

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
For
Managed IT Services

The Franklin Housing Authority of Franklin, Tennessee is requesting proposals from experienced individuals or firms to provide Managed IT Services. Proposals for Managed IT Services will be received by the Franklin Housing Authority, 200 Spring Street, Franklin, TN 37064 until August 31, 2026 at 2:00p.m.

Interested parties may obtain a copy of the solicitation by visiting the FHA website, www.franklinhousingauthority.com. If you need assistance, please call (615) 794-1247.

All Proposers must comply with the President's Executive Order Nos. 11246 and 11375, which prohibits discrimination in employment regarding race, creed, color, sex or national origin. Bidders must comply with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Anti-Kickback Act and the Contract Work Hour Standard Act. Bidders must certify that they do not, and will not, maintain or provide for their employees any facilities that are segregated on a basis of age, race, sex, color, creed, religion or national origin.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

FHA-RFP2026-01 – MANAGED IT SERVICES



FHA-RFP2026 – 01 MANAGED IT SERVICES

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Franklin Housing Authority (“FHA”) has been providing affordable housing to families and individuals in the city of Franklin, TN in Williamson County, since 1953. The mission of the Franklin Housing Authority is to assist low - income families by providing safe, decent, affordable housing and self-sufficiency opportunities. FHA works to enhance our residents' quality of life by offering opportunities to participate in a multitude of community, educational and recreational programs, as well as job readiness and training initiatives.

FHA is governed by a five-member Board of Commissioners, appointed by the mayor and approved by the Board of Mayor and Aldermen. Franklin Housing Authority participates in HUD’s Capital Fund Program and operates applicable grants, as they become available.

2.0 OBJECTIVE

FHA is requesting proposals for third party management and maintenance of FHA information technology systems. All workstations utilize Windows Operating Systems.

Third party IT Management Services are expected to assist other technology vendors, as needed, to ensure they are able to effectively integrate their systems with FHA’s technology. Such vendors include, but are not limited to, those in relation to: copier/scan/fax, phone system, internet, security system, property management software, account software, etc.

FHA currently has the following offices that will require IT Management Services:

- Franklin Housing Authority’s main office, 200 Spring Street, Franklin, TN
 - Location of FHA server
 - 10 Workstations, excluding server & door security
- Franklin Housing Authority’s office, 100 Spring Street, Franklin, TN
 - 7 Workstations
- Cherokee Apartments, 626 Cherokee Place, Franklin, TN
 - 3 Workstations
- Chickasaw Apartments, 600 Chickasaw Place, Franklin, TN
 - 4 Workstations
- Reddick Senior Residences, 198 Grandbury Street
 - 4 Workstations
- Reddick Family Residences, 302 Battlement Street, Franklin, TN
 - 3 Workstation
- Clarksville Office (90% Remote Support)*

- 1 Workstation
- Ripley Office (90% Remote Support)*
 - 1 Workstation
- Remote/Home Workstations (90% Remote Support)*
 - 3 Workstations

**Remote Workstations* where approximately 90% of support will be provided remotely. Any required in-person support will be arranged and performed at our local Franklin, TN office, as needed.

3.0 SCOPE OF SERVICES

Proposals shall explicitly address operating contingencies for each of the following general areas of service:

- Local and offsite data backup services
- Remote monitoring of equipment availability and/or event logs (24/7), including;
 - Near real-time alerting and remote reactive maintenance of server equipment events
 - Near real-time alerting of desktop (non-server) system events
 - Near real-time maintenance of antivirus and antispyware systems, including licensing provisioning and maintenance, and virus- and/or spyware-event resolution
 - Near real-time monitoring of all FHA defined, business critical system processes
- Remote diagnostic and control capabilities for all desktop and server operating systems
- Focus on evolving data security. Alert Franklin Housing Authority and suggest actions to strengthen data/system security when appropriate.
- Quarterly maintenance of all server systems and workstations
- Predictive failure analysis and/or trend reporting for common hardware metrics for all systems
- Help desk user support during routine business hours for non-maintenance issue resolution, including support services as needed over and above automated remote maintenance services
- Maintenance of spam and web filter
- Provide yearly recommendations and budgets for needed equipment, software and operating system upgrades by September 1st.

Desired Service Level Agreement (SLA) deliverables for the above services include:

- 1-hour maximum remote response time to reported or observed events for all systems
- 4-hour onsite response times for events that are not addressable via remote means
- Monthly summary reporting of all rendered maintenance and event resolution service
- Quarterly maintenance of all workstations

Proposals should also address the firm's ability to provide other IT services (i.e. "break-fix" services, equipment installation, peripheral support, etc.) and the proposed hour rate for such services.

4.0 SOLICITATION GUIDELINES

Responses Must Arrive No Later Than	2:00 p.m. on August 31, 2026 Central Time (as FHA's clocks indicate)
Deliver Responses to	Attention: Cindy Walton, 200 Spring Street, Franklin, TN 37064 Proposal must be submitted in a <i>sealed envelope</i>, and Clearly written on the outside of the sealed envelope must be the proposer's name and address and the words "FHA-RFP2026-01, Managed IT Services". No facsimile will be accepted. Refer to the enclosed document, Form HUD-5369-B, Section 6 regarding late submissions. Proposals are not publicly opened.
Electronic Copies	Proposers are to use the pdf version of the RFP package posted on FHA's website at Procurement/Bids/RFPs - Franklin Housing Authority Franklin, Tennessee to provide a response.
Solicitation Meeting	August 20, 2026. This will be an opportunity to take a look at the current FHA server room equipment/systems.
Solicitation Meeting Date and Time	10:00am
Solicitation Meeting Location	200 Spring Street
Questions About This Solicitation	Refer to the enclosed document HUD 5369, Section 4 regarding questions. Submit questions to cwalton@franklinhousingauthority.com by 2:00 p.m. on August 24, 2026. *FHA will not accept questions via telephone.
Addenda	Addenda will be posted on FHA's website. The last day for Addenda to be issued will be August 26, 2026.
Award Results	Proposers will be notified by email and FHA will post the award decision to its web page at: Procurement/Bids/RFPs - Franklin Housing Authority Franklin, Tennessee
Open Records/Public Access to Documents	All documents provided to FHA are subject to the Tennessee Open Meetings Act (TCA 8-44-101) and open records requirements.
Check FHA's webpage Procurement/Bids/RFPs - Franklin Housing Authority Franklin, Tennessee for addenda and changes before submitting your response	

5.0 PROPOSAL FORMAT

Submit one original and three copies of the proposal dated and signed by an official of the company. **No facsimile will be accepted.**

All documents shall be 8.5 x 10.5 ("letter-size") format.

Proposal shall acknowledge all issued amendments to this solicitation. **Failure to acknowledge any issued amendments may deem the Offeror non-responsive.**

It is the Authority's intent to make this RFP a part of the contract.

Proposals must include a full description of all proposed services. If the Offeror is not proposing complete services as requested in this RFP, be very specific as to what is and is not included. All assumptions concerning the Authority's involvement should be stated. All exceptions to the RFP should be noted in the proposal. Unique services should be clearly defined. The assumption should be made by all Offerors that their original proposal may be their only opportunity to present their services and qualifications, and therefore should be as comprehensive as possible.

Each of the items below must be completed and submitted with the proposal. This list does not include other submittal that may be required.

- **Company/Individual Information** – Include the firm's or individual's Federal Identification or Social Security Number, whichever is applicable, and correct mailing address.
- **Qualification Letter** – Letter explaining the individual's or firm's qualifications, relevant history, background, successes and interest in the field. Include the number of years in business and resumes of persons that will be assigned duties in the proposed Contract.
- **References** – List three (3) references of similar, previous work and show company name, contact person, address, phone number, fax number and email address.
- **Cost Proposal** – Include cost proposal for 1-year contract and option to extend up to 4 years
- **Attachments A-J** as indicated in Item "20.0 Attachments" of this RFP

6.0 PROPOSAL EVALUATION

The contract shall be awarded to the Offeror submitting the most responsible proposal, price and other factors considered, complying with the Scope of Services and Proposal Format contained herein, provided the proposal is the most advantageous for the Authority to accept. The Authority is therefore not bound to accept a proposal on the basis of lowest quoted price alone

Evaluation Criteria: The Authority intends to make total proposal award to the responsive and responsible Offeror based on the following evaluation factors:

Services Proposed	0-30 Points	Comprehensiveness and thoroughness of the services proposed.
Cost	0-30 Points	Proposed cost of services.
Experience & Credentials	0-20 Points	- Experience & credentials of the company and its principals providing the services, including size of its client base. - References
Specific Experience	0-20 points	Experience with the affordable housing industry, including public housing.
Max Points Available to Award	100 Points	

7.0 DEBARRED

The Contractor certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it and its principals:

- Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal, state or local government or agency;
- Have not within a three-year period preceding this proposal been convicted of or had a civil judgment rendered against them for: the commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (Federal, State, Local) transaction or contract under a public transaction; a violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes; or the commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property
- Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State or Local) with commission of any of the offense enumerated in Section II (A) (1) above; and
- Have not within a three-year period preceding this Agreement had one or more public transactions (Federal, State or Local) terminated for cause or default.

