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 commodities and services to be furnished by nonprofit agencies employing persons who are blind or have other severe disabilities.

COMMENTS MUST BE RECEIVED ON OR BEFORE: December 22, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Square 3, Suite 403, 1735 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202–3461.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beverly Milkman (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 commodities and 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 commodities and services to the Government.

2. The action does not appear to have a severe economic impact on current contractors for the commodities and services.

3. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the commodities and services to the Government.

4. 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 commodities and 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 commodities and services have been proposed for addition to Procurement List for production by the nonprofit agencies listed:

Commodities

Office and Miscellaneous Supplies
(Requirments for the Naval Station, Ingleside, Texas)
NPA: South Texas Lighthouse for the Blind, Corpus Christi, Texas

Extra Life & Shipper
M.R. 858
M.R. 859
NPA: Industries of the Blind, Inc., Greensboro, North Carolina

Sponge, Cellulose
7920–01–444–3650
NPA: Mississippi Industries for the Blind, Jackson, Mississippi

Services

Janitorial/Custodial
Robert N.C. Nix, Sr. Federal Center
9th & Market Street
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
NPA: Elwyn, Inc., Elwyn, Pennsylvania

Mailroom Operation
Veterans Affairs Medical Center
Denver, Colorado
NPA: Bayaud Industries, Inc., Denver, Colorado

Switchboard Operation
Veterans Affairs Medical Center 2250 Leestown Road
Lexington, Kentucky
NPA: Kentucky Industries for the Blind, Louisville, Kentucky.

Beverly L. Milkman,
Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 97–30677 Filed 11–20–97; 8:45 am]
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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 commodities and 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: December 22, 1997.

ADDRESSES: Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled, Crystal Square 3, Suite 403, 1735 Jefferson Davis Highway, Arlington, Virginia 22202–3461.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beverly Milkman (703) 603–7740.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On June 13, August 1, September 5, 12, 26 and October 3, 1997, the Committee for Purchase From People Who Are Blind or Severely Disabled published notices (62 FR 32288, 41339, 46943, 48050, 50555 and 51827) of proposed additions to and deletions from the Procurement List:

Additions

The Following Comments Pertain to Janitorial/Custodial, Calexico, California

Comments were received from the current contractor for this janitorial/custodial service. The commenter claimed that this addition to the Procurement List would have a severe adverse impact on the company and its employees as little other Federal work would remain in its area after this and other Procurement List additions.

This addition would not, in the Committee's view, remove a large enough percentage of the commenter's total sales to constitute severe adverse impact. The commenter was not the current contractor for the other janitorial services in its area which have been added to the Procurement List, so it was not impacted by losing the opportunity to perform those services. The commenter did not provide information concerning possible job losses by its employees, but given the relatively small amount of labor involved in the contract, at most only one or two employees would be impacted. Moreover, the Procurement List addition will create employment for people with severe disabilities, who have an unemployment rate far above that of people without disabilities. Consequently, the Committee believes this job creation outweighs the possible job loss by one or two of the commenter's employees.

The Following Comments Pertain to Tray, MM, Fiberboard

The Committee initially proposed to add the Government requirement for fiberboard MM trays and sleeves to the Procurement List. Comments were received from two companies which

were current contractors for these items at the time the Committee wrote to them to request sales data. One company indicated that the items made up a substantial portion of its sales, and losing them would also cause layoffs of some workers. The other company described the production process and questioned whether the designated nonprofit agency would be capable of acquiring the machinery needed to perform it to Government specifications.

Because of concerns over contractor impact, the trays and sleeves have been separated into two Procurement List addition processes. This addition involves only the fiberboard MM sleeves. Neither company is currently a contractor for the sleeves, so the addition will have no impact on them or their workers. The company which is the contractor is a very large business, so the impact of the addition on it will not be severe.

The designated nonprofit agency has experience in producing corrugated items for the Government and other customers. The Committee's industrial engineer has reviewed the capability assessments which have been done by the contracting activity and the central nonprofit agency, and has concluded that the nonprofit agency will be capable of producing the sleeves to Government specifications at the time of contract performance.

The Following Comments Pertain to Dispenser, Tape

Comments were received from the current contractor for the tape dispenser. The commenter noted that the tape dispenser requires very little labor to produce, so it would not create much employment for people with severe disabilities. He also claimed that the Committee was adding a sizeable portion of his company's business to the Procurement List when earlier additions are considered along with this addition. The commenter also mentioned the impact of losing investment in product development and tooling to produce items which are then added to the Procurement List, and claimed that the company had not been contacted in the past before other Procurement List additions were made.

The Committee agrees that this particular tape dispenser produces only a small amount of direct labor employment for people with severe disabilities. However, it will complement other products, including another tape dispenser, being produced by the nonprofit agency to generate direct labor employment for people who are blind.

The commenter was not the current contractor for the other items it mentioned at the times they were added to the Procurement List. Consequently, the Committee did not contact the commenter to inquire about the impact of the additions on its sales, as it did for the current addition. The Committee does not consider loss of the opportunity to bid on future Government purchases of an item to constitute severe adverse impact on a company which is not the current contractor for the item. The current addition represents a percentage of the commenter's sales which is well below the level the Committee normally considers to have a severe adverse impact.

Because no contractor is guaranteed a contract under the Government's competitive bidding system, product development and tooling investment is a business expense which a contractor makes with the understanding that it may be lost if the contractor fails to secure a Government contract for the item in question. Consequently, the Committee does not consider such loss to constitute severe adverse impact. In addition, the contractor sold its stencil dies to nonprofit agencies which are producing stencils under the Committee's Javits-Wagner-O'Day (JWOD) Program, and has developed new business lines to replace the bidding opportunities it claims to have lost to the JWOD Program.

