Contracting Briefs

DoD Draft Guidance Regarding Cybersecurity Requirements
Comments Due by May 31, 2018

The Association of Procurement Technical Assistance Centers (APTAC) published the following information in its April 27th weekly newsletter. On April 24, DoD issued draft guidance for procurements that require compliance with DFARS Clause 252.204-7012 (Safeguarding Covered Defense Information) and implementation of NIST SP 800-171. The draft guidance includes a matrix of NIST 800-171 requirements that contractors and DoD agencies should prioritize as well as several approaches for DoD agencies to evaluate NIST 800-171 implementation during the source selection process. Comments are due by May 31, 2018 and can be submitted here. Jon Burd and Megan Brown of Wiley Rein, LLP have written a helpful analysis, titled: DoD Issues Draft Guidance Showing Evolving Approach to Contractor Cybersecurity Requirements.

URA Using Public Purchase

On March 1, 2018, the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh (URA) began using Public Purchase, a web-based e-Procurement service, for its notification and transmittal of solicitations. This is at no cost to vendors.

If you are interested in receiving notification of URA proposals or bid opportunities, you must register with Public Purchase and then register within Public Purchase to receive URA notices. If you already have a public purchase account, you simply log in and then register with the URA.

Access www.publicpurchase.com/gems/register/vendor/register to create your new account. Once you receive email notification that the account is activated, login, click on "tools," then "agency," and search on Urban Redevelopment Authority. You will see the registration link on the right.

There are many other local agencies using Public Purchase. You may view the list from the home page by clicking on "select region" and select Pennsylvania and then clicking on "select agency." You will follow the steps above to register will all agencies of interest.

Upcoming GACO/GCAC Sponsored Events

5/17/18 – Doing Business with DLA, Regional Learning Alliance, Cranberry Township, PA

10/23/18 – GACO/GCAC’s 31st Annual Procurement Opportunities Fair, Monroeville Convention Center, Monroeville, PA
PA Department of General Services - JAGGAER Supplier Network

In our October 2017 newsletter, we provided information on the Department of General Services implementation of JAGGAER, a new electronic procurement system. DGS is using JAGGAER for the Invitation to Qualify (ITQ) process and for issuance of RFPs. If you are a supplier with a current ITQ Contract, are interested in becoming an ITQ supplier or in responding to RFPs posted in JAGGAER, you must create a JAGGAER account. Access the Department of General Services Supplier Service Center to learn how to register, pre-qualify as an ITQ supplier, locate bid opportunities or respond to events (RFPs/RFQs).

Fraudulent Activity in SAM

On March 22, 2108 the General Services Administration (GSA) released information regarding alleged, third party fraudulent activity in the System for Award Management (SAM). GSA has provided the following information on its website:

GSA's System for Award Management (SAM) is supporting an active investigation by the GSA Office of Inspector General (OIG) into alleged, third party fraudulent activity in SAM. At this time, only a limited number of entities registered in SAM are suspected of being impacted by this alleged fraudulent activity.

GSA has already taken proactive steps to address this issue and has notified affected entities. GSA will continue to work with the OIG and law enforcement agencies to take additional action as appropriate.

These proactive steps include requiring submission of an original, signed notarized letter identifying the authorized Entity Administrator for the entity associated with the Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number before the registration will be activated. This requirement went into effect on March 22, 2018, for new entities registering in SAM. This requirement will go into effect April 27, 2018, for existing registrations being updated or renewed.

The notarized letter is required after submitting a new registration or existing registration's update/renewal. You will receive an email requesting the notarized letter and have 30 days to send via mail. Your SAM registration becomes active or updated after review of the letter. The notarized letter must contain specific information and statements. Click here for details posted on the System for Award Management (SAM) website. You may also contact the GACO/GCAC offices for a template received from GSA.

GSA's website provides additional information including proactive steps taken to address the issue, who is impacted, and verifying your company information. To view, click here.

The Link – Connecting Suppliers with DLA

DLA publishes a quarterly newsletter providing information to DLA suppliers on important issues and updates. The April 2018 issue contains articles on Improving Readiness at DLA Industry Events, 2018 Suppliers Conference, Implementing Web Services, Expired System for Award (SAM) Entity Registrations, VSM Labeling and Packaging and Qualified Suppliers List of Manufacturers. Click here to access this issue. Previous issues of The Link and other DLA notices are viewable at https://www.dibbs.bsm.dla.mil/Notices/. Accept the consent notice by clicking OK to proceed to the website.