

From: Syrek, Christopher D.
Sent: Wed, 5 Feb 2025 00:22:50 +0000
To: Owens, Darrell R.; Burch, Jennifer A.
Cc: Cashour, Curtis E.
Subject: DOGE Statement

Darrell,

This is the only language we should be providing to any congressional inquiries, media inquiries or any incoming on DOGE. You can communicate this down to OCLA channels as needed, and I think SVAC had already asked about this. David said he was going to call you Darrell.

"VA has one DOGE employee, who is specifically focused on identifying wasteful contracts, improving VA operations and strengthening management of the department's IT projects. The DOGE employee will be solely focused on improving VA performance and efficiency and will not have access to Veterans' or VA beneficiaries' data. VA looks forward to working with DOGE to improve services to Veterans, their families, caregivers and survivors."

Christopher D. Syrek
Chief of Staff
Office of the Secretary
Department of Veterans Affairs
Mobile: (771) 219 (b)(6)

From: Cashour, Curtis E.
Sent: Wed, 5 Feb 2025 00:27:48 +0000
To: Syrek, Christopher D.
Cc: Porter, Macaulay V.
Subject: RE: for review: talking points re: administration actions for hearing witnesses

Thanks.

From: Syrek, Christopher D. <(b)(6)@va.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 7:27 PM
To: Cashour, Curtis E. <(b)(6)@va.gov>
Cc: Porter, Macaulay V. <(b)(6)@va.gov>
Subject: RE: for review: talking points re: administration actions for hearing witnesses

These are good. Approved to send to Darrell.

I will mention this tomorrow in our OCLA/OPIA meeting but witnesses should be encouraged to lean in to these talking points if asked. They should not shy away from our implementation plans.

Chris

From: Cashour, Curtis E. <(b)(6)@va.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, February 4, 2025 7:18 PM
To: Syrek, Christopher D. <(b)(6)@va.gov>
Cc: Porter, Macaulay V. <(b)(6)@va.gov>
Subject: RE: for review: talking points re: administration actions for hearing witnesses

OCLA asked for general talking points regarding recent EOs that witnesses can use at upcoming hearings, including the [HVAC hearing this Thursday](#). The below are all based on approved messaging. Let us know if you have any changes. Thanks.

-
DOGE

VA has one DOGE employee, who is specifically focused on identifying wasteful contracts, improving VA operations and strengthening management of the department's IT projects.

The DOGE employee will be solely focused on improving VA performance and efficiency and will not have access to Veterans' or VA beneficiaries' data.

VA looks forward to working with DOGE to improve services to Veterans, their families, caregivers and survivors.

-
DEI Executive Order

(b)(5)

(b)(5)



Hiring Freeze Executive Order

(b)(5)



Fork in the Road

(b)(5)



Funding pause regarding grants, loans and other financial assistance programs

(b)(5)

Defending Women Executive Order

(b)(5)

From: (b)(6)
Sent: Wed, 5 Feb 2025 19:02:32 +0000
To: (b)(6)
Cc: Fulcher, Justin L.; (b)(6); VA 003B8 Category Mgmt Support Ofc Employees (b)(6)
Subject: RE: Professional Services Contracts
Attachments: 36C10X20C0062.zip

(b)(6)

Deputy Director, Portfolio Management Acquisition Services
Enterprise Acquisition Systems Service (003A2B)
Tel: 973-666-(b)(6) Mobile: 732-690-(b)(6) [EAS Home Page](#)



Office of Acquisition, Logistics, and Construction

"We will ACT!"

 **A**ccountability •  **C**ustomer Service •  **T**ransformation

Diversity and Inclusion: VA is committed to equity, inclusion and team collaboration. This is a call to action for all to advocate for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion. There is an immediate need to eliminate bias and discrimination entirely from our lives and workplace. There is value in diversity and hearing from different voices with different points of view actively advocating for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion every day.

From: (b)(6)@va.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 2:02 PM
To: (b)(6)@va.gov> (b)(6)@va.gov>
Cc: Fulcher, Justin L.; (b)(6)@va.gov> (b)(6)@va.gov>; (b)(6)@va.gov>; (b)(6)@va.gov>; VA 003B8 Category Mgmt Support Ofc Employees (b)(6)@va.gov>; (b)(6)@va.gov>
Subject: RE: Professional Services Contracts

Roger, if we have the documentation from us to them, then that is what we would like. If not, we can go with the other contract and we will work with the contracting office that wrote this LoC contract and see if we can get a copy of it.

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6)@va.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 1:59 PM

To: (b)(6)@va.gov; (b)(6)@va.gov
Cc: Fulcher, Justin L. (b)(6)@va.gov; (b)(6)@va.gov; (b)(6)@va.gov; (b)(6)@va.gov; VA 003B8 Category Mgmt Support Ofc Employees (b)(6)@va.gov; (b)(6)@va.gov
Subject: RE: Professional Services Contracts

This is a Library of Congress IDV, AAMS will not have this base contract file
[IDV to POLITICO, LLC | USAspending](#)

(b)(6)
Deputy Director, Portfolio Management Acquisition Services
Enterprise Acquisition Systems Service (003A2B)
Tel: 973-666-(b)(6) | Mobile: 732-690-(b)(6) [EAS Home Page](#)



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From: (b)(6)@va.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 1:50 PM
To: (b)(6)@va.gov; (b)(6)@va.gov
Cc: Fulcher, Justin L. (b)(6)@va.gov; (b)(6)@va.gov; (b)(6)@va.gov; (b)(6)@va.gov; VA 003B8 Category Mgmt Support Ofc Employees (b)(6)@va.gov; (b)(6)@va.gov
Subject: RE: Professional Services Contracts

<input type="checkbox"/>	03310323D0056	Information services contract with POLITICO, LLC	POLITICO, LLC	Not SBA Certified	NOT PRESENT IN D2D: NO TIER ASSIGNED	\$3K	\$12M	IDC	519290	Professional Services	Aug 10, 20
--------------------------	---------------	--	---------------	-------------------	--------------------------------------	------	-------	-----	--------	-----------------------	------------

From: (b)(6)@va.gov
Sent: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 1:48 PM
To: (b)(6)@va.gov; (b)(6)@va.gov
Cc: Fulcher, Justin L. (b)(6)@va.gov; (b)(6)@va.gov; (b)(6)@va.gov; (b)(6)@va.gov; VA 003B8 Category Mgmt Support Ofc Employees (b)(6)@va.gov; (b)(6)@va.gov

(b)(6) <[redacted]@va.gov>

Subject: RE: Professional Services Contracts

Can we validate this contract number?

03310323D0056

(b)(6)

Deputy Director, Portfolio Management Acquisition Services

Enterprise Acquisition Systems Service (003A2B)

Tel: 973-666-(b)(6) Mobile: 732-690-(b)(6) [EAS Home Page](#)



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From: (b)(6) <[redacted]@va.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 1:21 PM

To: (b)(6) <[redacted]@va.gov>; (b)(6) <[redacted]@va.gov>

Cc: Fulcher, Justin L. <[redacted]@va.gov>; (b)(6) <[redacted]@va.gov>; (b)(6) <[redacted]@va.gov>;

(b)(6) <[redacted]@va.gov>; VA 003B8 Category Mgmt Support Ofc Employees <[redacted]@va.gov>;

(b)(6) <[redacted]@va.gov>

Subject: RE: Professional Services Contracts

Also, I just got poked by DOGE for these additional contracts if possible.