8.0 INELIGIBLE CONTRACTORS

The Housing Authority is prohibited from making any award to contractors or accepting as subcontractors any individual or firms that are on lists provided by the Government of contractors that are ineligible to receive awards from the United States government.

9.0 SUBCONTRACTORS

The name of any subcontractor who your firm is interested in contracting with on this project shall be included in the proposal. The Authority reserves the right at its own discretion to reject a subcontractor named in any proposal.

10.0 TERMS AND CONDITIONS

The following shall be essential terms and conditions of any agreement resulting from this solicitation:

10.1.1 Contract Period. The initial contract will be effective upon the issuance of the Notice to Proceed. FHA may, at its discretion, renew the contract annually with one-year terms for a total contract period NOT TO EXCEED five (5) years. Renewal will be determined by available funding and performance. The contract will be performance based and failure to perform in a manner acceptable to FHA will be grounds for termination of the contract.

10.1.2 Termination. FHA shall have the right to terminate the agreement at any time. Such termination will initiate upon Franklin Housing Authority providing a sixty (60) day notice of termination to the Contractor. FHA reserves the right to terminate the Agreement for its convenience or in the event it shall abandon or indefinitely postpone the program. Such termination shall be accomplished by written notice delivered to the Contractor. Payment to the Contractor shall be made for work performed prior to receipt of the termination notice, together with the Contractor's cost for closing down its work, and the Contractor shall have no claim for loss of anticipated profits or any additional compensation.

10.1.3 Breach of Agreement. If the contractor fails to fulfill its obligations under this Agreement in a timely and proper manner or if it shall violate any of the terms of this Agreement, FHA shall have the right to immediately terminate such contract and withhold payments in excess of fair compensation for work completed. The term "breach of agreement" specifically includes, but is not limited to, failure to comply with any applicable Federal, State or Local laws or regulations. Notwithstanding the above, the Contractor shall not be relieved of liability to FHA for damages sustained by virtue of any breach by the Contractor.

10.1.4 Modification of Agreement. Such agreement may be modified only by written amendment executed by all parties.

10.1.5 Partnerships/Joint Ventures. Such Agreement shall not in any way be construed or intended to create a partnership or joint venture between the parties or among any of the parties. None of the parties of such Agreement shall hold itself out in a manner contrary to the terms of this. No party shall become liable for any representation, act or omission of

any other party contrary to the terms of this.

10.1.6 **Waiver.** No waiver of any provision of such Agreement shall affect the right of FHA thereafter to enforce such provision or to exercise any right or remedy available to it in the event of any other default.

10.1.7 **Indemnification.** Proposer agrees to assume all responsibility for the program and to indemnify and hold Franklin Housing Authority Harmless from liability of any kind which may arise out of the activities described herein or within the Contract., including any and all damages and injuries caused by the Contractor, its employees and any subcontractors and their employees, except that liability arising from gross negligence on the part of the Authority.

Neither party hereto shall be liable for its failure to perform or delay in performance due to contingencies beyond its reasonable control, including, but not limited to, strikes, riots, compliance with laws or government orders, fires and acts of God and such failure shall not constitute a Default under the Contract.

Limitation of Liability. In no event shall either party be liable to the other party for consequential, incidental, special (including punitive) or other indirect damages that are claimed to be incurred by the other party whether such claim arises under contract, tort (including strict liability) or other theory of law.

10.1.8 **Gratuities and Kickbacks.**

10.1.8.1 **Gratuities.** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any person to offer, give or agree to give any employee or former employee, or for any employee or former employee to solicit, demand, accept or agree to accept from another person, a gratuity or an offer of employment in connection with any decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, preparation of any part of a program requirement or a purchase request, influencing the content of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, auditing or in any other advisory capacity in any proceeding or application, request for ruling, determination, claim or controversy or other particular matter, pertaining to any program requirement of a contract or subcontract or to any solicitation or proposal therefore.

10.1.8.2 **Kickbacks.** It shall be a breach of ethical standards for any payment gratuity or offer of employment to be made by

or on behalf of a sub-consultant under a contract to the prime contractor or any person associated therewith, as an inducement for the award of a subcontract or order.

11.0 LICENSING AND BUSINESS REQUIREMENTS

The Offeror is responsible to complying with all licensing requirements and associated business regulations whether Local, State or Federal. It is the responsibility of the potential Contractor to determine the applicability of any rule, regulation or other requirement

12.0 CONTRACT COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

The Offeror shall state his/her compliance with all applicable rules and regulations of Federal, State and Local governing entities and that they are not excluded from Federal procurement programs. Offeror must state his/her compliance with the terms of this Request for Proposal, utilizing Attachment "F".

The Offeror must demonstrate that the proposal meets all applicable rules, regulations, permitting, registration and/or licensing requirements, whether Local, State or Federal. It is the responsibility of the potential Contractor to determine the applicability of any rule, regulation or other requirement.

13.0 EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Contractor shall affirm that it does not subscribe to any personnel policy which permits or allows for discrimination in the employment promotion, demotion, dismissal or laying off of any individual due to his/her race, creed, color, national origin, age or gender or physical handicap.

14.0 TITLE VI

FHA prohibits discrimination in all of its programs and activities on the basis of race, color or national origin. FHA will comply with all statutes and regulations of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. No person should be excluded from participation in or be denied the benefit of or be subjected to discrimination under any program or service provided by or affiliated with FHA on the basis of non-merit reasons. To file a complaint of discrimination, write or call Susan Minor, FHA Chief Operating Officer, 200 Spring Street, Franklin, TN 37064, phone 615-794-1247.

15.0 SECTION 3 OF THE HUD ACT OF 1968 DISCUSSION

All contracts awarded are subject to Section 3 requirements. Supplier shall seek to fill any and all position that are needed and unfilled with residents of FHA communities. For additional information, go to [Section 3 - Economic Opportunities | HUD.gov / U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development \(HUD\)](#). The successful supplier will supply FHA with job announcements for any positions that must be filled as a result of the award of FHA work. (See HUD Section 3 Clause, attached.)

16.0 AWARD WITHOUT DISCUSSION

In the event the quality of the initial proposals received is such that no purpose would be served by conducting negotiations, award may be made without discussions.

The Offeror to whom the award is made will be notified at the earliest practical date. Unsuccessful Offerors will also be notified. The Housing Authority contemplates the award of a firm fixed price, level of effort type contract resulting from this solicitation. The Housing Authority will place the agreement in writing.

17.0 COST INCURRED IN RESPONDING

All costs directly or indirectly related to preparation of a response to the Request for Proposal or any oral presentation required to supplement and/or clarify the submittal which may be required by FHA shall be the sole responsibility of and shall be borne by Offeror.

Each firm/individual submitting its proposal waives any claim for liability against FHA as to loss, injury and costs or expenses, which may be incurred as a consequence of its response to this document.

18.0 REJECTION

FHA reserves the right to reject any and all submittals and/or to waive any informality in the solicitation process or parts thereof and to re-solicit.

FHA does not guarantee a contract will be awarded as a result of this Request for Proposal.

19.0 FHA RESERVES THE RIGHT:

- To waive informalities herein;
- To request oral information or additional written documentation to supplement any or all written proposals;
- To conduct all investigations and background checks necessary for adequate evaluation;
- To reject any or all proposals submitted

20.0 ATTACHMENTS

- "ATTACHMENT A" - Instructions to Offerors, Non-Construction (HUD 5369-B)
- "ATTACHMENT B" - Certifications and Representation of Offerors, Non-Construction (HUD5369-C)
- "ATTACHMENT C" - General Conditions for Non-Construction (HUD 5370-C)
- "ATTACHMENT D" – Statement of Qualifications
- "ATTACHMENT E" – Non Collusive Affidavit

- “ATTACHMENT F” – Certifications for Contracts
- “ATTACHMENT G” - Cost Proposal Form
- “ATTACHMENT H” - Fair Employment Practice Statement
- “ATTACHMENT I” - Eligibility Certification
- “ATTACHMENT J” - HUD Section 3 Clause

Instructions to Offerors Non-Construction

U.S. Department of Housing
and Urban Development
Office of Public and Indian Housing



- 03291 -

1. Preparation of Offers

(a) Offerors are expected to examine the statement of work, the proposed contract terms and conditions, and all instructions. Failure to do so will be at the offeror's risk.

