

SOLE SOURCE JUSTIFICATION

1. **Contracting Activity:** Department of Veterans Affairs (VA)
Office of Procurement, Acquisition, and Logistics
Technology Acquisition Center
23 Christopher Way
Eatontown, NJ 07724

2. This requirement will be accomplished via:

[X] New Purchase Order

Purchase Order will be: To Be Determined

[X] Firm Fixed Price

Type of Funds: FY18 Electronic Health Record Modernization

[X] Line of Accounting: 101-368/01123-4895-110600-2510 EHRC00000

3. **Description of Supplies or Services.**

[X] Services – Description: This proposed action is for the Cerner Health Conference registration. The VA Office of Electronic Health Record Modernization (OEHRM) has a requirement for no more than 75 OEHRM employees to attend Cerner Health Conference, located at 301 W. 13th Street, Kansas City, MO 64105. The conference is hosted by Cerner Corporation. The registration provides attendees with access to all workshops, labs, specialty events, general and keynote sessions. Pre-conference workshops and labs are being held October 4, 2018 through October 7, 2018. Pre-conference specialty events are being held October 7, 2018. Core conference dates are October 8, 2018 through October 11, 2018.



4. **Authority Cited.**

[X] FAR 13.106-1(b)(1)

Only one responsible source and no other supplies or services will satisfy agency requirements.

For purchases not exceeding the simplified acquisition threshold, Contracting Officers may solicit from one source if the Contracting Officer determines that the circumstances of the contract action deem only one source reasonably available.

5. Reason for Authority Cited.

The proposed source for the conference registration is Cerner Corporation, located at 2800 Rockcreek Pkwy, Kansas City, MO 64117. The Cerner Health Conference 2018 is an integral event hosted annually to provide attendees with the latest cutting-edge innovations surrounding health care and information technology (IT). It is the only conference with a core-focus on the Cerner Electronic Health Record (EHR) solution; the EHR solution currently contracted and planned for deployment beginning in October 2018 across the VA enterprise. The content of this event is consistent with the goals of VA and the Electronic Health Record Modernization (EHRM) program, as it offers extensive opportunity for OEHRM attendees to enhance their understanding of Cerner's clinical and business model. The event will also create an open dialog amongst members of the OEHRM's clinical, technical, and administrative staff, Department of Defense partners, and industry to gather lessons learned, industry best practices, and other valuable tools that will be documented and applied to VA's deployment of the Cerner EHR solution. Depending upon individuals' certifications, attendees may earn continuing education credits in healthcare finance, healthcare information management, nursing, pharmacy, physician, and radiology technologist. Additionally, the conference will provide opportunities to ask workflow questions, discover resources to better implement Cerner's EHR solutions under the EHRM program, and enhance attendee application of existing knowledge and skills to complex clinical, technical, and administrative VA operations as they specifically relate to EHRM implementation. Employees identified by OEHRM to attend this conference provide direct support to the EHRM program. Failure to attend to this conference may result in a risk to the program, as it provides value to the VA mission by reinforcing vital Veterans services as it pertains to the VA's EHR initiative. Additionally, this conference provides reinforcement in proficient communication, lessons learned, best practices, and key solutions to help the overall operational conditions affecting such services.

6. Efforts to Obtain Competition.

[X] There is only one responsible source for the required conference registration. Efforts made to locate additional sources are described under the "Market Research" section of this justification. There is no competition anticipated for this acquisition. Procurement data does not include any unnecessary requirements that may inhibit competition.

7. Actions to Increase Competition.

[X] While there are currently no other conference providers identified that provide the necessary focus on Cerner's EHR solutions planned for deployment within VA, the Government will continue to seek out alternative sources, and will

continue to perform market research and survey other providers for future conference requirements.

8. Market Research.

Market research was conducted by OEHRM in September 2018. This market research was in the form of reviewing various health IT conference offerings and determining which conference adequately supported the attendees' development needs. Based upon the unique needs of the attendees, only the Cerner Health Conference was found to meet the Government's requirements. No other conference offering fulfilled the breadth and focus of content on Cerner's EHR solutions. Upon completion of this online research, it was determined that no other conference opportunities could currently meet the associated needs of the attendees.

9. Interested Sources.

[X] A pre-solicitation notice covering this procurement will not be posted in the Federal Business Opportunities Page pursuant to FAR 5.202(a)(13). The resulting solicitation will be posted to the Federal Business Opportunities Page.