03310323D0056

36C10X2060062, both of these are for Politico

I am CC'ing Mr. Fulcher who is with the DOGE team and requesting the information.

Again, thanks,

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) <[redacted]@va.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 1:00 PM

To: (b)(6) <(b)(6)@va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) <(b)(6)@va.gov>; VA 003B8 Category Mgmt Support Ofc Employees <(b)(6)@va.gov>
(b)(6) <(b)(6)@va.gov>
Subject: RE: Professional Services Contracts

(b)(6)

What filter value are you using to delineate Professional Services?
I am using Contract Type and active contracts and we have a collection of 1834.
It can't hurt to send me a list of unformatted PIIDs (do not strip dashes, etc) and we can pull C03 files from those actions.

(b)(6)

Deputy Director, Portfolio Management Acquisition Services
Enterprise Acquisition Systems Service (003A2B)
Tel: 973-666-(b)(6) Mobile: 732-690-(b)(6) [EAS Home Page](#)



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From: (b)(6) <(b)(6)@va.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 12:59 PM
To: (b)(6) <(b)(6)@va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) <(b)(6)@va.gov>; (b)(6) <(b)(6)@va.gov>; (b)(6) <(b)(6)@va.gov>; VA 003B8 Category Mgmt Support Ofc Employees <(b)(6)@va.gov>; (b)(6) <(b)(6)@va.gov>
Subject: RE: Professional Services Contracts

Fantastic, if you need the list of "professional service contracts" we can pull them by PIID for you. Again, we appreciate the support.

(b)(6)

From: (b)(6) <(b)(6)@va.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 12:12 PM
To: (b)(6) <(b)(6)@va.gov>

Cc: (b)(6) is@va.gov> (b)(6) @va.gov> (b)(6)
(b)(6) @va.gov>; VA 003B8 Category Mgmt Support Ofc Employees
(b)(6) @va.gov> (b)(6) @va.gov>

Subject: RE: Professional Services Contracts

Good afternoon, (b)(6)

We've discussed this with Ms (b)(6) and yes, we can do that. The team is investigating the data set and we will provide a timeline asap.

Thank you,

(b)(6)
Director, Enterprise Acquisition Systems Service
Department of Veterans Affairs | Office of Acquisitions & Logistics
Mobile Phone: 937-313-(b)(6)
[EAS Home Page](#)

From: (b)(6) @va.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, February 5, 2025 9:32 AM
To: (b)(6) @va.gov>
Cc: (b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6)
(b)(6) @va.gov>; (b)(6) @va.gov>; VA 003B8 Category Mgmt
Support Ofc Employees (b)(6) @va.gov>
Subject: Professional Services Contracts

Good morning,

During a conversation this morning with the Senior Advisor to the Secretary, a member of the DOGE Team and the Interim CAO, it was identified that the PDFs we are working on importing into ADDS UP would be extremely beneficial to the efforts to reduce expenditures. With that, I am asking if we can identify only the professional services contracts, which there are just over 2000 for immediate import into ADDS UP. This allows us to build the analytics and processes needed for the DOGE review.

I am available to discuss further and provide any additional information you may need. Ms. (b)(6) identified that she was going to reach out also.

(b)(6) DBA
Director, Category Management Support Office (CMSO)
Department of Veterans Affairs
810 Vermont Avenue
Washington, DC 20571

Office - (202) 632-(b)(6)
Mobile - (202) 603-(b)(6)

(b)(6) @va.gov

CMSO

CATEGORY MANAGEMENT SUPPORT OFFICE
LEVERAGING EVERY DOLLAR
SPENT FOR THE VETERAN



CMSO's Mission: To enable the VA to lead the Federal Government by maximizing the results of category management through the development of thought leadership, collaboration, innovations and the shifting of culture in requirements and acquisitions.



VA Core Values: Integrity Commitment Advocacy Respect Excellence

VA Core Characteristics: Trustworthy | Accessible | Quality | Innovative | Agile | Integrated

To fulfill President Lincoln's promise -

"To care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan"

- by serving and honoring the men and women who are America's Veterans.

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SOLICITATION/CONTRACT/ORDER FOR COMMERCIAL ITEMS OFFEROR TO COMPLETE BLOCKS 12, 17, 23, 24, & 30				1. REQUISITION NO. 101-20-3-1265-0077		PAGE 1 OF 25	
2. CONTRACT NO. 36C10X20C0062		3. AWARD/EFFECTIVE DATE 08/27/2020		4. ORDER NO.		5. SOLICITATION NUMBER 36C10X20Q0130	
7. FOR SOLICITATION INFORMATION CALL:		a. NAME Dante Ruiz Dante.Ruiz@va.gov				b. TELEPHONE NO. (No Collect Calls) 240-215-1654	
9. ISSUED BY Strategic Acquisition Center - Frederick Department of Veterans Affairs 5202 Presidents Court, Suite 103 Frederick MD 21703				10. THIS ACQUISITION IS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> UNRESTRICTED OR <input type="checkbox"/> SET ASIDE: _____ % FOR: <input type="checkbox"/> SMALL BUSINESS <input type="checkbox"/> WOMEN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS (WOSB) ELIGIBLE UNDER THE WOMEN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS PROGRAM <input type="checkbox"/> HUBZONE SMALL BUSINESS <input type="checkbox"/> EDWOSB NAICS: 519130 <input type="checkbox"/> SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN-OWNED SMALL BUSINESS <input type="checkbox"/> 8(A) SIZE STANDARD: 1000 Employees			
11. DELIVERY FOR FOB DESTINATION UNLESS BLOCK IS MARKED <input type="checkbox"/> SEE SCHEDULE		12. DISCOUNT TERMS		13a. THIS CONTRACT IS A RATED ORDER UNDER DPAS (15 CFR 700) <input type="checkbox"/>		13b. RATING N/A	
15. DELIVER TO Online Access shall be provided to VA users in accordance With the terms of the Contract.				16. ADMINISTERED BY Strategic Acquisition Center - Frederick Department of Veterans Affairs 5202 Presidents Court, Suite 103 Frederick MD 21703			
17a. CONTRACTOR/OFFEROR POLITICO, LLC 1000 WILSON BLVD 8TH FLOOR ARLINGTON VA 22209		17b. CHECK IF REMITTANCE IS DIFFERENT AND PUT SUCH ADDRESS IN OFFER <input type="checkbox"/>		18a. PAYMENT WILL BE MADE BY U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs Financial Services Center PO BOX 149971 (see Section B.3 invoicing/payment) Austin TX 78714-8917 PHONE: 1-(877)-489-6135 FAX:			
17c. TELEPHONE NO. DJNS: 079168780 DUNS+4:				18b. SUBMIT INVOICES TO ADDRESS SHOWN IN BLOCK 18a UNLESS BLOCK BELOW IS CHECKED <input type="checkbox"/> SEE ADDENDUM			
19. ITEM NO.		20. SCHEDULE OF SUPPLIES/SERVICES		21. QUANTITY		22. UNIT	
		23. UNIT PRICE		24. AMOUNT			
		Veterans' Health Administration (VHA) Web-Based Database Subscription News Service Focused on Veteran's Healthcare Legislative and Regulatory Policy Period of Performance: Base: 08/27/2020-08/26/2021 Option Year One: 08/27/2021-08/26/2022 Option Year Two: 08/27/2022-08/26/2023 Option Year Three: 08/27/2023-08/26/2024 Option Year Four: 08/27/2024-08/26/2025 PO# 101-C00498 (Use Reverse and/or Attach Additional Sheets as Necessary)					
25. ACCOUNTING AND APPROPRIATION DATA See CONTINUATION Page				26. TOTAL AWARD AMOUNT (For Govt. Use Only) \$32,250.00			
27a. SOLICITATION INCORPORATES BY REFERENCE FAR 52.212-1, 52.212-4. FAR 52.212-3 AND 52.212-5 ARE ATTACHED. ADDENDA <input type="checkbox"/>				27b. CONTRACT/PURCHASE ORDER INCORPORATES BY REFERENCE FAR 52.212-4. FAR 52.212-5 IS ATTACHED. ADDENDA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
28. CONTRACTOR IS REQUIRED TO SIGN THIS DOCUMENT AND RETURN <u>1</u> COPIES TO ISSUING OFFICE. CONTRACTOR AGREES TO FURNISH AND DELIVER ALL ITEMS SET FORTH OR OTHERWISE IDENTIFIED ABOVE AND ON ANY ADDITIONAL SHEETS SUBJECT TO THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS SPECIFIED				29. AWARD OF CONTRACT: REF. _____ OFFER DATED _____, YOUR OFFER ON SOLICITATION (BLOCK 5), INCLUDING ANY ADDITIONS OR CHANGES WHICH ARE SET FORTH HEREIN IS ACCEPTED AS TO ITEMS:			
30a. SIGNATURE (b)(6)		30b. NAME (b)(6)		30c. DATE SIGNED 08/24/2020		31a. UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (SIGNATURE OF CONTRACTING OFFICER) Jacky Jean-Jacques (b)(6)	
		Account Manager		31b. NAME OF CONTRACTING OFFICER (TYPE OR PRINT) Jacky Jean-Jacques Contracting Officer		31c. DATE SIGNED 8-24-2020	

