

SOLICITATION ADDENDUM

Date: **12/8/2020**
Subject: **Title IX Counsel RFP**
Solicitation Number: **OGC-2020-15**
Due Date/Time: **December 18, 2020 @ 4:00 pm EST**
Addendum Number: **2**

To All Suppliers:

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania defines a solicitation “Addendum” as an addition to or amendment of the original terms, conditions, specifications, or instructions of a procurement solicitation (e.g., Invitation for Bids or Request for Proposals).]

Q.1. Do you anticipate extending the bid due date?

A.1. The due date for this RFP has been extended with a new due date of Friday, December 18th @ 4:00 p.m.

Q.2. What additional details are you willing to provide, if any, beyond what is stated in bid documents concerning how you will identify the winning bid?

A.2. The RFP is self-explanatory and adequately addresses the scoring to assess proposals.

Q.3. Was this bid posted to the nationwide free bid notification website at www.mygovwatch.com?

A.3. No.

Q.4. Other than your own website, where was this bid posted?

A.4. This RFP is posted at the following websites:

www.emarketplace.state.pa.us and www.ogc.pa.gov

Q.5. Would you consider a proposal from a firm seeking to do only one component – e.g., either the gender equity in athletics work or the sexual misconduct work – rather than seeking to do all of the work?

A.5. Yes, the Commonwealth would consider a proposal from a firm seeking to do only one component.

Q.6. Do we need to partner with a Small Diverse Business (SDB) and a Veteran Business Enterprise (VBE) in order to be responsive, or can we partner with one or the other (a SDB or a VBE)?

A.6. SDB and VBE participation goals are separate and distinct. Therefore, Offerors must meet both participation goals in full or seek a good faith efforts waiver from any unmet portion of the goals. However, an offeror may meet both the SDB and VBE participation goals through use of a single firm if that firm is DGS-verified as both an SDB and a VBE. See, Appendices G and H, SDB-1 and VBE-1, Section 11.4. Dually verified firms.

Q.7. If the answer to question #1 is yes (we need to partner with both a SDB and a VBE) – can you identify any law firms that are qualified as a VBE? We would like to partner with a VBE, but none of the VBE firms listed in the online supplier search database appear to be law firms.

A.7. A search as of Friday, December 4, 2020 at 12:30PM selecting the UNSPSC Code of 80120000 – Legal Services and seeking Veteran Business Enterprise and Service-Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise Supplier Classifications returned the following 5 DGS verified VBE legal services firms:

SAP Number	Supplier Name
136475	FEDERAL HEARINGS & APPEALS SVCS INC
210121	DELORES RITZMAN
350405	ALPS SERVICES INC
519226	LAW OFFICE OF NATHANIEL M HOLMES LLC
544367	JOHN E. LIPPL

Please be advised that the data contained within the Supplier Search may change daily. Since VBEs must be DGS-verified as of the proposal due date and time in order to be counted for purposes of achieving the VBE participation goal, it's imperative that offerors conduct their own search in order to be confident that any VBE partners are DGS-verified VBEs as of the proposal due date and time.

Q.8. If we are unable to find a VBE to partner with, can we instead increase our partnership with the SDB we would work with (i.e., instead of subcontracting 20% of the work, we would subcontract 25% in order to make up for the VBE component)?

A.8. No, that is not an acceptable option. An Offeror's failure to meet the VBE participation goal in full or their failure to receive an approved Good Faith Efforts waiver for any unmet portion of the VBE participation goal will result in the rejection of their Proposal as nonresponsive. See, Appendix H, VBE-1.

Except as clarified and amended by this Addendum, the terms, conditions, specifications, and instructions of the solicitation and any previous solicitation addenda, remain as originally written.]



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DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES
BUREAU OF PROCUREMENT

Respectfully,

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