

SOLICITATION, OFFER, AND AWARD		1. Caption Sign Language Interpretation Services		Page of Pages 1 41	
2. Contract Number	3. Solicitation Number DCJR-2008-R-0088	4. Type of Solicitation <input type="checkbox"/> Sealed Bid (IFB) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sealed Proposals (RFP) <input type="checkbox"/> Sole Source <input type="checkbox"/> Human Care Agreements <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency	5. Date Issued 9/1/2008	6. Type of Market <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open <input type="checkbox"/> Set Aside <input type="checkbox"/> Open with Sub-Contracting Set Aside	
7. Issued By: Office of Contracting and Procurement 441 4th Street, NW, Suite 700 South Washington, DC 20001			8. Address Offer to: Office of Contracting and Procurement 441 4th Street, NW, Suite 703 South, Bid Room Washington, DC 20001		

NOTE: In sealed bid solicitations "offer" and offeror" means "bid" and "bidder"

SOLICITATION

9. Sealed offers in original and 5 copies for furnishing the supplies or services in the Schedule will be received at the place specified in Item 8, or if hand carried to the bid counter located at 441 4th Street NW, Suite 703 South, Bid Room Washington, DC 20001 until 2:00 PM local time 26-Sep-08 (Hour) (Date)

CAUTION: Late Submissions, Modifications and Withdrawals: See 27 DCMR chapters 15 & 16 as applicable. All offers are subject to all terms & conditions contained in this solicitation.

10. For Information Contact	A. Name Elona Evans-McNeill	B. Telephone (Area Code) 202 (Number) 724-4793 (Ext)		C. E-mail Address elona.evans-mcneill@dc.gov
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OFFER

12. In compliance with the above, the undersigned agrees, if this offer is accepted within 90 calendar days from the date for receipt of offers specified above, to furnish any or all items upon which prices are offered at the price set opposite each item, delivered at the designated point(s), within the time specified herein.

13. Discount for Prompt Payment	<input type="checkbox"/> 10 Calendar days %	<input type="checkbox"/> 20 Calendar days %	<input type="checkbox"/> 30 Calendar days %	<input type="checkbox"/> ___ Calendar days %
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14. Acknowledgement of Amendments (The offeror acknowledges receipt of amendments to the SOLICITATION):	Amendment Number	Date	Amendment Number	Date

15A. Name and Address of Offeror	15B. Telephone (Area Code) (Number) (Ext)		15C. Check if remittance address is different from above - Refer to Section G	16. Name and Title of Person Authorized to Sign Offer/Contract	17. Signature	18. Offer Date
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SECTION B: SUPPLIES OR SERVICES AND PRICE

B.1 The Government of the District of Columbia, Office of Contracting and Procurement, on behalf of the Office of Disability Rights and other District agencies (the District) is seeking a contractor equipped to provide quality sign language interpretation services for all DC government agencies at meetings and events involving members of the public.

B.2 The District may make multiple awards as a result of this solicitation. The District contemplates the award of labor/hour contract(s).

B.3 PRICE SCHEDULE

B.3.1 BASE YEAR

Contract Line Item No. (CLIN)	Item Description	Estimated Number of Hours	Hourly Rate	Weekend and Holiday Rate	Emergency/ Short Notice Rate
0001	Sign Language Interpreters - General Assignments	600	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____
0002	Sign Language Interpreters - Medical, Legal, Educational Assignments	200	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____
TOTAL ESTIMATED CONTRACT AMOUNT (Based on Hourly Rate)		800			

B.3.2 OPTION YEAR ONE

Contract Line Item No. (CLIN)	Item Description	Estimated Number of Hours	Hourly Rate	Weekend and Holiday Rate	Emergency/ Short Notice Rate
1001	Sign Language Interpreters - General Assignments	600	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____
1002	Sign Language Interpreters - Medical, Legal, Educational Assignments	200	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____
TOTAL ESTIMATED CONTRACT AMOUNT (Based on Hourly Rate)		800			

B.3.3 OPTION YEAR TWO

Contract Line Item No. (CLIN)	Item Description	Estimated Number of Hours	Hourly Rate	Weekend and Holiday Rate	Emergency/ Short Notice Rate
2001	Sign Language Interpreters - General Assignments	600	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____
2002	Sign Language Interpreters - Medical, Legal, Educational Assignments	200	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____
TOTAL ESTIMATED CONTRACT AMOUNT (Based on Hourly Rate)		800			