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SECTION B - CONTINUATION OF SF 1449 BLOCKS**B.1 CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION DATA**

1. CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION: All contract administration matters will be handled by the following individuals:

- a. CONTRACTOR:** POLITICO, LLC
 100 Wilson BLVD 8th Floor
 Arlington, VA 22209
 POC: (b)(6)
 703-842-(b)(6)
 (b)(6)@politico.com
- b. GOVERNMENT:** Contracting Officer (CO):
 Jacky Jen-Jacques, Contracting Officer 36C10X
Jacky.Jean-Jacques@va.gov
 Strategic Acquisition Center - Frederick
 Department of Veterans Affairs
 5202 Presidents Court, Suite 103
 Frederick MD 21703

2. CONTRACTOR REMITTANCE ADDRESS: All payments by the Government to the contractor will be made in accordance with:

[X] 52.232-33, Payment by Electronic Funds Transfer—System For Award Management,

3. INVOICES: Invoices shall be submitted in arrears:

- a. Quarterly ☐
- b. Semi-Annually ☐
- c. Other ☒ Annually, upon delivery and acceptance by COR of fixed priced deliverables.

4. GOVERNMENT INVOICE ADDRESS: All Invoices from the contractor shall be submitted electronically in accordance with VAAR Clause 852.232-72 Electronic Submission of Payment Requests.

5. INVOICING INSTRUCTIONS:

TUNGSTEN (fka OB10) ELECTRONIC INVOICE SUBMISSION
FSC e-INVOICE PROGRAM THRU AUSTIN PORTAL
FSC MANDATORY ELECTRONIC INVOICE SUBMISSION FOR AUSTIN PAYMENTS

Contracting POC: Dante Ruiz|Dante.Ruiz@va.gov | 240-215-1654

COR: (b)(6)/781-348-(b)(6)@va.gov

Contract/Task Order Number: 36C10X20C0062

Purchase Order Number: *** The IFCAP Purchase Order number: **101-C00498**. MUST be included on all invoices for Base Period Services purchased at time of award. Invoices for subsequent Options CLINs shall reference IFCAP Purchase Orders as follows

CLIN/Services	Period of Performance	Purchase Order Number
Base Period Services (CLIN- 0001)	(est.) August 27, 2020 – August 26, 2021	101-C00498

Vendor Electronic Invoice Submission Methods:

Fax, email and scanned documents are not acceptable forms of submission for payment requests. Electronic form means an automated system transmitting information electronically according to the accepted data transmissions below.

- VA's Electronic Invoice Presentment and Payment System – The Financial Services Center (FSC) in Austin, TX uses a third-party contractor, Tungsten, to transition vendors from paper to electronic invoice submission. Please go to this website: <http://www.tungsten-network.com/US/en/> (b)(6); (b)(5) to begin submitting electronic invoices, free of charge.
- A system that conforms to the X12 electronic data interchange (EDI) formats established by the Accredited Standards Center (ASC) chartered by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). The X12 EDI Web site is <http://www.x12.org>.

Vendor e-invoice Set-up information:

Please contact Tungsten at the phone number or email address listed below to begin submitting your electronic invoices to the VA Financial Services Center in Austin, TX for payment processing. If you have questions about the payment status of a properly submitted invoice, the e-invoicing program, or Tungsten, please contact the FSC at the phone number or email address listed below.

- Tungsten e-Invoice setup information: 1-877-489 (b)(6); (b)(5)
- Tungsten e-Invoice email: (b)(6); (b)(5) [tungsten-network.com](mailto:(b)(6); (b)(5)@tungsten-network.com)
- VA TUNGSTEN Number: (b)(6); (b)(5)
- FSC e-Invoice contact information: 1-877-353 (b)(6); (b)(5)
- FSC e-Invoice email: (b)(6); (b)(5) [va.gov](mailto:(b)(6); (b)(5)@va.gov)
- <http://www.fsc.va.gov/> (b)(6); (b)(5)

COMMUNICATIONS:

- <https://www.federalregister.gov/articles/2012/11/27/2012-28612/va-acquisition-regulation-electronic-submission-of-payment-requests>
- <http://fcw.com/articles/2012/11/27/va-epayments.aspx?s=fcwdaily>

6. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF AMENDMENTS:

The offeror acknowledges receipt of amendments to the Solicitation numbered and dated as follows:

AMENDMENT NO	DATE
36C10X20Q0130_Amendment-0001	8/17/2020

B.2 PRICE/COST SCHEDULE**Base Period of Performance: August 27, 2020- August 26, 2021**

ITEM	DESCRIPTION OF SUPPLIES/SERVICES	QTY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
0001	Subscription Online and Mobile-based news service focused on Veterans' Healthcare Legislative and Regulatory Policy	(b)(4)	EA	(b)(4)	\$32,250.00
		Base Period			\$32,250.00

Option Year One Period of Performance: August 27, 2021- August 26, 2022

ITEM	DESCRIPTION OF SUPPLIES/SERVICES	QTY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
1002	Subscription Online and Mobile-based news service focused on Veterans' Healthcare Legislative and Regulatory Policy	(b)(4)	EA	(b)(4)	\$33,863.00
		Option Period One			\$33,863.00

