

#### CONDUCTING MARKET RESEARCH

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# **Policy**

FAR 19.502-2 Total Small Business Set-asides

- .....each acquisition of supplies or services that has an anticipated dollar value exceeding \$3,000(\$15,000 for acquisitions as described in 13.201(g)(1), but not over \$100,000 is automatically reserved exclusively for small concerns and shall be set-aside for small business.....
- The contracting officer shall set-aside any acquisition over \$100,000 for small business participation when there is a reasonable expectation that....
  - ....offers will be obtained from at least two responsible small business concerns



## Market Research Policy

- FAR Part 10.001 Policy
  - Agencies must conduct market research appropriate to the circumstances--
    - before soliciting offers for acquisitions with an estimated value in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold(SAT)
    - before soliciting offers for acquisitions with an estimated value less than the SAT when adequate information is not available and the circumstances justify its cost




## Market Research Policy cont'd

- market research should validate the acquisition strategy being used
- should back-up decision not to set-aside if a protest arises
- consolidate results of market research into a Market Research document

Agencies shall conduct market research on an ongoing basis



# CONDUCTING MARKET RESEARCH

Agencies should document the results of market research in a manner appropriate to the size and complexity of the acquisition

"Requirements personnel and contracting officers must WORK TOGETHER AS A TEAM TO GATHER MARKET DATA needed to make decisions. Market research utilized to justify sole source must be complete and not more than 6 months old. A statement that "the solicitation will be synopsized and that all proposals received will be evaluated" is not a substitute for performing adequate market research and in itself does not support and justify sole source."



# CONDUCTING MARKET RESEARCH

- > When conducting market research agencies;
  - > should not request potential sources to submit more than the minimum information necessary
  - $\succ$  should consult with the local SBA PCR as early as possible during the acquisition process
  - Market research is not just posting a Sources Sought or a RFI notice alone. You should also include results from a search in the Dynamic SB Search website.
- > The extent of market research WILL VARY, depending on such factors as urgency, estimated dollar value, complexity, and past experience




#### Market Research Document

- Document responses received from RFIs and Sources Sought notices
  - Identify the number of SBs responding and SB category
  - Document if they intend to participate as a prime, team member or subcontractor
  - Document results from Dynamic SB Search queries
    - Number of results from each category
    - Identify each SB contacted by name

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References

FAR Part 10 FAR Part 19

#### **CONDUCTING MARKET RESEARCH**

QUESTIONS????

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### SBA Office of Government Contracting

Mission

The Office of Government Contracting's mission is to help enhance the effectiveness of small business programs by working with Government **Contracting and Business Development** (GC/BD) program offices and others to develop policies, regulations, and statutory changes.

SBA
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#### **Basis for SBA Programs**

#### **Small Business Act**

- Implements Congressional Policy to aid, counsel, assist & protect the interests of small business concerns
- Goal of policy is to ensure that a fair proportion of purchases, contracts & subcontracts be placed with small businesses



#### **Small Business Contract Assistance Programs**

**Prime Contract Assistance** Small business set-aside program **Procurement Preference Goaling** Size Determination Program Waivers to the Non-Manufacturer Rule Natural Resources Program Certificate of Competency (COC) **Subcontracting Assistance** 



# Office of Government Contracting

Procurement Center Representatives PCRs



#### What PCRs Do

- •Promote SBA Programs/8(a) BD
- •Review Acquisitions, Bundling Cases & Solicitations
- •Recommend Set-Asides
- •Perform Market Research
- •Provide & Attend Training Events
- •Perform Surveillance Reviews
- •Counsel Small, "Other Than Small" & Federal Agencies
- •Perform Outreach



#### **What PCRs See**

- •Small Business Review Form (DD2579)
- •Government Estimate
- •Sole Source
- •J&As
- •Statement of Work
- •Acquisition Plan
- •Market Survey
- •Purchase Request
- •Purchase History
- •Synopsis

- •Source Selection Criteria
- •A-76 Information
- •Sensitive Information
- •Set-aside appeals
- •Certificate of
- Competency Request
- •Subcontracting Plans
- •Bid Abstracts