

From: [Costello Wilson III](#)
To: [Mark Talarico \(3PQNS\)](#); kroberts@teamgov.com; zian@teamgov.com; cflowers@teamgov.com; jwilson@teamgov.com; eneilan@teamgov.com; [Kevin Roberts](#); [Edward Neilan](#)
Cc: [Jean Thelemaque - 3PQ2CN](#); [Sarah Doherty - 3PQ2CN](#); [contracts](#)
Subject: Pre-Bid Agency Level Protest of TeamGOV - ATF RFP 47PN1123Q0001
Date: Friday, June 9, 2023 12:56:00 PM
Attachments: [Attachment A-Current ATF RFP 47PN1123Q0001.pdf](#)
[Attachment B-Original ATF RFP GS-11P-11-ZGC-0068.docx](#)
Importance: High

Hello Mr. Talarico,

TeamGOV, Inc., a company headquartered in Landover, MD, hereby formally protests against the GSA ACQ R3 (Region 3) FACILITY MGMT SERVICES BRANCH Request for Quotations (RFP) #47PN1123Q0001, citing significant flaws in the solicitation process. Please refer to Attachment A-Current ATF RFP 47PN1123Q0001 for detailed information. We assert that the solicitation constitutes an improper conversion of an 8(a) contract into a non-8(a) procurement under the GSA E-Buy system.

In 2011, the GSA issued a solicitation for identical work under the SBA 8(a) Business Development (BD) Program, known as RFP #GS-11P-11-ZGC-0068. Please see Attachment B_Original ATF RFP GS-11P-11-ZGC-0068 for reference.

GSA ACQ R3 has selectively invited only a few firms, excluding minority-owned 8(a) firms, to participate in the ongoing ATF RFQ 47PN1123Q0001. Despite expressing interest in bidding, TeamGOV, Inc., an 8(a) firm, was belatedly invited to participate and faced significant challenges. We were unable to adequately address critical questions or conduct a proper site visit due to not being included from the outset of the solicitation, placing us at a severe disadvantage. Furthermore, we are now compelled to compete against non-8(a) firms, the majority of which were formerly 8(a) firms themselves and have graduated from the program.

GSA's actions directly violate Federal regulations, specifically FAR 19.815 and 13 C.F.R. 124.504. Such actions undermine the integrity of the 8(a) BD Program and deny TeamGOV, an active 8(a) program participant, the opportunity and benefits of competing for contracts reserved for participants within the SBA 8(a) BD Program.

GSA is attempting to remove this procurement from the SBA's 8(a) Program without following the proper procedures outlined in the aforementioned regulations.

During the Trump administration's tenure from 2017 to 2021, the 8(a) community suffered setbacks and witnessed diminished opportunities due to the implementation of the GSA's best-in-class initiative, initiated in February 2018.

In light of these circumstances, we are collaborating with other minority firms and considering engaging a civil rights attorney to investigate the detrimental effects caused by the GSA ACQ R3 practice of excluding historically set-aside contracts for Woman-Owned Small Businesses, Economically Disadvantaged Women-Owned Small Businesses (EDWOSBs), Minority-Owned Businesses, SBA Certified 8(a) Program Participants, HUBZone Certified businesses, and Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Businesses.

Furthermore, we are keen to align with the current administration's missions of increasing

equity and leveling the playing field for underserved small business owners. The Biden-Harris Administration has announced reforms to address these issues, as outlined in the following links:

Biden-Harris Administration Announces Reforms to Increase Equity and Level the Playing Field for Underserved Small Business Owners: <https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefing-room/statements-releases/2021/12/02/fact-sheet-biden-harris-administration-announces-reforms-to-increase-equity-and-level-the-playing-field-for-underserved-small-business-owners/>

8(a) MAS Pool Initiative Will Help More 8(a)-certified Firms Gain Access to Federal Contracting Opportunities: <https://www.sba.gov/article/2023/05/25/biden-harris-administration-launch-new-initiative-increase-federal-contracting-small-disadvantaged>

We believe that our collaboration with other minority firms and potential involvement of a civil rights attorney will shed light on the detrimental effects caused by the GSA ACQ R3's exclusionary practices. We seek justice and fairness in federal contracting, ensuring equal opportunities for Woman-Owned Small Businesses, Economically Disadvantaged Women-Owned Small Businesses (EDWOSBs), Minority-Owned Businesses, SBA Certified 8(a) Program Participants, and Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Businesses.

Thank you,
Costello Wilson
202-695-8077



Business Types:

- Woman Owned Small Business
- **Economically Disadvantaged Women Small Owned Business (EDWOSB)**
- Minority Owned Business
- SBA Certified 8(a) Program Participant
- HUBZone Certified Program Participant