Option Year Two Period of Performance: August 27, 2022- August 26, 2023

ITEM	DESCRIPTION OF SUPPLIES/SERVICES	QTY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
2003	Subscription Online and Mobile-based news service focused on Veterans' Healthcare Legislative and Regulatory Policy	(b)(4)	EA	(b)(4)	\$335,556.00
		Option Period Two			\$35,556.00

Option Year Three Period of Performance: August 27, 2023- August 26, 2024

ITEM	DESCRIPTION OF SUPPLIES/SERVICES	QTY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
3004	Subscription Online and Mobile-based news service focused on Veterans' Healthcare Legislative and Regulatory Policy	(b)(4)	EA	(b)(4)	\$37,333.00
		Option Period Three			\$37,333.00

Option Year Four Period of Performance: August 27, 2024- August 26, 2025

ITEM	DESCRIPTION OF SUPPLIES/SERVICES	QTY	UNIT	UNIT PRICE	AMOUNT
4005	Subscription Online and Mobile-based news service focused on Veterans' Healthcare Legislative and Regulatory Policy	(b)(4)	EA	(b)(4)	\$39,200.00
		Option Period Four			\$39,200.00
		Total Value of Contract			\$178,202.00

B.3 STATEMENT OF WORK STATEMENT**Web-Based Database Subscription News Service****1. Overview:**

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Veterans Health Administration (VHA) requires access to an online web-based news service that offers its subscribers exclusive news stories, morning newsletters, afternoon briefings, customized breaking news alerts, access to events that are relevant or focused on Veterans and healthcare issues. In this dynamic and ever-changing environment, VHA requires real-time news coverage in myriad policy areas. These real time updates and articles provide insight and perspective that decision makers require to make informed decisions.

Period of Performance:

Following are the periods of performance under this contract:

Base Year:	8/27/2020 – 8/26/2021
Option Year 1:	8/27/2021 – 8/26/2022
Option Year 2:	8/27/2022 – 8/26/2023
Option Year 3:	8/27/2023 – 8/26/2024
Option Year 4:	8/27/2024 – 8/26/2025

Place of Performance:

The place of performance is the Contractor's facility

Type of Contract:

Firm fixed price

1.1. Objectives

To provide key VHA staff with current and timely information on policy areas that impact Veterans healthcare through myriad products including direct access to reporters and authors via email and direct phone number.

2.0. Scope of Work:

The contractor shall provide to the VA:

- Access for (b)(4) users
- News Service reporting on the following policy areas:
 1. Agriculture
 2. Campaigns
 3. Cybersecurity

4. Defense
 5. Education
 6. eHealth
 7. Energy
 8. Financial Services
 9. Health Care
 10. Labor and Employment
 11. Tax
 12. Technology
 13. Trade
 14. Transportation
- Individual, customized access to minute-to-minute news coverage
 - Complete access to congressional directory
 - Daily, the contractor shall provide access to morning newsletters
 - Access to in-depth coverage, calendar of events and speakers, documents and other policy-specific content
 - Free attendance at subscriber-only sponsored events and panel discussions in the DC metro area.

2.1 Content

2.1.1 Newsletters:

- Morning summary of key issues delivered electronically by 6am eastern and accessible on the website
- Evening edition summarizing day's most important news delivered electronically by 6pm eastern
- Week ahead – major events coming up the following week
- Specialized newsletters focused on top policy news; monthly forecast of significant issues across policy areas
- Email versions available for reading while commuting
- Embedded hyperlinks to related materials

2.1.2 Breaking News Alerts

- Succinct email messages containing information of breaking stories of interest
- User customizes news alerts by identifying policy areas of interest

2.1.3 Articles and Executive Summaries

- Articles are longer form stories associated with specific keywords and delivered during the day
- Executive Summaries are shorter stories (250 words or less) associated with keywords chosen by the user and delivered during the day in real-time

2.1.4 Calendar of Events

- Congressional hearing schedules, grouped by policy area
- Schedule of the day's events within DC and around the country
- Roundtables in the local DC metro that bring together thought-leaders to discuss timely policy issues

2.1.5 Documents published by executive and legislative branches

- Congressional agendas
- Government Accountability Office reports
- Congressional Budget Office/Congressional Research Service reports
- Executive Orders
- Federal Register notices
- Bill and Law text, summaries, sponsors, and full legislative text
- Press releases
- Submitted testimony

2.1.6 Policy-specific features

- Legislative tracker to monitor and research bills
- Regulations watch (draft and final rules)
- Health Insurance Marketplace state exchange tracker

2.2 Usability

- 2.2.1 Navigation within the system is logical and is easy to use (e.g., topics within site, especially as labeled in the navigation, should clearly state what lies behind them).

There is fast access to topics and subtopics. Topic linking or indexing retrieves material of high relevance quickly.

- 2.2.2 The product has “user friendly” help and direction aids.

2.3 Currency

- 2.3.1 Website and information is updated every business day.

2.4 Access, content, support

- 2.4.1 Product is 508 compliant. (<http://www.section508.gov/>)
- 2.4.1.1 If product is not 508 compliant, vendor must describe measures being taken to bring product into compliance and date, within 12 months of contract award, that product will be 508 compliant. Or;
- 2.4.1.2 If product is not 508 compliant, vendor must describe why no work is being done to make it 508 compliant.
- 2.4.2 VHA may identify 15 users who will receive a user ID and password. The government has the right to cancel a user account and create another one, as long as the 15 user accounts are not exceeded.
- 2.4.3 The product is compatible with most standard web browsers (e.g., Chrome, Firefox, Internet Explorer, Opera, Safari), which have cookies enabled. To ensure privacy, the product uses session cookies rather than persistent cookies.
- 2.4.4 All site content and support of the web site is the responsibility of the vendor. This includes tech support to VHA users nationwide.
- 2.4.5 System downtime shall not occur more than once a month; outage duration shall not exceed 12 hours per instance. For planned outages, VA users are notified beforehand when website will be down, along with the date and duration of the outage.
- 2.4.6 Topics are available in printer-friendly versions.
- 2.4.7 Single point of contact for customer service issues is assigned to VA.
- 2.4.8 The contractor shall offer training services to VHA staff on use of the product. These training sessions shall be web-based, live based on user preference, or provided in a PowerPoint presentation that is distributable to active subscribers.

2.5 Performance Metrics

- 2.5.1 The Government shall utilize a Quality Assurance Surveillance Plan (QASP) throughout the life of the contract to ensure that the Contractor is performing the services required by this SOW in an acceptable manner.