(b) Each offeror shall furnish the information required by the solicitation. The offeror shall sign the offer and print or type its name on the cover sheet and each continuation sheet on which it makes an entry. Erasures or other changes must be initialed by the person signing the offer. Offers signed by an agent shall be accompanied by evidence of that agent's authority, unless that evidence has been previously furnished to the HA.

(c) Offers for services other than those specified will not be considered.

2. Submission of Offers

(a) Offers and modifications thereof shall be submitted in sealed envelopes or packages (1) addressed to the office specified in the solicitation, and (2) showing the time specified for receipt, the solicitation number, and the name and address of the offeror.

(b) Telegraphic offers will not be considered unless authorized by the solicitation; however, offers may be modified by written or telegraphic notice.

(c) Facsimile offers, modifications or withdrawals will not be considered unless authorized by the solicitation.

3. Amendments to Solicitations

(a) If this solicitation is amended, then all terms and conditions which are not modified remain unchanged.

(b) Offerors shall acknowledge receipt of any amendments to this solicitation by

- (1) signing and returning the amendment;
- (2) identifying the amendment number and date in the space provided for this purpose on the form for submitting an offer,
- (3) letter or telegram, or
- (4) facsimile, if facsimile offers are authorized in the solicitation. The HA/HUD must receive the acknowledgment by the time specified for receipt of offers.

4. Explanation to Prospective Offerors

Any prospective offeror desiring an explanation or interpretation of the solicitation, statement of work, etc., must request it in writing soon enough to allow a reply to reach all prospective offerors before the submission of their offers. Oral explanations or instructions given before the award of the contract will not be binding. Any information given to a prospective offeror concerning a solicitation will be furnished promptly to all other prospective offerors as an amendment of the solicitation, if that information is necessary in submitting offers or if the lack of it would be prejudicial to any other prospective offerors.

5. Responsibility of Prospective Contractor

(a) The HA shall award a contract only to a responsible prospective contractor who is able to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of the proposed contract. To be determined responsible, a prospective contractor must -

- (1) Have adequate financial resources to perform the contract, or the ability to obtain them;

- (2) Have a satisfactory performance record;
- (3) Have a satisfactory record of integrity and business ethics;
- (4) Have a satisfactory record of compliance with public policy (e.g., Equal Employment Opportunity); and
- (5) Not have been suspended, debarred, or otherwise determined to be ineligible for award of contracts by the Department of Housing and Urban Development or any other agency of the U.S. Government. Current lists of ineligible contractors are available for inspection at the HA/HUD.

(b) Before an offer is considered for award, the offeror may be requested by the HA to submit a statement or other documentation regarding any of the foregoing requirements. Failure by the offeror to provide such additional information may render the offeror ineligible for award.

6. Late Submissions, Modifications, and Withdrawal of Offers

(a) Any offer received at the place designated in the solicitation after the exact time specified for receipt will not be considered unless it is received before award is made and it -

- (1) Was sent by registered or certified mail not later than the fifth calendar day before the date specified for receipt of offers (e.g., an offer submitted in response to a solicitation requiring receipt of offers by the 20th of the month must have been mailed by the 15th);
- (2) Was sent by mail, or if authorized by the solicitation, was sent by telegram or via facsimile, and it is determined by the HA/ HUD that the late receipt was due solely to mishandling by the HA/ HUD after receipt at the HA;
- (3) Was sent by U.S. Postal Service Express Mail Next Day Service - Post Office to Addressee, not later than 5:00 p.m. at the place of mailing two working days prior to the date specified for receipt of proposals. The term "working days" excludes weekends and U.S. Federal holidays; or
- (4) Is the only offer received.

(b) Any modification of an offer, except a modification resulting from the HA's request for "best and final" offer (if this solicitation is a request for proposals), is subject to the same conditions as in subparagraphs (a)(1), (2), and (3) of this provision.

(c) A modification resulting from the HA's request for "best and final" offer received after the time and date specified in the request will not be considered unless received before award and the late receipt is due solely to mishandling by the HA after receipt at the HA.

(d) The only acceptable evidence to establish the date of mailing of a late offer, modification, or withdrawal sent either by registered or certified mail is the U.S. or Canadian Postal Service postmark both on the envelope or wrapper and on the original receipt from the U.S. or Canadian Postal Service. Both postmarks must show a legible date or the offer, modification, or withdrawal shall be processed as if mailed late. "Postmark" means a printed, stamped, or otherwise placed impression (exclusive of a postage meter machine impression) that is readily identifiable without further action as having been supplied and affixed by employees of the U.S. or Canadian Postal Service on the date of mailing. Therefore, offerors should request the postal clerk to place a hand cancellation bull's-eye postmark on both the receipt and the envelope or wrapper.

(e) The only acceptable evidence to establish the time of receipt at the HA is the time/date stamp of HA on the offer wrapper or other documentary evidence of receipt maintained by the HA.

(f) The only acceptable evidence to establish the date of mailing of a late offer, modification, or withdrawal sent by Express Mail Next Day Service-Post Office to Addressee is the date entered by the post office receiving clerk on the "Express Mail Next Day Service-Post Office to Addressee" label and the postmark on both the envelope or wrapper and on the original receipt from the U.S. Postal Service. "Postmark" has the same meaning as defined in paragraph (c) of this provision, excluding postmarks of the Canadian Postal Service. Therefore, offerors should request the postal clerk to place a legible hand cancellation bull's eye postmark on both the receipt and the envelope or wrapper.

(g) Notwithstanding paragraph (a) of this provision, a late modification of an otherwise successful offer that makes its terms more favorable to the HA will be considered at any time it is received and may be accepted.

(h) If this solicitation is a request for proposals, proposals may be withdrawn by written notice, or if authorized by this solicitation, by telegram (including mailgram) or facsimile machine transmission received at any time before award. Proposals may be withdrawn in person by a offeror or its authorized representative if the identity of the person requesting withdrawal is established and the person signs a receipt for the offer before award. If this solicitation is an invitation for bids, bids may be withdrawn at any time prior to bid opening.

7. Contract Award

(a) The HA will award a contract resulting from this solicitation to the responsible offeror whose offer conforming to the solicitation will be most advantageous to the HA, cost or price and other factors, specified elsewhere in this solicitation, considered.

(b) The HA may

- (1) reject any or all offers if such action is in the HA's interest,
- (2) accept other than the lowest offer,
- (3) waive informalities and minor irregularities in offers received, and (4) award more than one contract for all or part of the requirements stated.

(c) If this solicitation is a request for proposals, the HA may award a contract on the basis of initial offers received, without discussions. Therefore, each initial offer should contain the offeror's best terms from a cost or price and technical standpoint.

(d) A written award or acceptance of offer mailed or otherwise furnished to the successful offeror within the time for acceptance specified in the offer shall result in a binding contract without further action by either party. If this solicitation is a request for proposals, before the offer's specified expiration time, the HA may accept an offer, whether or not there are negotiations after its receipt, unless a written notice of withdrawal is received before award. Negotiations conducted after receipt of an offer do not constitute a rejection or counteroffer by the HA.

(e) Neither financial data submitted with an offer, nor representations concerning facilities or financing, will form a part of the resulting contract.

8. Service of Protest

Any protest against the award of a contract pursuant to this solicitation shall be served on the HA by obtaining written and dated acknowledgment of receipt from the HA at the address shown on the cover of this solicitation. The determination of the HA with regard to such protest or to proceed to award notwithstanding such protest shall be final unless appealed by the protestor.

9. Offer Submission

Offers shall be submitted as follows and shall be enclosed in a sealed envelope and addressed to the office specified in the solicitation. The proposal shall show **the hour and date specified in the solicitation for receipt, the solicitation number, and the name and address of the offeror, on the face of the envelope.**

It is very important that the offer be properly identified on the face of the envelope as set forth above in order to insure that the date and time of receipt is stamped on the face of the offer envelope. Receiving procedures are: date and time stamp those envelopes identified as proposals and deliver them immediately to the appropriate contracting official, and only date stamp those envelopes which do not contain identification of the contents and deliver them to the appropriate procuring activity only through the routine mail delivery procedure.

[Describe bid or proposal preparation instructions here:]

Certifications and Representations of Offerors

Non-Construction Contract

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 5 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information.

This form includes clauses required by OMB's common rule on bidding/offering procedures, implemented by HUD in 24 CFR 85.36, and those requirements set forth in Executive Order 11625 for small, minority, women-owned businesses, and certifications for independent price determination, and conflict of interest. The form is required for nonconstruction contracts awarded by Housing Agencies (HAs). The form is used by bidders/offerors to certify to the HA's Contracting Officer for contract compliance. If the form were not used, HAs would be unable to enforce their contracts. Responses to the collection of information are required to obtain a benefit or to retain a benefit. The information requested does not lend itself to confidentiality.