B.3.4 OPTION YEAR THREE

Contract Line Item No. (CLIN)	Item Description	Estimated Number of Hours	Hourly Rate	Weekend and Holiday Rate	Emergency/ Short Notice Rate
3001	Sign Language Interpreters - General Assignments	600	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____
3002	Sign Language Interpreters - Medical, Legal, Educational Assignments	200	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____
TOTAL ESTIMATED CONTRACT AMOUNT (Based on Hourly Rate)		800			

B.3.5 OPTION YEAR FOUR

Contract Line Item No. (CLIN)	Item Description	Estimated Number of Hours	Hourly Rate	Weekend and Holiday Rate	Emergency/ Short Notice Rate
4001	Sign Language Interpreters - General Assignments	600	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____
4002	Sign Language Interpreters - Medical, Legal, Educational Assignments	200	\$_____	\$_____	\$_____
TOTAL ESTIMATED CONTRACT AMOUNT (Based on Hourly Rate)		800			

SECTION C: SPECIFICATIONS/WORK STATEMENT

C.1 SCOPE

The District of Columbia is seeking a contractor equipped to provide quality sign language interpretation services for all DC government agencies at meetings and events involving members of the public. The contractor will have to provide sign language interpreters on no more than 3 business days' notice and have flexibility to provide interpreters on less notice in emergencies. Interpreters must be certified by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf Certificate of Interpretation Level or higher, the National Association of the Deaf at the CI/NAD III level or higher, or National Interpreter Certification NIC level or higher, or otherwise demonstrate high level ability to simultaneously translate spoken English into American Sign Language, Signed English, and Pidgin Signed English and to translate American Sign Language/Signed English/Pidgin Signed English into spoken English.

C.1.2 DEFINITIONS

- C.1.2.1 American Sign Language** (or ASL, Ameslan) is the dominant sign language of the deaf community in the United States, in the English-speaking parts of Canada and in parts of Mexico.
- C.1.2.2 Communication Access Realtime Translation (CART)** is the instant translation of the spoken word into English text using a stenotype machine, notebook computer and realtime software. The text appears on a computer monitor or other display. This technology is primarily used by people who are late-deafened, oral deaf, hard-of-hearing, or have cochlear implants. Culturally deaf individuals also make use of CART in certain situations. CART is also often referred to as realtime captioning.
- The Americans with Disabilities Act specifically recognized CART as an assistive technology which affords "effective communication access." Thus communication access more aptly describes a CART provider's role and distinguishes CART from realtime reporting in a traditional litigation setting.
- C.1.2.3 Signed English/Pidgin Signed English:** The vocabulary of Signed English/Pidgin Signed English is drawn from American Sign Language, but English word order is used. Words, prefixes, tenses, and endings are drawn from English.
- C.1.2.4 National Association of the Deaf :** The National Association of the Deaf is a national nonprofit organization. The National Association of the Deaf offered sign language interpretation testing and certification at Level III (Generalist), Level IV (Advanced), and Level V (Master). The National Association of the Deaf recently partnered with the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf to develop the NAD-RID National Interpreter Certification system.
- C.1.2.5 National Interpreter Certification:** The National Association of the Deaf and Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf have developed the National Interpreter Certification system. The NAD-RID National Interpreter Certification system offers levels of certification at NIC, NIC Advanced, and NIC Master levels.

C.1.2.6 Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf – The Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf is a national membership organization of sign language interpreters. The Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf offered sign language interpretation testing and certification at the CI (Certificate of Interpretation), CT (Certificate of Transliteration), CDI (Certified Deaf Interpreter), CSC (Comprehensive Skills Certificate), MCSC (Master Comprehensive Skills Certificate), RSC (Reverse Skills Certificate), OTC (Oral Transliteration Certificate), and OIC (Oral Interpreting Certificate), and other levels. The Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf has recently partnered with the National Association of the Deaf to develop the NAD-RID National Interpreter Certification system.

C.2 BACKGROUND

District of Columbia agencies periodically meet with members of the public who are deaf and communicate using American Sign Language, Signed English, or Pidgin Signed English. These meetings take place individually, in groups, and at public events. Meetings include intakes, interviews, meetings, conferences, seminars, trainings, hearings, and other events.