Deliverable Requirement	Performance Standard	Acceptable Quality Level (AQL)	Surveillance Method/Measure	Incentives
Access to current and timely news service reporting on specific policy areas (SOW 2.0)	Access to news service reporting on specific policy areas for 15 users (SOW 2.0)	Access to web-based database news service 100% of the time (SOW 2.0).	100% oversight by VA COR	(+) Positive Performance Feedback in CPARS (-) Negative Performance Feedback in CPARS
Content (SOW 2.1)	Customized access to minute-to-minute news coverage	100% access to newsletters, breaking news alerts, articles and whiteboards, calendar of events, documents, policy-specific features (SOW 2.1.1-2.1.6)	100% oversight by VA COR	(+) Positive Performance Feedback in CPARS (-) Negative Performance Feedback in CPARS
Usability (SOW 2.2)	Navigation within the web-based system is logical and is easy to use. (SOW 2.2.1)	Topic hyperlinks retrieve relevant material at top Internet speeds. (SOW 2.1)	Random quality inspection	(+) Positive Performance Feedback in CPARS (-) Negative Performance Feedback in CPARS
Currency (SOW 2.3)	Website and information is updated every business day.	Contractor is in compliance 100% of the time	Random quality inspection	(+) Positive Performance Feedback in CPARS (-) Negative Performance Feedback in CPARS
Access, content, support (SOW 2.4)	System downtime is minimal and VA users are notified when website will be down for maintenance. Product is compatible with most web browsers and Windows environment, and is 508 compliant. Usernames &	Access to web-based database news service 100% of the time (SOW 2.4).	100% oversight by VA COR	(+) Positive Performance Feedback in CPARS (-) Negative Performance Feedback in CPARS (-) Re-performance

	Passwords provided to 15 users (SOW 2.4, 2.4.1.1-2.4.1.9) Detailed usage reports.			
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SECTION C - CONTRACT CLAUSES**C.1 52.212-5 CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT STATUTES OR EXECUTIVE ORDERS—COMMERCIAL ITEMS (JUN 2020)**

(a) The Contractor shall comply with the following Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) clauses, which are incorporated in this contract by reference, to implement provisions of law or Executive orders applicable to acquisitions of commercial items:

(1) 52.203-19, Prohibition on Requiring Certain Internal Confidentiality Agreements or Statements (JAN 2017) (section 743 of Division E, Title VII, of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 (Pub. L. 113-235) and its successor provisions in subsequent appropriations acts (and as extended in continuing resolutions)).

(2) 52.204-23, Prohibition on Contracting for Hardware, Software, and Services Developed or Provided by Kaspersky Lab and Other Covered Entities (Jul 2018) (Section 1634 of Pub. L. 115-91).

(3) 52.204-25, Prohibition on Contracting for Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment. (AUG 2019) (Section 889(a)(1)(A) of Pub. L. 115-232).

(4) 52.209-10, Prohibition on Contracting with Inverted Domestic Corporations (NOV 2015).

(5) 52.233-3, Protest After Award (Aug 1996) (31 U.S.C. 3553).

(6) 52.233-4, Applicable Law for Breach of Contract Claim (Oct 2004) (Public Laws 108-77 and 108-78 (19 U.S.C. 3805 note)).

(b) The Contractor shall comply with the FAR clauses in this paragraph (b) that the Contracting Officer has indicated as being incorporated in this contract by reference to implement provisions of law or Executive orders applicable to acquisitions of commercial items:

☐ (1) 52.203-6, Restrictions on Subcontractor Sales to the Government (JUN 2020), with Alternate I (OCT 1995) (41 U.S.C. 4704 and 10 U.S.C. 2402).

☒ (2) 52.203-13, Contractor Code of Business Ethics and Conduct (JUN 2020) (41 U.S.C. 3509).

☐ (3) 52.203-15, Whistleblower Protections under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (JUN 2010) (Section 1553 of Pub. L. 111-5). (Applies to contracts funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.)

☒ (4) 52.204-10, Reporting Executive Compensation and First-Tier Subcontract Awards (JUN 2020) (Pub. L. 109-282) (31 U.S.C. 6101 note).

☐ (5) [Reserved]

☐ (6) 52.204-14, Service Contract Reporting Requirements (OCT 2016) (Pub. L. 111-117, section 743 of Div. C).

☐ (7) 52.204-15, Service Contract Reporting Requirements for Indefinite-Delivery Contracts (OCT 2016) (Pub. L. 111-117, section 743 of Div. C).

☒ (8) 52.209–6, Protecting the Government’s Interest When Subcontracting with Contractors Debarred, Suspended, or Proposed for Debarment. (JUN 2020) (31 U.S.C. 6101 note).

☒ (9) 52.209-9, Updates of Publicly Available Information Regarding Responsibility Matters (Oct 2018) (41 U.S.C. 2313).

☐ (10) [Reserved]

☐ (11)(i) 52.219-3, Notice of HUBZone Set-Aside or Sole-Source Award (MAR 2020) (15 U.S.C. 657a).

☐ (ii) Alternate I (MAR 2020) of 52.219-3.

☐ (12)(i) 52.219-4, Notice of Price Evaluation Preference for HUBZone Small Business Concerns (MAR 2020) (if the offeror elects to waive the preference, it shall so indicate in its offer) (15 U.S.C. 657a).

☐ (ii) Alternate I (MAR 2020) of 52.219-4.

☐ (13) [Reserved]

☐ (14)(i) 52.219-6, Notice of Total Small Business Set-Aside (MAR 2020) (15 U.S.C. 644).

☐ (ii) Alternate I (MAR 2020).

☐ (15)(i) 52.219-7, Notice of Partial Small Business Set-Aside (MAR 2020) (15 U.S.C. 644).

☐ (ii) Alternate I (MAR 2020) of 52.219-7.

☐ (16) 52.219-8, Utilization of Small Business Concerns (Oct 2018) (15 U.S.C. 637(d)(2) and (3)).

☐ (17)(i) 52.219–9, Small Business Subcontracting Plan (JUN 2020) (15 U.S.C. 637(d)(4)).

☐ (ii) Alternate I (NOV 2016) of 52.219-9.

☐ (iii) Alternate II (NOV 2016) of 52.219-9.

☐ (iv) Alternate III (JUN 2020) of 52.219–9.

☐ (v) Alternate IV (JUN 2020) of 52.219–9.

☐ (18) 52.219-13, Notice of Set-Aside of Orders (MAR 2020) (15 U.S.C. 644(r)).

☐ (19) 52.219-14, Limitations on Subcontracting (MAR 2020) (15 U.S.C. 637(a)(14)).

☐ (20) 52.219-16, Liquidated Damages—Subcontracting Plan (Jan 1999) (15 U.S.C. 637(d)(4)(F)(i)).

☐ (21) 52.219-27, Notice of Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business Set-Aside (MAR 2020) (15 U.S.C. 657f).

☐ (22)(i) 52.219-28, Post Award Small Business Program Rerepresentation (MAR 2020) (15 U.S.C. 632(a)(2)).

☐ (ii) Alternate I (MAR 2020) of 52.219-28.

☐ (23) 52.219-29, Notice of Set-Aside for, or Sole Source Award to, Economically Disadvantaged Women-Owned Small Business (EDWOSB) Concerns (MAR 2020) (15 U.S.C. 637(m)).

☐ (24) 52.219-30, Notice of Set-Aside for, or Sole Source Award to, Women-Owned Small Business Concerns Eligible Under the Women-Owned Small Business Program (MAR 2020) (15 U.S.C. 637(m)).

☐ (25) 52.219-32, Orders Issued Directly Under Small Business Reserves (MAR 2020) (15 U.S.C. 644(r)).

☐ (26) 52.219-33, Nonmanufacturer Rule (MAR 2020) (15 U.S.C. 637(a)(17))

☒ (27) 52.222-3, Convict Labor (June 2003) (E.O. 11755).

