RFI Q&A 1

1.   During the re-structuring of the Access database, would there be an opportunity to determine if and how the existing data might be better/more efficiently organized?

     The assessment period would be the opportunity to evaluate.

2.   The PWS mentions 4-6 front end portals, but does not mention what those portals are (i.e. how they were built, what language they were constructed in, etc.) or where they are hosted. Could this be clarified/defined? With only 80 hours blocked out for "assessment and upgrade," the "upgrade" portion could potentially be a much larger task.

     These were built in Access using some SQL. They are hosted on the Polytrauma server. These portals are not too complex and are for the programs to enter data into. These are time estimates depending on what the consultant deems appropriate, the hours allotted for each task can be re-allocated within the total number of hours.

3.   Do you want the Database Consultant to handle everything within Access and just want to use the built-in, out-of-the-box tools provided by Access to create data entry forms OR do you want us to develop and maintain custom software to act as a front end for your database?

     Because VA supports MS Access, we need to keep the database within a software package that is VA supported. We would like to use the out-of-box tools provided by Access.

4.   With respect to infrastructure and remote access. If the VA has one or more servers running Access in one of their facilities, what condition is the equipment in?

     The MS Access software is the version compatible for 2007-2016. Since it is on the clinical service data server required by the hospital, we assume it is in reasonable condition.

5.   Is the Operating System going to be supported long-term?

     Contract is for 1 base year plus 2 option year.

6.   Will the Database Consultant have access to any kind of development environment/sandbox to work in?

     Contractor can use database shell for modification.