The Americans with Disabilities Act requires that communication with individuals who are deaf must be as effective as communication with nondisabled individuals. One method for accomplishing effective communication is the provision of sign language interpreters who translate spoken English into American Sign Language/Signed English/Pidgin Signed English and translate American Sign Language/Signed English/Pidgin Signed English into spoken English.

In order to effectively communicate with deaf individuals, District of Columbia agencies need to have ready access to sign language interpretation. The District's policy is to provide sign language interpretation on request by an individual who is deaf and who plans to attend a meeting or other event when such interpretation is necessary to ensure effective communication. The District's policy is to provide interpretation upon no more than 3 business days' notice by the requesting individual, and upon shorter notice when possible.

C.3 REQUIREMENTS

C.3.1 The Contractor shall provide sign language interpreters for individual and group meetings and other events upon 3 business days' notice from a District of Columbia government agency, and upon lesser notice if interpreters are available. Interpreters will be available for programs during weekdays, evenings, holidays, and weekends.

C.3.2 The Contractor shall provide interpreters certified by the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, National Association of the Deaf, or National Interpreter Certification who are at the RID CI level, NAD III level, NIC level or higher or otherwise demonstrate high level ability to simultaneously translate spoken English into American Sign Language/Signed English/Pidgin Signed English and to translate American Sign Language/Signed English/Pidgin Signed English into spoken English.

C.3.3 When necessary for complex communications (such as medical, educational or legal situations), the Contractor shall provide higher-certified interpreters who are qualified to interpret such communications.

- C.3.4** The Contractor shall provide interpreters qualified to sign to the individual who is deaf what is being said by the hearing person and to voice to the hearing person what is being signed by the individual who is deaf. This communication must be conveyed effectively, accurately, impartially, and in compliance with generally accepted ethical standards. The Contractor shall also be able to provide visual interpreting aids when needed.
- C.3.5** Contractor's interpreters shall be available to travel to any location within the Metropolitan Washington area.
- C.3.6** The Contractor shall provide a contact number in case an interpreter does not arrive to a scheduled appointment, for a supervisor or alternate interpreter, including appointments after normal business hours.
- C.3.7** The District may cancel appointments with 3 business days' notice or more without penalty; with two (2) business day's notice or less with penalty of no more than ½ the appointment cost. Events cancelled with less than 1 business day's notice will be billed the entire appointment cost.
- C.3.8** In the event of acts of God, terrorism, severe weather conditions, or other emergencies for which the District Government is closed, the Contractor shall permit cancellation without penalty.
- C.3.9** Contractor shall ensure quality and qualifications of interpreters by implementing a Quality Assurance Plan (QAP) that includes screening, periodic testing, and periodic monitoring for receptive and expressive interpreting ability, professionalism, and ethics.. The Quality Assurance Plan shall ensure screening, testing, and monitoring are conducted by qualified staff and include input from deaf individuals. The QAP shall be submitted to the COTR on a quarterly basis.

SECTION D: PACKAGING AND MARKING

Not applicable.

SECTION E: INSPECTION AND ACCEPTANCE

The inspection and acceptance requirements for the resultant contract shall be governed by clause number six (6), Inspection of Services, of the Government of the District of Columbia's Standard Contract Provisions for use with Supplies and Services Contracts, dated March 2007.

SECTION F: DELIVERIES OR PERFORMANCE

F.1 TERM OF CONTRACT

The term of the contract shall be for a period of one (1) year from date of award specified on the cover page of the contract.

F.2 OPTION TO EXTEND THE TERM OF THE CONTRACT

F.2.1 The District may extend the term of this contract for a period of four, one (1) year option periods, or successive fractions thereof, by written notice to the Contractor before the expiration of the contract; provided that the District will give the Contractor a preliminary written notice of its intent to extend at least thirty (30) days before the contract expires. The preliminary notice does not commit the District to an extension. The exercise of this option is subject to the availability of funds at the time of the exercise of this option. The Contractor may waive the thirty (30) day preliminary notice requirement by providing a written waiver to the Contracting Officer prior to expiration of the contract.

F.2.2 If the District exercises this option, the extended contract shall be considered to include this option provision.

F.2.3 The price for the option period shall be as specified in the contract.

F.2.4 The total duration of this contract, including the exercise of any options under this clause, shall not exceed five (5) years.