☒ (28) 52.222-19, Child Labor—Cooperation with Authorities and Remedies (JAN 2020) (E.O. 13126).

☒ (29) 52.222-21, Prohibition of Segregated Facilities (APR 2015).

☒ (30)(i) 52.222-26, Equal Opportunity (SEP 2016) (E.O. 11246).

☐ (ii) Alternate I (FEB 1999) of 52.222-26.

☒ (31)(i) 52.222-35, Equal Opportunity for Veterans (JUN 2020) (38 U.S.C. 4212).

☐ (ii) Alternate I (JULY 2014) of 52.222-35.

☒ (32)(i) 52.222-36, Equal Opportunity for Workers with Disabilities (JUN 2020) (29 U.S.C. 793).

☐ (ii) Alternate I (JULY 2014) of 52.222-36.

☒ (33) 52.222-37, Employment Reports on Veterans (JUN 2020) (38 U.S.C. 4212).

☐ (34) 52.222-40, Notification of Employee Rights Under the National Labor Relations Act (DEC 2010) (E.O. 13496).

☒ (35)(i) 52.222-50, Combating Trafficking in Persons (JAN 2019) (22 U.S.C. chapter 78 and E.O. 13627).

☐ (ii) Alternate I (MAR 2015) of 52.222-50 (22 U.S.C. chapter 78 and E.O. 13627).

☐ (36) 52.222-54, Employment Eligibility Verification (OCT 2015). (E. O. 12989). (Not applicable to the acquisition of commercially available off-the-shelf items or certain other types of commercial items as prescribed in 22.1803.)

☐ (37)(i) 52.223-9, Estimate of Percentage of Recovered Material Content for EPA-Designated Items (May 2008) (42 U.S.C. 6962(c)(3)(A)(ii)). (Not applicable to the acquisition of commercially available off-the-shelf items.)

☐ (ii) Alternate I (MAY 2008) of 52.223-9 (42 U.S.C. 6962(i)(2)(C)). (Not applicable to the acquisition of commercially available off-the-shelf items.)

[] (38) 52.223-11, Ozone-Depleting Substances and High Global Warming Potential Hydrofluorocarbons (JUN 2016) (E.O. 13693).

[] (39) 52.223-12, Maintenance, Service, Repair, or Disposal of Refrigeration Equipment and Air Conditioners (JUN 2016) (E.O. 13693).

[] (40)(i) 52.223-13, Acquisition of EPEAT®-Registered Imaging Equipment (JUN 2014) (E.O.s 13423 and 13514).

[] (ii) Alternate I (OCT 2015) of 52.223-13.

[] (41)(i) 52.223-14, Acquisition of EPEAT®-Registered Televisions (JUN 2014) (E.O.s 13423 and 13514).

[] (ii) Alternate I (JUN 2014) of 52.223-14.

[] (42) 52.223-15, Energy Efficiency in Energy-Consuming Products (DEC 2007)(42 U.S.C. 8259b).

[] (43)(i) 52.223-16, Acquisition of EPEAT®-Registered Personal Computer Products (OCT 2015) (E.O.s 13423 and 13514).

[] (ii) Alternate I (JUN 2014) of 52.223-16.

[X] (44) 52.223-18, Encouraging Contractor Policies to Ban Text Messaging While Driving (JUN 2020) (E.O. 13513).

[] (45) 52.223-20, Aerosols (JUN 2016) (E.O. 13693).

[] (46) 52.223-21, Foams (JUN 2016) (E.O. 13693).

[] (47) (i) 52.224-3, Privacy Training (JAN 2017) (5 U.S.C. 552a).

[] (ii) Alternate I (JAN 2017) of 52.224-3.

[] (48) 52.225-1, Buy American—Supplies (MAY 2014) (41 U.S.C. chapter 83).

[] (49)(i) 52.225-3, Buy American—Free Trade Agreements—Israeli Trade Act (MAY 2014) (41 U.S.C. chapter 83, 19 U.S.C. 3301 note, 19 U.S.C. 2112 note, 19 U.S.C. 3805 note, 19 U.S.C. 4001 note, Pub. L. 103-182, 108-77, 108-78, 108-286, 108-302, 109-53, 109-169, 109-283, 110-138, 112-41, 112-42, and 112-43).

[] (ii) Alternate I (MAY 2014) of 52.225-3.

[] (iii) Alternate II (MAY 2014) of 52.225-3.

[] (iv) Alternate III (MAY 2014) of 52.225-3.

[] (50) 52.225-5, Trade Agreements (OCT 2019) (19 U.S.C. 2501, et seq., 19 U.S.C. 3301 note).

[] (51) 52.225-13, Restrictions on Certain Foreign Purchases (JUN 2008) (E.O.'s, proclamations, and statutes administered by the Office of Foreign Assets Control of the Department of the Treasury).

[] (52) 52.225–26, Contractors Performing Private Security Functions Outside the United States (OCT 2016) (Section 862, as amended, of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008; 10 U.S.C. 2302 Note).

[] (53) 52.226-4, Notice of Disaster or Emergency Area Set-Aside (Nov 2007) (42 U.S.C. 5150).

[] (54) 52.226-5, Restrictions on Subcontracting Outside Disaster or Emergency Area (Nov 2007) (42 U.S.C. 5150).

[X] (55) 52.229–12, Tax on Certain Foreign Procurements (JUN 2020).

[] (56) 52.232-29, Terms for Financing of Purchases of Commercial Items (Feb 2002) (41 U.S.C. 4505, 10 U.S.C. 2307(f)).

[] (57) 52.232-30, Installment Payments for Commercial Items (JAN 2017) (41 U.S.C. 4505, 10 U.S.C. 2307(f)).

[X] (58) 52.232-33, Payment by Electronic Funds Transfer—System for Award Management (Oct 2018) (31 U.S.C. 3332).

[] (59) 52.232-34, Payment by Electronic Funds Transfer—Other than System for Award Management (Jul 2013) (31 U.S.C. 3332).

[] (60) 52.232-36, Payment by Third Party (MAY 2014) (31 U.S.C. 3332).

[] (61) 52.239-1, Privacy or Security Safeguards (AUG 1996) (5 U.S.C. 552a).

[] (62) 52.242-5, Payments to Small Business Subcontractors (JAN 2017)(15 U.S.C. 637(d)(13)).

[] (63)(i) 52.247-64, Preference for Privately Owned U.S.-Flag Commercial Vessels (Feb 2006) (46 U.S.C. Appx. 1241(b) and 10 U.S.C. 2631).

[] (ii) Alternate I (Apr 2003) of 52.247-64.

[] (iii) Alternate II (FEB 2006) of 52.247-64.

(c) The Contractor shall comply with the FAR clauses in this paragraph (c), applicable to commercial services, that the Contracting Officer has indicated as being incorporated in this contract by reference to implement provisions of law or Executive orders applicable to acquisitions of commercial items:

[] (1) 52.222-41, Service Contract Labor Standards (AUG 2018) (41 U.S.C. chapter 67).

[] (2) 52.222-42, Statement of Equivalent Rates for Federal Hires (MAY 2014) (29 U.S.C. 206 and 41 U.S.C. chapter 67).