1. Contingent Fee Representation and Agreement

(a) The bidder/offeror represents and certifies as part of its bid/offer that, except for full-time bona fide employees working solely for the bidder/offeror, the bidder/offeror:

(1) ☐ has, ☐ has not employed or retained any person or company to solicit or obtain this contract; and

(2) ☐ has, ☐ has not paid or agreed to pay to any person or company employed or retained to solicit or obtain this contract any commission, percentage, brokerage, or other fee contingent upon or resulting from the award of this contract.

(b) If the answer to either (a)(1) or (a) (2) above is affirmative, the bidder/offeror shall make an immediate and full written disclosure to the PHA Contracting Officer.

(c) Any misrepresentation by the bidder/offeror shall give the PHA the right to (1) terminate the resultant contract; (2) at its discretion, to deduct from contract payments the amount of any commission, percentage, brokerage, or other contingent fee; or (3) take other remedy pursuant to the contract.

2. Small, Minority, Women-Owned Business Concern Representation

The bidder/offeror represents and certifies as part of its bid/offer that it:

(a) ☐ is, ☐ is not a small business concern. "Small business concern," as used in this provision, means a concern, including its affiliates, that is independently owned and operated, not dominant in the field of operation in which it is bidding, and qualified as a small business under the criteria and size standards in 13 CFR 121.

(b) ☐ is, ☐ is not a women-owned small business concern. "Women-owned," as used in this provision, means a small business that is at least 51 percent owned by a woman or women who are U.S. citizens and who also control and operate the business.

(c) ☐ is, ☐ is not a minority enterprise which, pursuant to Executive Order 11625, is defined as a business which is at least 51 percent owned by one or more minority group members or, in the case of a publicly owned business, at least 51 percent of its voting stock is owned by one or more minority group members, and whose management and daily operations are controlled by one or more such individuals.

For the purpose of this definition, minority group members are:

(Check the block applicable to you)

- | | |
|---|---|
| ☐ Black Americans | ☐ Asian Pacific Americans |
| ☐ Hispanic Americans | ☐ Asian Indian Americans |
| ☐ Native Americans | ☐ Hasidic Jewish Americans |

3. Certificate of Independent Price Determination

(a) The bidder/offeror certifies that—

(1) The prices in this bid/offer have been arrived at independently, without, for the purpose of restricting competition, any consultation, communication, or agreement with any other bidder/offeror or competitor relating to (i) those prices, (ii) the intention to submit a bid/offer, or (iii) the methods or factors used to calculate the prices offered;

(2) The prices in this bid/offer have not been and will not be knowingly disclosed by the bidder/offeror, directly or indirectly, to any other bidder/offeror or competitor before bid opening (in the case of a sealed bid solicitation) or contract award (in the case of a negotiated solicitation) unless otherwise required by law; and

(3) No attempt has been made or will be made by the bidder/offeror to induce any other concern to submit or not to submit a bid/offer for the purpose of restricting competition.

(b) Each signature on the bid/offer is considered to be a certification by the signatory that the signatory:

(1) Is the person in the bidder/offeror's organization responsible for determining the prices being offered in this bid or proposal, and that the signatory has not participated and will not participate in any action contrary to subparagraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) above; or

(2) (i) Has been authorized, in writing, to act as agent for the following principals in certifying that those principals have not participated, and will not participate in any action contrary to subparagraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) above (insert full name of person(s) in the bidder/offeror's organization responsible for determining the prices offered in this bid or proposal, and the title of his or her position in the bidder/offeror's organization);

(ii) As an authorized agent, does certify that the principals named in subdivision (b)(2)(i) above have not participated, and will not participate, in any action contrary to subparagraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) above; and

(iii) As an agent, has not personally participated, and will not participate in any action contrary to subparagraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) above.

- (c) If the bidder/offeror deletes or modifies subparagraph (a)2 above, the bidder/offeror must furnish with its bid/offer a signed statement setting forth in detail the circumstances of the disclosure.

4. Organizational Conflicts of Interest Certification

- (a) The Contractor warrants that to the best of its knowledge and belief and except as otherwise disclosed, it does not have any organizational conflict of interest which is defined as a situation in which the nature of work under a proposed contract and a prospective contractor's organizational, financial, contractual or other interest are such that:

- (i) Award of the contract may result in an unfair competitive advantage;
- (ii) The Contractor's objectivity in performing the contract work may be impaired; or
- (iii) That the Contractor has disclosed all relevant information and requested the HA to make a determination with respect to this Contract.

- (b) The Contractor agrees that if after award he or she discovers an organizational conflict of interest with respect to this contract, he or she shall make an immediate and full disclosure in writing to the HA which shall include a description of the action which the Contractor has taken or intends to eliminate or neutralize the conflict. The HA may, however, terminate the Contract for the convenience of HA if it would be in the best interest of HA.

- (c) In the event the Contractor was aware of an organizational conflict of interest before the award of this Contract and intentionally did not disclose the conflict to the HA, the HA may terminate the Contract for default.

- (d) The Contractor shall require a disclosure or representation from subcontractors and consultants who may be in a position to influence the advice or assistance rendered to the HA and shall include any necessary provisions to eliminate or neutralize conflicts of interest in consultant agreements or subcontracts involving performance or work under this Contract.

5. Authorized Negotiators (RFPs only)

The offeror represents that the following persons are authorized to negotiate on its behalf with the PHA in connection with this request for proposals: (list names, titles, and telephone numbers of the authorized negotiators):

6. Conflict of Interest

In the absence of any actual or apparent conflict, the offeror, by submission of a proposal, hereby warrants that to the best of its knowledge and belief, no actual or apparent conflict of interest exists with regard to my possible performance of this procurement, as described in the clause in this solicitation titled "Organizational Conflict of Interest."

7. Offeror's Signature

The offeror hereby certifies that the information contained in these certifications and representations is accurate, complete, and current.

Signature & Date:

Typed or Printed Name:

Title:

General Conditions for Non-Construction Contracts

Section I – (With or without Maintenance Work)

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Office of Public and Indian Housing

Office of Labor Relations

OMB Approval No. 2577-0157 (exp. 11/30/2023)

Public Reporting Burden for this collection of information is estimated to average one hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. HUD may not conduct or sponsor, and an applicant is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

Applicability. This form HUD-5370-C has 2 Sections. These Sections must be inserted into non-construction contracts as described below:

- 1) **Non-construction contracts** (*without* maintenance) **greater than \$150,000 - use Section I;**
- 2) **Maintenance contracts** (including nonroutine maintenance as defined at 24 CFR 905.100) **greater than \$2,000 but not more than \$150,000 - use Section II;** and
- 3) **Maintenance contracts** (including nonroutine maintenance), **greater than \$150,000 – use Sections I and II.**

Section I - Clauses for All Non-Construction Contracts greater than \$150,000

1. Definitions

The following definitions are applicable to this contract:

- (a) "Authority or Housing Authority (HA)" means the Housing Authority.
- (b) "Contract" means the contract entered into between the Authority and the Contractor. It includes the contract form, the Certifications and Representations, these contract clauses, and the scope of work. It includes all formal changes to any of those documents by addendum, Change Order, or other modification.
- (c) "Contractor" means the person or other entity entering into the contract with the Authority to perform all of the work required under the contract.
- (d) "Day" means calendar days, unless otherwise stated.
- (e) "HUD" means the Secretary of Housing and Urban development, his delegates, successors, and assigns, and the officers and employees of the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development acting for and on behalf of the Secretary.

2. Changes

- (a) The HA may at any time, by written order, and without notice to the sureties, if any, make changes within the general scope of this contract in the services to be performed or supplies to be delivered.
- (b) If any such change causes an increase or decrease in the hourly rate, the not-to-exceed amount of the contract, or the time required for performance of any part of the work under this contract, whether or not changed by the order, or otherwise affects the conditions of this contract, the HA shall make an equitable adjustment in the not-to-exceed amount, the hourly rate, the delivery schedule, or other affected terms, and shall modify the contract accordingly.
- (c) The Contractor must assert its right to an equitable adjustment under this clause within 30 days from the date of receipt of the written order. However, if the HA decides that the facts justify it, the HA may receive and act upon a

- proposal submitted before final payment of the contract.
- (d) Failure to agree to any adjustment shall be a dispute under clause Disputes, herein. However, nothing in this clause shall excuse the Contractor from proceeding with the contract as changed.
- (e) No services for which an additional cost or fee will be charged by the Contractor shall be furnished without the prior written consent of the HA.

