

**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**Justification for Single Source Awards IAW [FAR 13.106-1](#)  
For  
Over Micro-Purchase Threshold but Not Exceeding the SAT (\$250K)**

**Acquisition Plan Action ID: 36C250-19-AP-5430**

**1. Contracting Activity:** Department of Veterans Affairs, NCO 10, John D. Dingell (Detroit) VA Medical Center; purchase request number: 553-20-1-044-0001 & 553-20-1-081-0005.

**2. Brief Description of Supplies/ Services required and the intended use/Estimated Amount:**

This procurement involves the purchase of Research Animal Care services for the care of animals (rats and mice) housed in the Veterinary Medical Unit of Research Service. These animals are utilized in medical research studies. Animal Care service costs are paid from funds awarded to individual VA Principal Investigators from the Office of Research and Development (ORD). The quantity and species of animal housed at the VA varies widely from study to study. The total estimated cost of this procurement is \$247,500 for a one-year contract.

**3. Unique characteristics that limit availability to only one source, with the reason no other supplies or services can be used:**

The VA has an approved Memorandum of Understanding that establishes the WSU Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) as the VA IACUC of record. As such, the VA shares the WSU Animal Welfare Assurance granted by the Public Health Service. This assurance guarantees that the VA and WSU will comply with all applicable provisions of the Animal Welfare Act and other Federal statutes and regulations relating to animals. The VA is also covered by the WSU Association for the Assessment and Accreditation for Laboratory Animal Care International (AAALAC) accreditation. All VA animal facilities must be accredited. Those that utilize the IACUC of their affiliate are covered by the affiliate accreditation.

Additionally, the VA is also covered by the WSU United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service. All animal services must be provided by WSU in order for the VA to retain its accreditation and Animal Welfare Assurance. If any other contractor were to provide animal services for the VA, the VA would have to halt animal research operations, obtain a new Animal Welfare Assurance, AAALAC accreditation, and USDA approval before animal research could continue. This process would cost the VA thousands of dollars and would require the hiring of many additional staff members. The VA Research budget would not support this change. Accordingly, WSU is the only firm capable of providing the supplies and services described in Section III above without the Veteran's Health Administration experiencing unacceptable delays in fulfilling its requirements.

VHAPM Part 813.106 Simplified Acquisition Procedures: Soliciting from a Single Source  
Attachment 1: Single Source Justification for SAP under the SAT

**4. Description of market research conducted and results or statement why it was not conducted:**

This action is being awarded as authorized by Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 6.302-5 (2) (i) which states that Full and Open Competition need not be provided for when a statute expressly authorizes or requires that the acquisition be made through another agency or from a specified source. Additionally, given that WSU is a recognized partner and AAALAC accredited, these services are available from only one source. In accordance with FAR Part Federal Acquisition Regulation Part 6.302-1(a)(2), full and open competition need not be provided for.

**5. Contracting Officer's Certification:** *Purchase is approved in accordance with FAR13.106-1(b). I certify that the foregoing justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.*

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Bridget May  
Contracting Officer

08/16/2019

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Date