[] (3) 52.222-43, Fair Labor Standards Act and Service Contract Labor Standards—Price Adjustment (Multiple Year and Option Contracts) (AUG 2018) (29 U.S.C. 206 and 41 U.S.C. chapter 67).

[] (4) 52.222-44, Fair Labor Standards Act and Service Contract Labor Standards—Price Adjustment (MAY 2014) (29 U.S.C 206 and 41 U.S.C. chapter 67).

[] (5) 52.222-51, Exemption from Application of the Service Contract Labor Standards to Contracts for Maintenance, Calibration, or Repair of Certain Equipment—Requirements (MAY 2014) (41 U.S.C. chapter 67).

[] (6) 52.222-53, Exemption from Application of the Service Contract Labor Standards to Contracts for Certain Services—Requirements (MAY 2014) (41 U.S.C. chapter 67).

[] (7) 52.222-55, Minimum Wages Under Executive Order 13658 (DEC 2015).

[] (8) 52.222-62, Paid Sick Leave Under Executive Order 13706 (JAN 2017) (E.O. 13706).

[] (9) 52.226–6, Promoting Excess Food Donation to Nonprofit Organizations (JUN 2020) (42 U.S.C. 1792).

(d) Comptroller General Examination of Record. The Contractor shall comply with the provisions of this paragraph (d) if this contract was awarded using other than sealed bid, is in excess of the simplified acquisition threshold, as defined in FAR 2.101, on the date of award of this contract, and does not contain the clause at 52.215-2, Audit and Records—Negotiation.

(1) The Comptroller General of the United States, or an authorized representative of the Comptroller General, shall have access to and right to examine any of the Contractor's directly pertinent records involving transactions related to this contract.

(2) The Contractor shall make available at its offices at all reasonable times the records, materials, and other evidence for examination, audit, or reproduction, until 3 years after final payment under this contract or for any shorter period specified in FAR Subpart 4.7, Contractor Records Retention, of the other clauses of this contract. If this contract is completely or partially terminated, the records relating to the work terminated shall be made available for 3 years after any resulting final termination settlement. Records relating to appeals under the disputes clause or to litigation or the settlement of claims arising under or relating to this contract shall be made available until such appeals, litigation, or claims are finally resolved.

(3) As used in this clause, records include books, documents, accounting procedures and practices, and other data, regardless of type and regardless of form. This does not require the Contractor to create or maintain any record that the Contractor does not maintain in the ordinary course of business or pursuant to a provision of law.

(e)(1) Notwithstanding the requirements of the clauses in paragraphs (a), (b), (c), and (d) of this clause, the Contractor is not required to flow down any FAR clause, other than those in this paragraph (e)(1) in a subcontract for commercial items. Unless otherwise indicated below, the extent of the flow down shall be as required by the clause—

(i) 52.203–13, Contractor Code of Business Ethics and Conduct (JUN 2020) (41 U.S.C. 3509).

(ii) 52.203-19, Prohibition on Requiring Certain Internal Confidentiality Agreements or Statements (JAN 2017) (section 743 of Division E, Title VII, of the Consolidated and Further Continuing Appropriations Act, 2015 (Pub. L. 113-235) and its successor provisions in subsequent appropriations acts (and as extended in continuing resolutions)).

(iii) 52.204-23, Prohibition on Contracting for Hardware, Software, and Services Developed or Provided by Kaspersky Lab and Other Covered Entities (Jul 2018) (Section 1634 of Pub. L. 115-91).

(iv) 52.204-25, Prohibition on Contracting for Certain Telecommunications and Video Surveillance Services or Equipment. (AUG 2019) (Section 889(a)(1)(A) of Pub. L. 115-232).

(v) 52.219-8, Utilization of Small Business Concerns (Oct 2018) (15 U.S.C. 637(d)(2) and (3)), in all subcontracts that offer further subcontracting opportunities. If the subcontract (except subcontracts to small business concerns) exceeds the applicable threshold specified in FAR 19.702(a) on the date of subcontract award, the subcontractor must include 52.219-8 in lower tier subcontracts that offer subcontracting opportunities.

(vi) 52.222-21, Prohibition of Segregated Facilities (APR 2015).

(vii) 52.222-26, Equal Opportunity (SEP 2016) (E.O. 11246).

(viii) 52.222-35, Equal Opportunity for Veterans (JUN 2020) (38 U.S.C. 4212).

(ix) 52.222-36, Equal Opportunity for Workers with Disabilities (JUN 2020) (29 U.S.C. 793).

(x) 52.222-37, Employment Reports on Veterans (JUN 2020) (38 U.S.C. 4212).

(xi) 52.222-40, Notification of Employee Rights Under the National Labor Relations Act (DEC 2010) (E.O. 13496). Flow down required in accordance with paragraph (f) of FAR clause 52.222-40.

(xii) 52.222-41, Service Contract Labor Standards (AUG 2018) (41 U.S.C. chapter 67).

(xiii)(A) 52.222-50, Combating Trafficking in Persons (JAN 2019) (22 U.S.C. chapter 78 and E.O. 13627).

(B) Alternate I (MAR 2015) of 52.222-50 (22 U.S.C. chapter 78 and E.O. 13627).

(xiv) 52.222-51, Exemption from Application of the Service Contract Labor Standards to Contracts for Maintenance, Calibration, or Repair of Certain Equipment—Requirements (MAY 2014) (41 U.S.C. chapter 67).

(xv) 52.222-53, Exemption from Application of the Service Contract Labor Standards to Contracts for Certain Services—Requirements (MAY 2014) (41 U.S.C. chapter 67).

(xvi) 52.222-54, Employment Eligibility Verification (OCT 2015) (E. O. 12989).

(xvii) 52.222-55, Minimum Wages Under Executive Order 13658 (DEC 2015).

(xviii) 52.222-62 Paid Sick Leave Under Executive Order 13706 (JAN 2017) (E.O. 13706).

(xix)(A) 52.224-3, Privacy Training (JAN 2017) (5 U.S.C. 552a).

(B) Alternate I (JAN 2017) of 52.224-3.

(xx) 52.225–26, Contractors Performing Private Security Functions Outside the United States (OCT 2016) (Section 862, as amended, of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2008; 10 U.S.C. 2302 Note).

(xxi) 52.226–6, Promoting Excess Food Donation to Nonprofit Organizations (JUN 2020) (42 U.S.C. 1792). Flow down required in accordance with paragraph (e) of FAR clause 52.226-6.

(xxii) 52.247-64, Preference for Privately Owned U.S.-Flag Commercial Vessels (Feb 2006) (46 U.S.C. Appx. 1241(b) and 10 U.S.C. 2631). Flow down required in accordance with paragraph (d) of FAR clause 52.247-64.

(2) While not required, the Contractor may include in its subcontracts for commercial items a minimal number of additional clauses necessary to satisfy its contractual obligations.

(End of Clause)

C.2 52.217-8 OPTION TO EXTEND SERVICES (NOV 1999)

The Government may require continued performance of any services within the limits and at the rates specified in the contract. These rates may be adjusted only as a result of revisions to prevailing labor rates provided by the Secretary of Labor. The option provision may be exercised more than once, but the total extension of performance hereunder shall not exceed 6 months. If exercised, the extension will be priced at the last option year's price. The Contracting Officer may exercise the option by written notice to the Contractor within 30 days.

