

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Justification and Approval
For
Other Than Full and Open Competition

1. Contracting Activity: Department of Veterans Affairs, NCO 16, VA Gulf Coast Veterans Health Care Systems, Biloxi, MS.

2237 Transaction Number: 520-13-1-9333-0001

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 a Gated Shower Rod system and custom Snap-On cubicle curtains manufactured by Barrier Free Lifts, Inc. A firm-fixed price commodities contract is contemplated.

3. Description of Supplies/Services Required to Meet the Agency's Needs:

The facility needs to correct issues in the CLC that will cause problems with patient privacy and the safety of the staff. The first issue arises when the patient lift system that is installed in the bathrooms is used to carry a patient into the shower area. The facility does not have a shower rod or curtain to protect the patient's privacy and keep the water in the shower area. A traditional fixed mounted wall to wall shower rod will not allow the lift to pass thru with a patient. A final issue is to provide a new privacy curtain in a standardized snap system that works with snap-on panels and allows for quick cleaning and the changing without the use of ladders.

Because both The Joint Commission's concerns with patient privacy in shower/bathroom areas and OSHA's requirements covering healthcare workers safety these issues must be immediately resolve.

We have until March to have these issues corrected.

4. Statutory Authority Permitting Other than Full and Open Competition:

- (X) (1) Only One Responsible Source and No Other Supplies or Services Will Satisfy Agency Requirements per FAR 6.302-1;
- () (2) Unusual and Compelling Urgency per FAR 6.302-2;
- () (3) Industrial Mobilization, Engineering, Developmental or Research Capability or Expert Services per FAR 6.302-3;
- () (4) International Agreement per FAR 6.302-4
- () (5) Authorized or Required by Statute FAR 6.302-5;
- () (6) National Security per FAR 6.302-6;
- () (7) Public Interest per FAR 6.302-7;

5. Demonstration that the Contractor's Unique Qualifications or Nature of the Acquisition Requires the Use of the Authority Cited Above (applicability of authority)

Barrier Free Lift, Inc. is a Veteran Owned Small Business (VOSB) that exclusively manufactures these products and they are made in the United States. In addition, Barrier Free has a GSA contract (excluding installation and freight) is currently providing these systems to the Veterans Administration Medical Centers throughout the country.

The patent pending Gated Shower Rod system opens fully to allow patient lifts to pass into the tub/shower stall. Once the patient has been carried and placed in the shower stall, the Gated Shower Rod then completely closes.

This function maintains absolute privacy of the patient when they are bathing and prevents water from getting outside of the bathing area. The custom wall mounted Gated Shower Rod system or gate is engineered to mount from wall to wall. Each shower rod is custom manufactured pursuant to a specific locations requirement. The shower rod system can either be manufactured as one seamless shower bar or made using two rods that connect in the middle. How the bar is manufactured depends on the facilities requirements and room parameters. The folding shower rod system will include custom Easy On – Easy Off shower curtains that are made specifically to work with the Gated Shower Rod system. The custom Snap-On cubicle curtains are made in panels using medal snaps that separated the panels from the mesh.

6. Description of Efforts Made to ensure that offers are solicited from as many potential sources as deemed

practicable: This requirement will be initially posted on the Federal Business Opportunities website in a Pre-Solicitation Notice stating that we intend to negotiate directly with Barrier Free Lifts, Inc on a sole-source basis. We will correspond with any other companies that express an interest in this requirement.

7. Determination by the Contracting Officer that the Anticipated Cost to the Government will be Fair and Reasonable:

The undersigned contracting officer does not anticipate any problems with determining the anticipated cost of this requirement to be fair and reasonable. The contracting officer will seek copies of published price lists that reflect the prices being advertised for this requirement. In the absence of any published price lists, the contracting officer will seek copies of contracts, purchase orders, or invoices that reflect the same or similar equipment that was sold to other Government or commercial customers.

8. Description of the Market Research Conducted and the Results, or a Statement of the Reasons Market Research Was Not Conducted: Based on our research and speaking with other facilities that have implemented these solutions, there are no other options available that will meet the facilities requirements to solve these issues.

9. Any Other Facts Supporting the Use of Other than Full and Open Competition: N/A

10. Listing of Sources that Expressed, in Writing, an Interest in the Acquisition: If any other commercial sources of supply express an interest in this acquisition from viewing the Federal Business Opportunities website Pre-Solicitation posting, we will correspond with them concerning this requirement.

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: If we have another requirement similar to this, then we will research other company's products available in the commercial marketplace and on VA and GSA Federal Supply Schedules in order to maximize competition.

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.


WILLIAM L. JORDAN

Chief of Environmental Services (FMS 18B)
VA Gulf Coast Health Care System (Station 520)

2-11-13
Date

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.

Melanie Grigsby

MELANIE GRIGSBY
CONTRACTING OFFICER

Network Contracting Office 16 – Biloxi, MS

2-11-13
Date

b. **CHIEF P&C:** I certify the justification meets requirements for permitting Other than Full and Open Competition:

Donna Frazza

Donna Frazza
CHIEF, PURCHASING AND CONTRACTING
Network Contracting Office 16 – Biloxi, MS

2-11-13
DATE