F.3 DELIVERABLES

F.3.1 The Contractor shall submit to the District, as a deliverable, the report described in section H.5.5 of this contract that is required by the 51% District Residents New Hires Requirements and First Source Employment Agreement. If the Contractor does not submit the report as part of the deliverables, final payment to the Contractor may not be paid.

SECTION G : CONTRACT ADMINISTRATION DATA

G.1 INVOICE PAYMENT

G.1.1 The District will make payments to the Contractor, upon the submission of proper invoices, at the prices stipulated in this contract, for supplies delivered and accepted or services performed and accepted, less any discounts, allowances or adjustments provided for in this contract.

G.1.2 The District will pay the Contractor on or before the 30th day after receiving a proper invoice from the Contractor.

G.2 INVOICE SUBMITTAL

G.2.1 The Contractor shall submit proper invoices on a monthly basis or as otherwise specified in Section G.4. Invoices shall be prepared in duplicate and submitted to the agency Chief Financial Officer (CFO) with concurrent copies to the Contracting Officer's Technical Representative (COTR) specified in Section G.9 below. The address of the CFO is:

Name: Office of Finance and Resource Management
ATTN: Accounts Payable
Address: 441 4th Street, NW, Suite 890N
Washington, DC 20001
Telephone: 202-727-0333

G.2.2 To constitute a proper invoice, the Contractor shall submit the following information on the invoice:

G.2.2.1 Contractor's name, federal tax ID and invoice date (Contractors shall date invoices as of the date of mailing or transmittal);

G.2.2.2 Contract number and invoice number;

G.2.2.3 Description, price, quantity and the date(s) that the supplies or services were delivered or performed;

G.2.2.4 Other supporting documentation or information, as required by the Contracting Officer;

G.2.2.5 Name, title, telephone number and complete mailing address of the responsible official to whom payment is to be sent;

G.2.2.6 Name, title, phone number of person preparing the invoice;

G.2.2.7 Name, title, phone number and mailing address of person (if different from the person identified in G.2.2.6 above) to be notified in the event of a defective invoice; and

G.2.2.8 Authorized signature.

G.3 FIRST SOURCE AGREEMENT REQUEST FOR FINAL PAYMENT

G.3.1 For contracts subject to the 51% District Residents New Hires Requirements and First Source Employment Agreement requirements, final request for payment must be accompanied by the report or a waiver of compliance discussed in section H.5.5.

G.3.2 No final payment shall be made to the Contractor until the CFO has received the Contracting Officer's final determination or approval of waiver of the Contractor's compliance with 51% District Residents New Hires Requirements and First Source Employment Agreement requirements.

G.4 PAYMENT

The District will make payment to the Contractor for satisfactory performance of the required service in accordance with Section B.3 Price Schedule.

G.5 ASSIGNMENT OF CONTRACT PAYMENTS

G.5.1 In accordance with 27 DCMR 3250, the Contractor may assign funds due or to become due as a result of the performance of this contract to a bank, trust company, or other financing institution.

G.5.2 Any assignment shall cover all unpaid amounts payable under this contract, and shall not be made to more than one party.

G.5.3 Notwithstanding an assignment of contract payments, the Contractor, not the assignee, is required to prepare invoices. Where such an assignment has been made, the original copy of the invoice must refer to the assignment and must show that payment of the invoice is to be made directly to the assignee as follows:

Pursuant to the instrument of assignment dated _____,
make payment of this invoice to _____
(name and address of assignee).

G.6 THE QUICK PAYMENT CLAUSE

G.6.1 Interest Penalties to Contractors

G.6.1.1 The District will pay interest penalties on amounts due to the Contractor under the Quick Payment Act, D.C. Official Code §2-221.01 et seq., for the period beginning on the day after the required payment date and ending on the date on which payment of the amount is made. Interest shall be calculated at the rate of 1% per month. No interest penalty shall be paid if payment for the completed delivery of the item of property or service is made on or before:

- a) the 3rd day after the required payment date for meat or a meat product;
- b) the 5th day after the required payment date for an agricultural commodity; or

- c) the 15th day after the required payment date for any other item.

G.6.1.2 Any amount of an interest penalty which remains unpaid at the end of any 30-day period shall be added to the principal amount of the debt and thereafter interest penalties shall accrue on the added amount.

