Writing, an Interest in the Acquisition:** N/A
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:**
N/A
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.

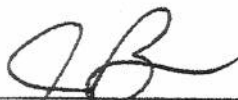
Andi J. Burt
 Name
 Title: Chief of VAI2 Project
 Facility: VAMC 508

Date 6-21-12

13. Approvals in accordance with FAR 6.304

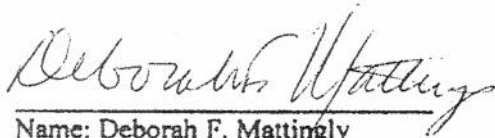
- a. Contracting Officer's Certification: (required) I certify that the foregoing justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

ROJ
7/12/12


Name: James E. Boles
Title: Dublin Site Team Leader
Facility: Carl Vinson VA Medical Center

3 Jul 12
Date

- b. NCM/PCM: I certify the justification meets requirements for other than full and open competition.


Name: Deborah F. Mattingly
Title: Network Contracts Manager
VISN 7

7/12/12
Date