3. Termination for Convenience and Default

- (a) The HA may terminate this contract in whole, or from time to time in part, for the HA's convenience or the failure of the Contractor to fulfill the contract obligations (default). The HA shall terminate by delivering to the Contractor a written Notice of Termination specifying the nature, extent, and effective date of the termination. Upon receipt of the notice, the Contractor shall: (i) immediately discontinue all services affected (unless the notice directs otherwise); and (ii) deliver to the HA all information, reports, papers, and other materials accumulated or generated in performing this contract, whether completed or in process.
- (b) If the termination is for the convenience of the HA, the HA shall be liable only for payment for services rendered before the effective date of the termination.
- (c) If the termination is due to the failure of the Contractor to fulfill its obligations under the contract (default), the HA may (i) require the Contractor to deliver to it, in the manner and to the extent directed by the HA, any work as described in subparagraph (a)(ii) above, and compensation be determined in accordance with the Changes clause, paragraph 2, above; (ii) take over the work and prosecute the same to completion by contract or otherwise, and the Contractor shall be liable for any additional cost incurred by the HA; (iii) withhold any payments to the Contractor, for the purpose of off-set or partial payment, as the case may be, of amounts owed to the HA by the Contractor.
- (d) If, after termination for failure to fulfill contract obligations (default), it is determined that the Contractor had not failed, the termination shall be deemed to have been effected for the convenience of the HA, and the Contractor shall be entitled to payment as described in paragraph (b) above.
- (e) Any disputes with regard to this clause are expressly made subject to the terms of clause titled Disputes herein.

4. Examination and Retention of Contractor's Records

- (a) The HA, HUD, or Comptroller General of the United States, or any of their duly authorized representatives shall, until 3 years after final payment under this contract, have access to and the right to examine any of the Contractor's directly pertinent books, documents, papers, or other records involving transactions related to this contract for the purpose of making audit, examination, excerpts, and transcriptions.

- (b) The Contractor agrees to include in first-tier subcontracts under this contract a clause substantially the same as paragraph (a) above. "Subcontract," as used in this clause, excludes purchase orders not exceeding \$10,000.
- (c) The periods of access and examination in paragraphs (a) and (b) above for records relating to:
 - (i) appeals under the clause titled Disputes;
 - (ii) litigation or settlement of claims arising from the performance of this contract; or,
 - (iii) costs and expenses of this contract to which the HA, HUD, or Comptroller General or any of their duly authorized representatives has taken exception shall continue until disposition of such appeals, litigation, claims, or exceptions.

5. Rights in Data (Ownership and Proprietary Interest)

The HA shall have exclusive ownership of, all proprietary interest in, and the right to full and exclusive possession of all information, materials and documents discovered or produced by Contractor pursuant to the terms of this Contract, including but not limited to reports, memoranda or letters concerning the research and reporting tasks of this Contract.

6. Energy Efficiency

The contractor shall comply with all mandatory standards and policies relating to energy efficiency which are contained in the energy conservation plan issued in compliance with the Energy Policy and Conservation Act (Pub.L. 94-163) for the State in which the work under this contract is performed.

7. Disputes

- (a) All disputes arising under or relating to this contract, except for disputes arising under clauses contained in Section III, Labor Standards Provisions, including any claims for damages for the alleged breach there of which are not disposed of by agreement, shall be resolved under this clause.
- (b) All claims by the Contractor shall be made in writing and submitted to the HA. A claim by the HA against the Contractor shall be subject to a written decision by the HA.
- (c) The HA shall, with reasonable promptness, but in no event in no more than 60 days, render a decision concerning any claim hereunder. Unless the Contractor, within 30 days after receipt of the HA's decision, shall notify the HA in writing that it takes exception to such decision, the decision shall be final and conclusive.
- (d) Provided the Contractor has (i) given the notice within the time stated in paragraph (c) above, and (ii) excepted its claim relating to such decision from the final release, and (iii) brought suit against the HA not later than one year after receipt of final payment, or if final payment has not been made, not later than one year after the Contractor has had a reasonable time to respond to a written request by the HA that it submit a final voucher and release, whichever is earlier, then the HA's decision shall not be final or conclusive, but the dispute shall be determined on the merits by a court of competent jurisdiction.
- (e) The Contractor shall proceed diligently with performance of this contract, pending final resolution of any request for relief, claim, appeal, or action arising under the contract, and comply with any decision of the HA.

8. Contract Termination; Debarment

A breach of these Contract clauses may be grounds for termination of the Contract and for debarment or denial of participation in HUD programs as a Contractor and a subcontractor as provided in 24 CFR Part 24.

9. Assignment of Contract

The Contractor shall not assign or transfer any interest in this contract; except that claims for monies due or to become due from the HA under the contract may be assigned to a bank, trust company, or other financial institution. If the Contractor is a partnership, this contract shall inure to the benefit of the surviving or remaining member(s) of such partnership approved by the HA.

10. Certificate and Release

Prior to final payment under this contract, or prior to settlement upon termination of this contract, and as a condition precedent thereto, the Contractor shall execute and deliver to the HA a certificate and release, in a form acceptable to the HA, of all claims against the HA by the Contractor under and by virtue of this contract, other than such claims, if any, as may be specifically excepted by the Contractor in stated amounts set forth therein.

11. Organizational Conflicts of Interest

- (a) The Contractor warrants that to the best of its knowledge and belief and except as otherwise disclosed, it does not have any organizational conflict of interest which is defined as a situation in which the nature of work under this contract and a contractor's organizational, financial, contractual or other interests are such that:
 - (i) Award of the contract may result in an unfair competitive advantage; or
 - (ii) The Contractor's objectivity in performing the contract work may be impaired.
- (b) The Contractor agrees that if after award it discovers an organizational conflict of interest with respect to this contract or any task/delivery order under the contract, he or she shall make an immediate and full disclosure in writing to the Contracting Officer which shall include a description of the action which the Contractor has taken or intends to take to eliminate or neutralize the conflict. The HA may, however, terminate the contract or task/delivery order for the convenience of the HA if it would be in the best interest of the HA.
- (c) In the event the Contractor was aware of an organizational conflict of interest before the award of this contract and intentionally did not disclose the conflict to the Contracting Officer, the HA may terminate the contract for default.
- (d) The terms of this clause shall be included in all subcontracts and consulting agreements wherein the work to be performed is similar to the service provided by the prime Contractor. The Contractor shall include in such subcontracts and consulting agreements any necessary provisions to eliminate or neutralize conflicts of interest.

12. Inspection and Acceptance

- (a) The HA has the right to review, require correction, if necessary, and accept the work products produced by the Contractor. Such review(s) shall be carried out within 30 days so as to not impede the work of the Contractor. Any

product of work shall be deemed accepted as submitted if the HA does not issue written comments and/or required corrections within 30 days from the date of receipt of such product from the Contractor.

- (b) The Contractor shall make any required corrections promptly at no additional charge and return a revised copy of the product to the HA within 7 days of notification or a later date if extended by the HA.
- (c) Failure by the Contractor to proceed with reasonable promptness to make necessary corrections shall be a default. If the Contractor's submission of corrected work remains unacceptable, the HA may terminate this contract (or the task order involved) or reduce the contract price or cost to reflect the reduced value of services received.

13. Interest of Members of Congress

No member of or delegate to the Congress of the United States of America or Resident Commissioner shall be admitted to any share or part of this contract or to any benefit to arise there from, but this provision shall not be construed to extend to this contract if made with a corporation for its general benefit.

14. Interest of Members, Officers, or Employees and Former Members, Officers, or Employees

No member, officer, or employee of the HA, no member of the governing body of the locality in which the project is situated, no member of the governing body in which the HA was activated, and no other public official of such locality or localities who exercises any functions or responsibilities with respect to the project, shall, during his or her tenure, or for one year thereafter, have any interest, direct or indirect, in this contract or the proceeds thereof.

15. Limitation on Payments to Influence Certain Federal Transactions

(a) Definitions. As used in this clause:

"Agency", as defined in 5 U.S.C. 552(f), includes Federal executive departments and agencies as well as independent regulatory commissions and Government corporations, as defined in 31 U.S.C. 9101(1).

"Covered Federal Action" means any of the following Federal actions:

- (i) The awarding of any Federal contract;
- (ii) The making of any Federal grant;
- (iii) The making of any Federal loan;
- (iv) The entering into of any cooperative agreement; and,
- (v) The extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

Covered Federal action does not include receiving from an agency a commitment providing for the United States to insure or guarantee a loan.

"Indian tribe" and "tribal organization" have the meaning provided in section 4 of the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act (25 U.S.C. 450B). Alaskan Natives are included under the definitions of Indian tribes in that Act.

"Influencing or attempting to influence" means making, with the intent to influence, any communication to or appearance before an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with any covered Federal action.

"Local government" means a unit of government in a State and, if chartered, established, or otherwise recognized by a State for the performance of a governmental duty, including a local public authority, a special district, an intrastate district, a council of governments, a sponsor group representative organization, and any other instrumentality of a local government.