G.6.2 Payments to Subcontractors

G.6.2.1 The Contractor must take one of the following actions within 7 days of receipt of any amount paid to the Contractor by the District for work performed by any subcontractor under a contract:

- a) Pay the subcontractor for the proportionate share of the total payment received from the District that is attributable to the subcontractor for work performed under the contract; or
- b) Notify the District and the subcontractor, in writing, of the Contractor's intention to withhold all or part of the subcontractor's payment and state the reason for the nonpayment.

G.6.2.2 The Contractor must pay any lower-tier subcontractor or supplier interest penalties on amounts due to the subcontractor or supplier beginning on the day after the payment is due and ending on the date on which the payment is made. Interest shall be calculated at the rate of 1% per month. No interest penalty shall be paid on the following if payment for the completed delivery of the item of property or service is made on or before:

- a) the 3rd day after the required payment date for meat or a meat product;
- b) the 5th day after the required payment date for an agricultural commodity; or
- c) the 15th day after the required payment date for any other item.

G.6.2.3 Any amount of an interest penalty which remains unpaid by the Contractor at the end of any 30-day period shall be added to the principal amount of the debt to the subcontractor and thereafter interest penalties shall accrue on the added amount.

G.6.2.4 A dispute between the Contractor and subcontractor relating to the amounts or entitlement of a subcontractor to a payment or a late payment interest penalty under the Quick Payment Act does not constitute a dispute to which the District of Columbia is a party. The District of Columbia may not be interpleaded in any judicial or administrative proceeding involving such a dispute.

G.7 CONTRACTING OFFICER (CO)

Contracts will be entered into and signed on behalf of the District only by contracting officers. The name, address and telephone number of the Contracting Officer is:

Elona Evans-McNeill
Office of Contracting and Procurement
441 4th Street NW, Suite 700 South
Washington, DC 20001
202-727-0252

G.8 AUTHORIZED CHANGES BY THE CONTRACTING OFFICER

- G.8.1** The Contracting Officer is the only person authorized to approve changes in any of the requirements of this contract.
- G.8.2** The Contractor shall not comply with any order, directive or request that changes or modifies the requirements of this contract, unless issued in writing and signed by the Contracting Officer.
- G.8.3** In the event the Contractor effects any change at the instruction or request of any person other than the Contracting Officer, the change will be considered to have been made without authority and no adjustment will be made in the contract price to cover any cost increase incurred as a result thereof.

G.9 CONTRACTING OFFICER'S TECHNICAL REPRESENTATIVE (COTR)

- G.9.1** The COTR is responsible for general administration of the contract and advising the Contracting Officer as to the Contractor's compliance or noncompliance with the contract. In addition, the COTR is responsible for the day-to-day monitoring and supervision of the contract, of ensuring that the work conforms to the requirements of this contract and such other responsibilities and authorities as may be specified in the contract. The COTR for this contract is:

Derek Orr, Deputy Director
Office of Disability Rights
441 4th Street, NW, Suite 729N
Washington, DC 20001
(202) 727-8005

- G.9.2** The COTR shall not have authority to make any changes in the specifications or scope of work or terms and conditions of the contract.
- G.9.3** The Contractor may be held fully responsible for any changes not authorized in advance, in writing, by the Contracting Officer; may be denied compensation or other relief for any additional work performed that is not so authorized; and may also be required, at no additional cost to the District, to take all corrective action necessitated by reason of the unauthorized changes.

G.10 ORDERING CLAUSE

- G.10.1** Any supplies and services to be furnished under this contract must be ordered by issuance of delivery orders or task orders by a Contracting Officer. Such orders may be issued during the term of this contract.
- G.10.2** All delivery orders or task orders are subject to the terms and conditions of this contract. In the event of a conflict between a delivery order or task order and this contract, the contract shall control.

G.10.3 If mailed, a delivery order or task order is considered "issued" when the District deposits the order in the mail. Orders may be issued by facsimile or by electronic commerce methods.

SECTION H: SPECIAL CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS

H.1 HIRING OF DISTRICT RESIDENTS AS APPRENTICES AND TRAINEES

H.1.1 For all new employment resulting from this contract or subcontracts hereto, as defined in Mayor's Order 83-265 and implementing instructions, the Contractor shall use its best efforts to comply with the following basic goal and objectives for utilization of bona fide residents of the District of Columbia in each project's labor force:

H.1.1.1 at least fifty-one (51) percent of apprentices and trainees employed shall be residents of the District of Columbia registered in programs approved by the District of Columbia Apprenticeship Council.