After consideration of the material presented to it concerning capability of qualified nonprofit agencies to provide the commodities and services and impact of the additions on the current or most recent contractors, the Committee has determined that the commodities and services listed below are suitable for procurement by the Federal Government under 41 U.S.C. 46–48c and 41 CFR 51–2.4.

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 commodities and services to the Government.

2. The action will not have a severe economic impact on current contractors for the commodities and services.

3. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the commodities and services to the Government.

4. 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 commodities and services proposed for addition to the Procurement List.

Accordingly, the following commodities and services are hereby added to the Procurement List:

Commodities

Office and Miscellaneous Supplies
(Requirements for the U.S. Military Academy, West Point, New York)

Tape Dispenser
7520–00–240–2408

Sleeve, MM, Fiberboard
P.S. Item 3916A

Services

Carpet Replacement, National Gallery of Art, 6th & Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC

Janitorial/Custodial, Calexico Border Patrol Station, Calexico, California

Janitorial/Custodial, U.S. Army Reserve Center, Moffett Field, California

Janitorial/Custodial, Eisenhower Library Complex, 200 S.E. 4th Street, Abilene, Kansas.

This action does not affect current contracts awarded prior to the effective date of this addition or options that may be exercised under those contracts.

Deletions

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.

2. The action will not have a severe economic impact on future contractors for the commodities.

3. The action will result in authorizing small entities to furnish the commodities to the Government.

4. 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 commodities deleted from the Procurement List.

Accordingly, the following commodities are hereby deleted from the Procurement List:

Cover, Mattress
7210–00–241–9718
7210–00–067–7969

Smithsonian Institution Women's Council Newsletter

7690–00–NSH–0037

Beverly L. Milkman,

Executive Director.

[FR Doc. 97–30678 Filed 11–20–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6353–01–P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the Connecticut Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the Connecticut Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 12:00 p.m. and adjourn at 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 9, 1997, at the Catholic Charities, Conference Room, 467 Bloomfield Avenue, Bloomfield, Connecticut 06002. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss and plan followup activities to the Civil Rights Leadership Conference held on November 12 and 13, 1997, in Waterbury.

Persons desiring additional information, or planning a presentation to the Committee, should contact Committee Chairperson Neil Macy, 860–242–7287, or Ki-Taek Chun, Director of the Eastern Regional Office, 202–376–7533 (TDD 202–376–8116). Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Regional Office at least ten (10) working days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Dated at Washington, DC, November 18, 1997.

Carol-Lee Hurley,

Chief, Regional Programs Coordination Unit.

[FR Doc. 97–30691 Filed 11–20–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6335–01–P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the Florida Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the Florida Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 2:00 p.m. and adjourn at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, December 17, 1997, at the Hotel Inter-Continental, 100 Chopin Plaza, Miami, Florida 33131. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss new project ideas, and new member orientation.

Persons desiring additional information, or planning a presentation to the Committee, should contact Bobby D. Doctor, Director of the Southern Regional Office, 404–562–7000 (TDD 404–562–7004). Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Regional Office at least ten (10) working days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Dated at Washington, DC, November 18, 1997.

Carol-Lee Hurley,

Chief, Regional Programs Coordination Unit.

[FR Doc. 97–30694 Filed 11–20–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6335–01–P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the Maine Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the Maine Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 2:00 p.m. and adjourn at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, December 11, 1997, at the United Technical Center, Region 4, Conference Room, 200 Hogan Road, Bangor, Maine 02208. The purpose of the meeting is to plan future events and discuss progress of the Committee report, ''Limited English Proficient Students in Maine: An Assessment of Equal Educational Opportunities.''

Persons desiring additional information, or planning a presentation to the Committee, should contact Committee Chairperson Barney Bérubé, 207–287–5980, or Ki-Taek Chun, Director of the Eastern Regional Office, 202–376–7533 (TDD 202–376–8116). Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Regional Office at least ten (10) working days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Dated at Washington, DC, November 18, 1997.

Carol-Lee Hurley,

Chief, Regional Programs Coordination Unit.

[FR Doc. 97–30692 Filed 11–20–97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 6335–01–P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the Massachusetts Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the Massachusetts Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 10:00 a.m. and adjourn at 3:00 p.m. on Friday, December 5, 1997, at the Board of Directors Room, Alumnae House, Smith College, Northampton, Massachusetts 01063. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss followup activities to the Springfield briefing on police-community relations and plan for the 1998 Civil Rights Leadership Conference.

Persons desiring additional information, or planning a presentation to the Committee, should contact Committee Chairperson Fletcher Blanchard, 413–585–3909, or Ki-Taek Chun, Director of the Eastern Regional Office, 202–376–7533 (TDD 202–376–8116). Hearing-impaired persons who will attend the meeting and require the services of a sign language interpreter should contact the Regional Office at least ten (10) working days before the scheduled date of the meeting.

The meeting will be conducted pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the Commission.

Dated at Washington, DC, November 18, 1997.

Carol-Lee Hurley,

Chief, Regional Programs Coordination Unit.

[FR Doc. 97–30690 Filed 11–18–97; 4:15 pm]

BILLING CODE 6335–01–P

COMMISSION ON CIVIL RIGHTS

Agenda and Notice of Public Meeting of the South Carolina Advisory Committee

Notice is hereby given, pursuant to the provisions of the rules and regulations of the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, that a meeting of the South Carolina Advisory Committee to the Commission will convene at 1:00 p.m. and adjourn at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, December 12, 1997, at the Hilton Head Island Hilton, 23 Ocean Lane, Hilton Head Island, South Carolina 29938. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss new project ideas and new member orientation.

Persons desiring additional information, or planning a presentation to the Committee, should contact Bobby D. Doctor, Director of the Southern