"Officer or employee of an agency" includes the following individuals who are employed by an agency:

- (i) An individual who is appointed to a position in the Government under title 5, U.S.C., including a position under a temporary appointment;
- (ii) A member of the uniformed services as defined in section 202, title 18, U.S.C.;
- (iii) A special Government employee as defined in section 202, title 18, U.S.C.; and,
- (iv) An individual who is a member of a Federal advisory committee, as defined by the Federal Advisory Committee Act, title 5, appendix 2.

"Person" means an individual, corporation, company, association, authority, firm, partnership, society, State, and local government, regardless of whether such entity is operated for profit or not for profit. This term excludes an Indian tribe, tribal organization, or other Indian organization with respect to expenditures specifically permitted by other Federal law.

"Recipient" includes all contractors, subcontractors at any tier, and subgrantees at any tier of the recipient of funds received in connection with a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement. The term excludes an Indian tribe, tribal organization, or any other Indian organization with respect to expenditures specifically permitted by other Federal law.

"Regularly employed means, with respect to an officer or employee of a person requesting or receiving a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, an officer or employee who is employed by such person for at least 130 working days within one year immediately preceding the date of the submission that initiates agency consideration of such person for receipt of such contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement. An officer or employee who is employed by such person for less than 130 working days within one year immediately preceding the date of submission that initiates agency consideration of such person shall be considered to be regularly employed as soon as he or she is employed by such person for 130 working days.

"State" means a State of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, a territory or possession of the United States, an agency or instrumentality of a State, and a multi-State, regional, or interstate entity having governmental duties and powers.

(b) Prohibition.

- (i) Section 1352 of title 31, U.S.C. provides in part that no appropriated funds may be expended by the recipient of a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement to pay any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with any of the following covered Federal actions: the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

- (ii) The prohibition does not apply as follows:

(1) Agency and legislative liaison by Own Employees.

(a) The prohibition on the use of appropriated funds, in paragraph (i) of this section, does not apply in the case of a payment of reasonable compensation made to an officer or employee of a person requesting or receiving a Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, if the payment is for agency and legislative activities not directly related to a covered Federal action.

(b) For purposes of paragraph (b)(i)(1)(a) of this clause, providing any information specifically requested by an agency or Congress is permitted at any time.

(c) The following agency and legislative liaison activities are permitted at any time only where they are not related to a specific solicitation for any covered Federal action:

(1) Discussing with an agency (including individual demonstrations) the qualities and characteristics of the person's products or services, conditions or terms of sale, and service capabilities; and,

(2) Technical discussions and other activities regarding the application or adaptation of the person's products or services for an agency's use.

(d) The following agency and legislative liaison activities are permitted where they are prior to formal solicitation of any covered Federal action:

(1) Providing any information not specifically requested but necessary for an agency to make an informed decision about initiation of a covered Federal action;

(2) Technical discussions regarding the preparation of an unsolicited proposal prior to its official submission; and

(3) Capability presentations by persons seeking awards from an agency pursuant to the provisions of the Small Business Act, as amended by Public Law 95-507 and other subsequent amendments.

(e) Only those activities expressly authorized by subdivision (b)(ii)(1)(a) of this clause are permitted under this clause.

(2) Professional and technical services.

(a) The prohibition on the use of appropriated funds, in subparagraph (b)(i) of this clause, does not apply in the case of-

(i) A payment of reasonable compensation made to an officer or employee of a person requesting or receiving a covered Federal action or an extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of a covered Federal action, if payment is for professional or technical services rendered directly in the preparation, submission, or negotiation of any bid, proposal, or application for that Federal action or for meeting requirements imposed by or pursuant to law as a condition for receiving that Federal action.

(ii) Any reasonable payment to a person, other than an officer or employee of a

person requesting or receiving a covered Federal action or an extension, continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of a covered Federal action if the payment is for professional or technical services rendered directly in the preparation, submission, or negotiation of any bid, proposal, or application for that Federal action or for meeting requirements imposed by or pursuant to law as a condition for receiving that Federal action. Persons other than officers or employees of a person requesting or receiving a covered Federal action include consultants and trade associations.

(b) For purposes of subdivision (b)(ii)(2)(a) of clause, "professional and technical services" shall be limited to advice and analysis directly applying any professional or technical discipline.

(c) Requirements imposed by or pursuant to law as a condition for receiving a covered Federal award include those required by law or regulation, or reasonably expected to be required by law or regulation, and any other requirements in the actual award documents.

(d) Only those services expressly authorized by subdivisions (b)(ii)(2)(a)(i) and (ii) of this section are permitted under this clause.

(iii) Selling activities by independent sales representatives.

(c) The prohibition on the use of appropriated funds, in subparagraph (b)(i) of this clause, does not apply to the following selling activities before an agency by independent sales representatives, provided such activities are prior to formal solicitation by an agency and are specifically limited to the merits of the matter:

(i) Discussing with an agency (including individual demonstration) the qualities and characteristics of the person's products or services, conditions or terms of sale, and service capabilities; and

(ii) Technical discussions and other activities regarding the application or adaptation of the person's products or services for an agency's use.

(d) Agreement. In accepting any contract, grant, cooperative agreement, or loan resulting from this solicitation, the person submitting the offer agrees not to make any payment prohibited by this clause.

(e) Penalties. Any person who makes an expenditure prohibited under paragraph (b) of this clause shall be subject to civil penalties as provided for by 31 U.S.C. 1352. An imposition of a civil penalty does not prevent the Government from seeking any other remedy that may be applicable.

(f) Cost Allowability. Nothing in this clause is to be interpreted to make allowable or reasonable any costs which would be unallowable or unreasonable in accordance with Part 31 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR), or OMB Circulars dealing with cost allowability for recipients of assistance agreements. Conversely, costs made specifically unallowable by the requirements in this clause will not be made allowable under any of the provisions of FAR Part 31 or the relevant OMB Circulars.

16. Equal Employment Opportunity

During the performance of this contract, the

Contractor/Seller agrees as follows:

(a) The [contractor/seller] will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or national origin. The

[contractor/seller] will take affirmative action to ensure that applicants are employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or national origin. Such action shall include, but not be limited to the following: Employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer, recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The [contractor/seller] agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the contracting officer setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

(b) The [contractor/seller] will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the [contractor/seller], state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, disability, or national origin.

(c) The [contractor/seller] will not discharge or in any other manner discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because such employee or applicant has inquired about, discussed, or disclosed the compensation of the employee or applicant or another employee or applicant. This provision shall not apply to instances in which an employee who has access to the compensation information of other employees or applicants as a part of such employee's essential job functions discloses the compensation of such other employees or applicants to individuals who do not otherwise have access to such information, unless such disclosure is in response to a formal complaint or charge, in furtherance of an investigation, proceeding, hearing, or action, including an investigation conducted by the employer, or is consistent with the [contractor/seller]'s legal duty to furnish information.

(d) The [contractor/seller] will send to each labor union or representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding, a notice to be provided by the agency contracting officer, advising the labor union or workers' representative of the [contractor/seller]'s commitments under section 202 of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.

(e) The [contractor/seller] will comply with all provisions of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and of the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor.

(f) The [contractor/seller] will furnish all information and reports required by Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and by the rules, regulations, and orders of the Secretary of Labor, or pursuant thereto, and will permit access to his books, records, and accounts by the contracting agency and the Secretary of Labor for purposes of investigation to ascertain compliance with such rules, regulations, and orders.

(g) In the event of the [contractor/seller]'s non-compliance with the nondiscrimination clauses of this contract or with any of such rules, regulations, or orders, this contract may be canceled, terminated or suspended in whole or in part and the [contractor/seller] may be declared ineligible for further Government contracts in accordance with procedures authorized in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and such other sanctions may be imposed and remedies invoked as provided in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, or by rule, regulation, or order of the Secretary of Labor, or as otherwise provided by law.

(g) In the event of the [contractor/seller]'s non-compliance with the nondiscrimination clauses of this contract or with any of such rules, regulations, or orders, this contract may be canceled, terminated or suspended in whole or in part and the [contractor/seller] may be declared ineligible for further Government contracts in accordance with procedures authorized in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, and such other sanctions may be imposed and remedies invoked as provided in Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, or by rule, regulation, or order of the Secretary of Labor, or as otherwise provided by law.

(h) The [contractor/seller] will include the provisions of paragraphs (a) through (h) in every subcontract or purchase order unless exempted by rules, regulations, or orders of the Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to section 204 of Executive Order 11246 of September 24, 1965, so that such provisions will be binding upon each sub[contractor/seller] or vendor. The [contractor/seller] will take such action with respect to any subcontract or purchase order as may be directed by the Secretary of Labor as a means of enforcing such provisions including sanctions for noncompliance: Provided, however, that in the event the [contractor/seller] becomes involved in, or is threatened with, litigation with a subcontractor or vendor as a result of such direction, the [contractor/seller] may request the United States to enter into such litigation to protect the interests of the United States.

