

**DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS**

**Justification and Approval (J&A)  
For  
Other Than Full and Open Competition (>SAT)**

**Acquisition Plan Action ID: 36C263-19-AP-5563**

1. **Contracting Activity:** Department of Veterans Affairs, NCO 23, 316 Robert Street N, Ste 506 St. Paul, Minnesota for Iowa City and Des Moines VA Health Care Systems.

**Purchase Request #636-20-1-8869-0001**

2. **Nature and/or Description of the Action Being Processed:** A new firm fixed price contract with AWG is needed to meet the urgent requirement in accordance with ADUSHOM memo, "Use of Over-the-Door Alarms for Corridor Doors in Acute Mental Health Units Treating Suicidal Patients," dated May 10, 2019. All VA medical facilities with an acute mental health unit will be required to install door top alarms as recommended by the VA Office of Construction and Facility Management. This will include the installation of anti-ligature door alarms on 18 doors at the Iowa City VA Health Care System and nine doors at the Des Moines VA Health Care System. The door alarms will be installed on swinging corridor doors of patient rooms in the respective acute mental health inpatient units for Des Moines and Iowa City VA Health Care Systems under project number 636A8-20-002, Mental Health Door Alarms.

3. **Description of Supplies/Services Required to Meet the Agency's Needs:** The proposed project shall provide a ligature resistant, monitoring and notification system capable of detecting pressure at the top of a patient bedroom door. The alarm system will trigger audio and visual notification devices at the door and nurse's station to alert staff of a ligature emergency. The system shall be addressable, self-monitoring, and able to diagnose alarm and system problems. The system shall be capable of documenting ligature-initiated events.

The Independent Government Cost Estimate for this project is

The period of performance is 90 calendar days and planned to start on October 15, 2019 to meet the required certification date of no later than February 1, 2020 as stated in the ADUSHOM memo dated May 10, 2019.

4. **Statutory Authority Permitting Other than Full and Open Competition:**  
41 USC §3304(a)(2), as implemented by FAR 6.302-2, Unusual and Compelling Urgency

5. **Demonstration that the Contractor's Unique Qualifications or Nature of the Acquisition Requires the Use of the Authority Cited Above (applicability of authority):** AWG is geographically located between these two VA facilities and is familiar with VA policy and procedures. We are selecting AWG, an SDVOSB, to not delay award and/or the completion of the contract. Any delays would have an adverse impact on the safety of Veterans being treated in acute mental health units at the two

VHAPM Part 806.3 Other Than Full and Open Competition (OFOC) SOP  
Attachment 2: Request for Sole Source Justification Format >SAT

VA medical facilities. Due to the unusual and compelling urgency of this requirement IAW FAR 6.302-2(b)(2) applies in those situations where delay in award of a contract would result in serious injury, financial or other, to the Government.

6. **Description of Efforts Made to ensure that offers are solicited from as many potential sources as deemed practicable:** Other SDVOSB prime contractors were considered but for reasons described in section five, the nature of this acquisition for patient safety and to meet the intent of the ADUSHOM memo, it is in the Government's best interest to sole source this requirement to AWG.
7. **Determination by the CO that the Anticipated Cost to the Government will be Fair and Reasonable:** To ensure the referenced contractor proposal is fair and reasonable, a technical review will be performed against the IGCE and against competitive proposals received on similar projects being completed in the surrounding area to meet the ADUSHOM memo, dated May 10, 2019.
8. **Description of the Market Research Conducted and the Results, or a Statement of the Reasons Market Research Was Not Conducted:** Per PPM 2016-15, Implementation of the Veterans First Contracting Program as a result of the U.S. Supreme Court Decision §8127 is mandatory, not discretionary and its text requires the Department to apply the Rule of Two, market research was conducted via a VIP search for the state of Iowa, using NAICS code 236220. The search identified 5 SDVOSB firms in the state searched. For reasons detailed in section five and six above competition will not be sought.
9. **Any Other Facts Supporting the Use of Other than Full and Open Competition:** Due to the time sensitive requirement to implement the anti-ligature door alarms in accordance with the ADUSHOM memo, this is being sole sourced to preclude adverse impact on Veterans' safety.
10. **Listing of Sources that Expressed, in Writing, an Interest in the Acquisition:** The referenced construction firm expressed interest in performing the referenced project work.
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:** The Government does and will continue to provide for competition with all new construction requirements.
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.

Cynthia A  
Doolittle 197416  
Cynthia Doolittle  
VISN 23 Capital Asset Manager

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Doolittle 197416  
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Date

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Attachment 2: Request for Sole Source Justification Format >SAT

13. Approvals in accordance with the [VHAPM Part 806.3 OFOC SOP](#):

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

Angelique D.  
Mabley 306316

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Angelique D. Mabley  
306316  
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Angelique Mabley  
Contracting Officer NCO 23

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

- b. **One Level Above the Contracting Officer (Required over SAT but not exceeding \$700K):** I certify the justification meets requirements for other than full and open competition.

Michael D.  
Casper 574272

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Casper 574272  
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Michael Casper  
Branch Chief NCO 23

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Date