

Dated: February 2, 2000.

Martha J. Ketelle,

Forest Supervisor.

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Committee for Purchase From People Who are Blind or Severely Disabled

Procurement List Proposed Additions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled

ACTION: Proposed additions to procurement list.

SUMMARY: The Committee has received proposals to add to the Procurement List services to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE: March 13, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Gateway 3, Suite 310, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-4302.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Leon A. Wilson, Jr. (703) 603-7740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice is published pursuant to 41 U.S.C. 47(a)(2) and 41 CFR 51-2.3. Its purpose is to provide interested persons an opportunity to submit comments on the possible impact of the proposed actions.

If the Committee approves the proposed additions, all entities of the Federal Government (except as otherwise indicated) will be required to procure the services listed below from nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

I certify that the following action will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities. The major factors considered for this certification were:

1. The action will not result in any additional reporting, recordkeeping or other compliance requirements for small entities other than the small organizations that will furnish the services to the Government.

2. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the services to the Government.

3. There are no known regulatory alternatives which would accomplish the objectives of the Javits-Wagner-O'Day Act (41 U.S.C. 46-48c) in connection with the services proposed for addition to the Procurement List. Comments on this certification are

invited. Commenters should identify the statement(s) underlying the certification on which they are providing additional information.

The following services have been proposed for addition to Procurement List for production by the nonprofit agencies listed:

Grounds Maintenance
Air National Guard Readiness Center
Andrews AFB, Maryland
NPA: Melwood Horticultural Training Center, Upper Marlboro, Maryland
Janitorial/Custodial
U.S. Customs Service
Office of Investigation, East and West Wings Building 50, JFK Airport
Jamaica, New York
NPA: Goodwill Industries of Greater New York and Northern New Jersey, Inc.
Astoria, New York
Mailroom Operation
U.S. Department of State
Office of Foreign Buildings Operations
1701 North Fort Myer Drive
Arlington, Virginia
NPA: Columbia Lighthouse for the Blind, Washington, DC

Leon A. Wilson, Jr.,

Executive Director.

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COMMITTEE FOR PURCHASE FROM PEOPLE WHO ARE BLIND OR SEVERELY DISABLED

Procurement List Additions and Deletions

AGENCY: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled.

ACTION: Additions to and deletions from the Procurement List.

SUMMARY: This action adds to the Procurement List services to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities, and deletes from the Procurement List commodities previously furnished by such agencies.

EFFECTIVE DATE: March 13, 2000.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Gateway 3, Suite 310, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202-4302.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Leon A. Wilson, Jr. (703) 603-7740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On November 29 and December 17, and 27, 1999, the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled published notices (64 F.R. 66611, 70694 and 72312) of proposed

additions to and deletions from the Procurement List:

Additions

The following comments pertain to Janitorial/Custodial, The Library of Congress, Washington, DC for the following locations: James Madison Memorial, Thomas Jefferson Building, John Adams Building and Little Scholars Child Care Facility.

Comments were received from counsel for two companies: the current contractor for this service, and a new company whose president was until recently the president of the current contractor.

Both companies noted the impact on them of adding this service to the Procurement List, and questioned the capability of the nonprofit agency originally designated to perform the service. The second company also questioned whether this addition to the Procurement List met certain statutory requirements, and the role of a consultant to that nonprofit agency. This service is currently being procured under a small business set-aside, and the contracting officer has stated for the record that, if the Committee does not add the service to the Procurement List, the service will continue to be reserved for small businesses. The current contractor is no longer a small business, so it is not eligible for contracts for the service. Consequently, addition of this service to the Procurement List would not be the cause of any impact the current contractor suffers by not being able to provide the service, regardless of the size of the impact or any dependency the contractor has developed over the five years it has provided the service. Although the current contractor anticipates that its declining sales will return it to the small business category by 2001, the Committee does not consider such speculation as demonstrating severe adverse impact resulting from addition of a service to the Procurement List.

Unlike the current contractor, the other commenting company is a small business. It has not, however, been a current contractor for this service. Losing the ability to compete for the service is not considered by the Committee to constitute severe adverse impact on a company which has not developed a dependence on having the contract for the service.

The current contractor noted that loss of this service would require it to discharge a substantial number of its employees, who would collect unemployment benefits from the company, increasing its indirect rates and making it more difficult for the