17. Equal Opportunity for Workers with Disabilities

1. The [contractor/seller] will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of physical or mental disability in regard to any position for which the employee or applicant for employment is qualified. The [contractor/seller] agrees to take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment individuals with disabilities, and to treat qualified individuals without discrimination on the basis of their physical or mental disability in all employment practices, including the following:

- i. Recruitment, advertising, and job application procedures;
- ii. Hiring, upgrading, promotion, award of tenure, demotion, transfer, layoff, termination, right of return from layoff and rehiring;
- iii. Rates of pay or any other form of compensation and changes in compensation;
- iv. Job assignments, job classifications, organizational structures, position descriptions, lines of progression, and seniority lists;
- v. Leaves of absence, sick leave, or any other leave;
- vi. Fringe benefits available by virtue of employment, whether or not administered by the [contractor/seller];
- vii. Selection and financial support for training, including apprenticeship, professional meetings, conferences, and other related activities, and selection for leaves of absence to pursue training;
- viii. Activities sponsored by the [contractor/seller] including social or recreational programs; and
- ix. Any other term, condition, or privilege of employment.

2. The [contractor/seller] agrees to comply with the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to the act.

3. In the event of the [contractor/seller] noncompliance with the requirements of this clause, actions for noncompliance may be taken in accordance with the rules, regulations, and relevant orders of the Secretary of Labor issued pursuant to the act.

4. The [contractor/seller] agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices in a form to be prescribed by the Director, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, provided by or through the contracting officer. Such notices shall state the rights of applicants and employees as well as the [contractor/seller]'s obligation under the law to take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified employees and applicants with disabilities.

The [contractor/seller] must ensure that applicants or employees with disabilities are provided the notice in a form that is accessible and understandable to the individual applicant or employee (e.g., providing Braille or large print versions of the notice, or posting a copy of the notice at a lower height for easy viewing by a person using a wheelchair). With respect to employees who do not work at a physical location of the [contractor/seller], a [contractor/seller] will satisfy its posting obligations by posting such notices in an electronic format, provided that the [contractor/seller] provides computers, or access to computers, that can access the electronic posting to such employees, or the [contractor/seller] has actual knowledge that such employees otherwise are able to access the electronically posted notices. Electronic notices for employees must be posted in a conspicuous location and format on the company's intranet or sent by electronic mail to employees. An electronic posting must be used by the [contractor/seller] to notify job applicants of their rights if the [contractor/seller] utilizes an electronic application process. Such electronic applicant notice must be conspicuously stored with, or as part of, the electronic application.

5. The [contractor/seller] will notify each labor organization or representative of workers with which it has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract understanding, that the [contractor/seller] is bound by the terms of section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, and is committed to take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment, and shall not discriminate against, individuals with physical or mental disabilities.

6. The [contractor/seller] will include the provisions of this clause in every subcontract or purchase order in excess of \$ 10,000, unless exempted by the rules, regulations, or orders of the Secretary issued pursuant to section 503 of the act, as amended, so that such provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor. The contractor will take such action with respect to any subcontract or purchase order as the Director, Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs may direct to enforce such provisions, including action for noncompliance.

7. The [contractor/seller] must, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the [contractor/seller], state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment and will not be discriminated against on the basis of disability.

18. Dissemination or Disclosure of Information

No information or material shall be disseminated or disclosed to the general public, the news media, or any person or organization without prior express written approval by the HA.

19. Contractor's Status

It is understood that the Contractor is an independent contractor and is not to be considered an employee of the HA, or assume any right, privilege or duties of an employee, and shall save harmless the HA and its employees from claims suits, actions and costs of every description resulting from the Contractor's activities on behalf of the HA in connection with this Agreement.

20. Other Contractors

HA may undertake or award other contracts for additional work at or near the site(s) of the work under this contract. The contractor shall fully cooperate with the other contractors and with HA and HUD employees and shall carefully adapt scheduling and performing the work under this contract to accommodate the additional work, heeding any direction that may be provided by the Contracting Officer. The contractor shall not commit or permit any act that will interfere with the performance of work by any other contractor or HA employee.

21. Liens

The Contractor is prohibited from placing a lien on HA's property. This prohibition shall apply to all subcontractors.

22. Training and Employment Opportunities for Residents in the Project Area (Section 3, HUD Act of 1968; 24 CFR 135)

- (a) The work to be performed under this contract is subject to the requirements of section 3 of the Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968, as amended, 12 U.S.C. 1701u (section 3). The purpose of section 3 is to ensure that employment and other economic opportunities generated by HUD assistance or HUD-assisted projects covered by section 3, shall, to the greatest extent feasible, be directed to low- and very low-income persons, particularly persons who are recipients of HUD assistance for housing.
- (b) The parties to this contract agree to comply with HUD's regulations in 24 CFR Part 135, which implement section 3. As evidenced by their execution of this contract, the parties to this contract certify that they are under no contractual or other impediment that would prevent them from complying with the Part 135 regulations.
- (c) The contractor agrees to send to each labor organization or representative of workers with which the contractor has a collective bargaining agreement or other understanding, if any, a notice advising the labor organization or workers' representative of the contractor's commitments under this section 3 clause, and will post copies of the notice in conspicuous places at the work site where both employees and applicants for training and employment positions can see the notice. The notice shall describe the section 3 preference, shall set forth minimum number and job titles subject to hire, availability of apprenticeship and training positions, the qualifications for each; and the name and location of the person(s) taking applications for each of the positions; and the anticipated date the work shall begin.
- (d) The contractor agrees to include this section 3 clause in every subcontract subject to compliance with regulations in 24 CFR Part 135, and agrees to take appropriate action, as provided in an applicable provision of the subcontract or in this section 3 clause, upon a finding that the subcontractor is in violation of the regulations in 24 CFR Part 135. The contractor will not subcontract with any subcontractor where the contractor has notice or knowledge that the subcontractor has been found in violation of the regulations in 24 CFR Part 135.
- (e) Noncompliance with HUD's regulations in 24 CFR Part 135 may result in sanctions, termination of this contract for default, and debarment or suspension from future HUD assisted contracts
- (f) Noncompliance with HUD's regulations in 24 CFR Part 135 may result in sanctions, termination of this contract for default, and debarment or suspension from future HUD assisted contracts.

22. Procurement of Recovered Materials

- (a) In accordance with Section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act, the Contractor shall procure items designated in guidelines of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) at 40 CFR Part 247 that contain the highest percentage of

recovered materials practicable consistent with maintaining a satisfactory level of competition. The Contractor shall procure items designated in the EPA guidelines that contain the highest percentage of recovered materials practicable unless the Contractor determines that such items: (1) are not reasonably available in a reasonable period of time; (2) fail to meet reasonable performance standards, which shall be determined on the basis of the guidelines of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, if applicable to the item; or (3) are only available at an unreasonable price.

- (b) Paragraph (a) of this clause shall apply to items purchased under this contract where: (1) the Contractor purchases in excess of \$10,000 of the item under this contract; or (2) during the preceding Federal fiscal year, the Contractor: (i) purchased any amount of the items for use under a contract that was funded with Federal appropriations and was with a Federal agency or a State agency or agency of a political subdivision of a State; and (ii) purchased a total of in excess of \$10,000 of the item both under and outside that contract

“Attachment D”

STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS

Each contractor submitting a proposal must answer the following questions and return this form with their submittal. **This is a part of the request for proposals package.** Failure to complete and return this form may be regarded as justification for rejecting the contractor’s proposal.

Attach additional sheets if necessary.

1. Name Of Person Completing Form _____
2. Business Address _____
3. Mailing Address _____
4. Federal Identification and/or Social Security No. _____
5. Names/Titles of Firm’s Principals: _____
6. When Organized: _____
7. Incorporated? _____ If Yes, What State & When? _____
8. How Many Years Have You Been Engaged In Providing These Type Services Under The Present Firm Name? _____
9. Have You Done This Type Service Under Any Other Name? _____
If Yes, Give Name: _____
10. Describe Current Contracts, Listing Type Of Work Performed, And Dates Of Contract:

11. Number of Staff? _____ Positions? _____

12. Explain Your Interest In This Contract And What Knowledge, Skills, Abilities, And Experiences Qualify You For This Contract:

Are There Any Attachments To This Document? () No () Yes _____Pages

TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION SUBMITTED ON THIS FORM AND ANY ATTACHMENT THERETO IS TRUE AND CORRECT.

COMPANY NAME

COMPLETED BY

SIGNATURE & DATE

PHONE NUMBER

FAX NUMBER

EMAIL

"Attachment E"

NON-COLLUSIVE AFFIDAVIT

I, _____, certify that I am
_____ of the company providing the proposal for and in behalf
of said firm by authority of its governing body and within the scope of its powers.