(End of Clause)

C.3 52.217-9 OPTION TO EXTEND THE TERM OF THE CONTRACT (MAR 2000)

(a) The Government may extend the term of this contract by written notice to the Contractor within 30 days; provided that the Government gives the Contractor a preliminary written notice of its intent to extend at least 60 days before the contract expires. The preliminary notice does not commit the Government to an extension.

(b) If the Government exercises this option, the extended contract shall be considered to include this option clause.

(c) The total duration of this contract, including the exercise of any options under this clause, shall not exceed 5.5 years.

(End of Clause)

C.4 52.252-2 CLAUSES INCORPORATED BY REFERENCE (FEB 1998)

This contract incorporates one or more clauses by reference, with the same force and effect as if they were given in full text. Upon request, the Contracting Officer will make their full text available. Also, the full text of a clause may be accessed electronically at this/these address(es):

<http://www.acquisition.gov/far/index.html>

<http://www.va.gov/oal/library/vaar/>

(End of Clause)

<u>FAR Number</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
52.212-4	CONTRACT TERMS AND CONDITIONS—COMMERCIAL ITEMS (OCT	OCT 2018

C.5 VAAR 852.232-72 ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF PAYMENT REQUESTS (NOV 2018)

(a) *Definitions.* As used in this clause—

(1) *Contract financing payment* has the meaning given in FAR 32.001;

(2) *Designated agency office* means the office designated by the purchase order, agreement, or contract to first receive and review invoices. This office can be contractually designated as the receiving entity. This office may be different from the office issuing the payment;

(3) *Electronic form* means an automated system transmitting information electronically according to the accepted electronic data transmission methods and formats identified in paragraph (c) of this clause. Facsimile, email, and scanned documents are not acceptable electronic forms for submission of payment requests;

(4) *Invoice payment* has the meaning given in FAR 32.001; and

(5) *Payment request* means any request for contract financing payment or invoice payment submitted by the contractor under this contract.

(b) *Electronic payment requests.* Except as provided in paragraph (e) of this clause, the contractor shall submit payment requests in electronic form. Purchases paid with a Government-wide commercial purchase card are considered to be an electronic transaction for purposes of this rule, and therefore no additional electronic invoice submission is required.

(c) *Data transmission.* A contractor must ensure that the data transmission method and format are through one of the following:

(1) VA's Electronic Invoice Presentment and Payment System at the current website address provided in the contract.

(2) Any system that conforms to the X12 electronic data interchange (EDI) formats established by the Accredited Standards Center (ASC) and chartered by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI).

(d) *Invoice requirements.* Invoices shall comply with FAR 32.905.

(e) *Exceptions.* If, based on one of the circumstances in this paragraph (e), the Contracting Officer directs that payment requests be made by mail, the Contractor shall submit payment requests by mail through the United States Postal Service to the designated agency office. Submission of payment requests by mail may be required for—

- (1) Awards made to foreign vendors for work performed outside the United States;
- (2) Classified contracts or purchases when electronic submission and processing of payment requests could compromise the safeguarding of classified or privacy information;
- (3) Contracts awarded by contracting officers in the conduct of emergency operations, such as responses to national emergencies;
- (4) Solicitations or contracts in which the designated agency office is a VA entity other than the VA Financial Services Center in Austin, Texas; or
- (5) Solicitations or contracts in which the VA designated agency office does not have electronic invoicing capability as described above.

(End of Clause)

C.6 VAAR 852.203-70 COMMERCIAL ADVERTISING (MAY 2018)

The Contractor shall not make reference in its commercial advertising to Department of Veterans Affairs contracts in a manner that states or implies the Department of Veterans Affairs approves or endorses the Contractor's products or services or considers the Contractor's products or services superior to other products or services.

(End of Clause)

C.7 VAAR 852.212-70 PROVISIONS AND CLAUSES APPLICABLE TO VA ACQUISITION OF COMMERCIAL ITEMS (APR 2020)

(a) The Contractor agrees to comply with any provision or clause that is incorporated herein by reference to implement agency policy applicable to acquisition of commercial items or components. The following provisions and clauses that have been checked by the Contracting Officer are incorporated by reference.

☒ 852.203–70, Commercial Advertising.

☒ 852.209–70, Organizational Conflicts of Interest.

☐ 852.211–70, Equipment Operation and Maintenance Manuals.

☐ 852.214–71, Restrictions on Alternate Item(s).

☐ 852.214–72, Alternate Item(s). [Note: this is a fillable clause.]

☐ 852.214–73, Alternate Packaging and Packing.

☐ 852.214–74, Marking of Bid Samples.

- ☐ 852.215–70, Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned and Veteran-Owned Small Business Evaluation Factors.
- ☒ 852.215–71, Evaluation Factor Commitments.
- ☐ 852.216–71, Economic Price Adjustment of Contract Price(s) Based on a Price Index.
- ☐ 852.216–72, Proportional Economic Price Adjustment of Contract Price(s) Based on a Price Index.
- ☐ 852.216–73, Economic Price Adjustment—State Nursing Home Care for Veterans.
- ☐ 852.216–74, Economic Price Adjustment—Medicaid Labor Rates.
- ☐ 852.216–75, Economic Price Adjustment—Fuel Surcharge.
- ☐ 852.219–9, VA Small Business Subcontracting Plan Minimum Requirements.
- ☐ 852.219–10, VA Notice of Total Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned Small Business Set-Aside.
- ☐ 852.219–11, VA Notice of Total Veteran-Owned Small Business Set-Aside.
- ☐ 852.222–70, Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards—Nursing Home Care for Veterans.
- ☐ 852.228–70, Bond Premium Adjustment.
- ☐ 852.228–71, Indemnification and Insurance.
- ☐ 852.228–72, Assisting Service-Disabled Veteran-Owned and Veteran-Owned Small Businesses in Obtaining Bonds.
- ☒ 852.232–72, Electronic Submission of Payment Requests.
- ☐ 852.233–70, Protest Content/Alternative Dispute Resolution.
- ☐ 852.233–71, Alternate Protest Procedure.
- ☐ 852.237–70, Indemnification and Medical Liability Insurance.
- ☐ 852.246–71, Rejected Goods.
- ☐ 852.246–72, Frozen Processed Foods.
- ☐ 852.246–73, Noncompliance with Packaging, Packing, and/or Marking Requirements.
- ☐ 852.270–1, Representatives of Contracting Officers.
- ☐ 852.271–72, Time Spent by Counselee in Counseling Process.
- ☐ 852.271–73, Use and Publication of Counseling Results.
- ☐ 852.271–74, Inspection.
- ☐ 852.271–75, Extension of Contract Period.

☐ 852.273–70, Late Offers.

☐ 852.273–71, Alternative Negotiation Techniques.

☐ 852.273–72, Alternative Evaluation.

☐ 852.273–73, Evaluation—Health-Care Resources.

☐ 852.273–74, Award without Exchanges.

(b) All requests for quotations, solicitations, and contracts for commercial item services to be provided to beneficiaries must include the following clause:

☐ 852.237–74, Nondiscrimination in Service Delivery.

(End of Clause)

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SECTION D - CONTRACT DOCUMENTS, EXHIBITS, OR ATTACHMENTS

RESERVED