I further certify that no member of this company has colluded with any other person or company in
regard to the proposal submitted.

BY: _____
Signature

WRITTEN NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME on this the ____ day of _____, 20____.

NOTARY PUBLIC

My commission expires:

“Attachment F”

CERTIFICATION FOR CONTRACTS, GRANTS, LOAN AND COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT

The undersigned certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that:

(1) No Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any persons, for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, the making of any Federal grant, the making of any Federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement and the extension, continuation, renewal, amendment or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement.

(2) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form-LLL, “Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying”, in accordance with its instructions.

(3) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award documents for all sub-awards at all tiers (including subcontracts, sub-grants, and contracts under grants, loans, and cooperative agreements) and that all sub-recipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

This certification is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when this transaction was made or entered into. Submission of this certification is a prerequisite for making or entering into this transaction imposed by Section 1352, Title 31, U. S. Code. Any person who fails to file the required certification shall be subject to a civil penalty of not less than \$10,000 and not more than \$100,000 for each such failure.

Executed this _____ day of _____, 2024

By: _____
(Signature of Authorized Official)

Sworn to and subscribed before me on this _____ day of _____, 2024.

Notary Public

My Commission Expires: _____

“Attachment G”

COST PROPOSAL FORM

Flat Fee:
(or Retainer Fee) _____

Hourly Rate: _____

Travel Fees: _____

Misc. Costs:
(Please Specify. For example, Travel \$.55/mile)

_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____

"ATTACHMENT H"

FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICE STATEMENT
AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF _____

COUNTY OF _____

After first being duly sworn according to law, the undersigned (Affiant) states that he/she is

_____ of _____

(Contractor) and that by its employment policy, standards and practices the Contractor does not subscribe to any personnel policy which permits or allows for the promotion, demotion, employment, dismissal of, laying off of any individual due to his/her race, creed, color, national origin, age, sex or disabled condition.

Any further Affiant sayeth not.

Signature

Type or Print Name

Sworn to and subscribed before me on this _____ day of _____, 2024.

NOTARY PUBLIC

My Commission Expires: _____

"Attachment I"

ELIGIBILITY CERTIFICATION

By my signature below, I certify that _____

Company Name

is eligible to receive awards from the United States government and therefore, to the best of my knowledge is **not** on any lists provided by the United States government of contractors that are debarred or ineligible to receive awards from the United States government.

BY:

Signature

WRITTEN NAME:

TITLE:

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBED BEFORE ME on this the _____ day of _____,
20____.

NOTARY PUBLIC

My commission expires:

“Attachment J”

HUD SECTION 3 CLAUSE

Code of Federal Regulations

Title 24 - Housing and Urban Development

Volume: 1

Date: 2019-04-01

Original Date: 2019-04-01

Title: PART 135 - ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR LOW- AND VERY LOW-INCOME PERSONS

Context: Title 24 - Housing and Urban Development. Subtitle B - Regulations Relating to Housing and Urban Development.

CHAPTER I - OFFICE OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY FOR EQUAL OPPORTUNITY, DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT.

SUBCHAPTER B - EMPLOYMENT AND BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY.

§ 135.38 Section 3 Clause.

All section 3 covered contracts shall include the following clause (referred to as the section 3 clause):

A. THE WORK TO BE PERFORMED UNDER THIS CONTRACT IS SUBJECT TO THE REQUIREMENTS OF SECTION 3 OF THE HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 1968, AS AMENDED, 12 U.S.C. 1701U (SECTION 3). THE PURPOSE OF SECTION 3 IS TO ENSURE THAT EMPLOYMENT AND OTHER ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITIES GENERATED BY HUD ASSISTANCE OR HUD-ASSISTED PROJECTS COVERED BY SECTION 3, SHALL, TO THE GREATEST EXTENT FEASIBLE, BE DIRECTED TO LOW- AND VERY LOW-INCOME PERSONS, PARTICULARLY PERSONS WHO ARE RECIPIENTS OF HUD ASSISTANCE FOR HOUSING.

B. THE PARTIES TO THIS CONTRACT AGREE TO COMPLY WITH HUD'S REGULATIONS IN 24 CFR PART 135, WHICH IMPLEMENT SECTION 3. AS EVIDENCED BY THEIR EXECUTION OF THIS CONTRACT, THE PARTIES TO THIS CONTRACT CERTIFY THAT THEY ARE UNDER NO CONTRACTUAL OR OTHER IMPEDIMENT THAT WOULD PREVENT THEM FROM COMPLYING WITH THE PART 135 REGULATIONS.

C. THE CONTRACTOR AGREES TO SEND TO EACH LABOR ORGANIZATION OR REPRESENTATIVE OF WORKERS WITH WHICH THE CONTRACTOR HAS A COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT OR OTHER UNDERSTANDING, IF ANY, A NOTICE ADVISING THE LABOR ORGANIZATION OR WORKERS' REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CONTRACTOR'S COMMITMENTS UNDER THIS SECTION 3 CLAUSE, AND WILL POST COPIES OF THE NOTICE IN CONSPICUOUS PLACES AT THE WORK SITE WHERE BOTH EMPLOYEES AND APPLICANTS FOR TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT POSITIONS CAN SEE THE NOTICE. THE NOTICE SHALL DESCRIBE THE SECTION 3 PREFERENCE, SHALL SET FORTH MINIMUM NUMBER AND JOB TITLES SUBJECT TO HIRE, AVAILABILITY OF APPRENTICESHIP AND TRAINING POSITIONS, THE QUALIFICATIONS FOR EACH; AND THE NAME AND LOCATION OF THE PERSON(S) TAKING APPLICATIONS FOR EACH OF THE POSITIONS; AND THE ANTICIPATED DATE THE WORK SHALL BEGIN.

D. THE CONTRACTOR AGREES TO INCLUDE THIS SECTION 3 CLAUSE IN EVERY SUBCONTRACT SUBJECT TO COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS IN 24 CFR PART 135, AND AGREES TO TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION, AS PROVIDED IN AN APPLICABLE PROVISION OF THE SUBCONTRACT OR IN THIS SECTION 3 CLAUSE, UPON A FINDING THAT THE SUBCONTRACTOR IS IN VIOLATION OF THE REGULATIONS IN 24 CFR PART 135. THE CONTRACTOR WILL NOT SUBCONTRACT WITH ANY SUBCONTRACTOR WHERE THE CONTRACTOR HAS NOTICE OR KNOWLEDGE THAT THE SUBCONTRACTOR HAS BEEN FOUND IN VIOLATION OF THE REGULATIONS IN 24 CFR PART 135

E. THE CONTRACTOR WILL CERTIFY THAT ANY VACANT EMPLOYMENT POSITIONS, INCLUDING TRAINING POSITIONS, THAT ARE FILLED (1) AFTER THE CONTRACTOR IS SELECTED BUT BEFORE THE CONTRACT IS EXECUTED, AND (2) WITH PERSONS OTHER THAN THOSE TO WHOM THE REGULATIONS OF 24 CFR PART 135 REQUIRE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES TO BE DIRECTED, WERE NOT FILLED TO CIRCUMVENT THE CONTRACTOR'S OBLIGATIONS UNDER 24 CFR PART 135.

F. NONCOMPLIANCE WITH HUD'S REGULATIONS IN 24 CFR PART 135 MAY RESULT IN SANCTIONS, TERMINATION OF THIS CONTRACT FOR DEFAULT, AND DEBARMENT OR SUSPENSION FROM FUTURE HUD ASSISTED CONTRACTS.

G. WITH RESPECT TO WORK PERFORMED IN CONNECTION WITH SECTION 3 COVERED INDIAN HOUSING ASSISTANCE, SECTION 7(B) OF THE INDIAN SELF-DETERMINATION AND EDUCATION ASSISTANCE ACT (25 U.S.C. 450E) ALSO APPLIES TO THE WORK TO BE PERFORMED UNDER THIS CONTRACT. SECTION 7(B) REQUIRES THAT TO THE GREATEST EXTENT FEASIBLE (I) PREFERENCE AND OPPORTUNITIES FOR TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT SHALL BE GIVEN TO INDIANS, AND (II) PREFERENCE IN THE AWARD OF CONTRACTS AND SUBCONTRACTS SHALL BE GIVEN TO INDIAN ORGANIZATIONS AND INDIAN-OWNED ECONOMIC ENTERPRISES. PARTIES TO THIS CONTRACT THAT ARE SUBJECT TO THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 3 AND SECTION 7(B) AGREE TO COMPLY WITH SECTION 3 TO THE MAXIMUM EXTENT FEASIBLE, BUT NOT IN DEROGATION OF COMPLIANCE WITH SECTION 7(B).