H.1.2 The Contractor shall negotiate an Employment Agreement with the DOES for jobs created as a result of this contract. The DOES shall be the Contractor's first source of referral for qualified apprentices and trainees in the implementation of employment goals contained in this clause.

H.2 DEPARTMENT OF LABOR WAGE DETERMINATIONS

The Contractor shall be bound by the Wage Determination No. 2005-2103 Revision No. 6 5/29/08, issued by the U.S. Department of Labor in accordance with the Service Contract Act (41 U.S.C. 351 et seq.) and incorporated herein as Section J.1.1 of this solicitation. The Contractor shall be bound by the wage rates for the term of the contract. If an option is exercised, the Contractor shall be bound by the applicable wage rate at the time of the option. If the option is exercised and the Contracting Officer obtains a revised wage determination, the revised wage determination is applicable for the option periods and the Contractor may be entitled to an equitable adjustment.

H.3 PUBLICITY

The Contractor shall at all times obtain the prior written approval from the Contracting Officer before it, any of its officers, agents, employees or subcontractors, either during or after expiration or termination of the contract, make any statement, or issue any material, for publication through any medium of communication, bearing on the work performed or data collected under this contract.

H.4 FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT

The District of Columbia Freedom of Information Act, at D.C. Official Code § 2-532 (a-3), requires the District to make available for inspection and copying any record produced or collected pursuant to a District contract with a private contractor to perform a public function, to the same extent as if the record were maintained by the agency on whose behalf the contract is made. If the Contractor receives a request for such information, the Contractor shall immediately send the request to the COTR designated in subsection G.9 who will provide the request to the FOIA Officer for the agency with programmatic responsibility in accordance with the D.C. Freedom of Information Act. If the agency with programmatic responsibility receives a request for a record maintained by the Contractor pursuant to the contract, the COTR will forward a copy to the Contractor. In either event,

the Contractor is required by law to provide all responsive records to the COTR within the timeframe designated by the COTR. The FOIA Officer for the agency with programmatic responsibility will determine the releasability of the records. The District will reimburse the Contractor for the costs of searching and copying the records in accordance with D.C. Official Code §2-532 and Chapter 4 of Title 1 of the *D.C. Municipal Regulations*.

H.5 51% DISTRICT RESIDENTS NEW HIRES REQUIREMENTS AND FIRST SOURCE EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT

H.5.1 The Contractor shall comply with the First Source Employment Agreement Act of 1984, as amended, D.C. Official Code §2-219.01 et seq. (“First Source Act”).

H.5.2 The Contractor shall enter into and maintain, during the term of the contract, a First Source Employment Agreement, (Section J.2.3) in which the Contractor shall agree that:

- (1) The first source for finding employees to fill all jobs created in order to perform this contract shall be the Department of Employment Services (“DOES”); and
- (2) The first source for finding employees to fill any vacancy occurring in all jobs covered by the First Source Employment Agreement shall be the First Source Register.

H.5.3 The Contractor shall submit to DOES, no later than the 10th each month following execution of the contract, a First Source Agreement Contract Compliance Report (“contract compliance report”) verifying its compliance with the First Source Agreement for the preceding month. The contract compliance report for the contract shall include the:

- (1) Number of employees needed;
- (2) Number of current employees transferred;
- (3) Number of new job openings created;
- (4) Number of job openings listed with DOES;
- (5) Total number of all District residents hired for the reporting period and the cumulative total number of District residents hired; and
- (6) Total number of all employees hired for the reporting period and the cumulative total number of employees hired, including:
 - (a) Name;
 - (b) Social security number;
 - (c) Job title;
 - (d) Hire date;
 - (e) Residence; and
 - (f) Referral source for all new hires.

H.5.4 If the contract amount is equal to or greater than \$100,000, the Contractor agrees that 51% of the new employees hired for the contract shall be District residents.

H.5.5 With the submission of the Contractor’s final request for payment from the District, the Contractor shall:

- (1) Document in a report to the Contracting Officer its compliance with the section H.5.4 of this clause; or
- (2) Submit a request to the Contracting Officer for a waiver of compliance with section H.5.4 and include the following documentation:

- (a) Material supporting a good faith effort to comply;
- (b) Referrals provided by DOES and other referral sources;
- (c) Advertisement of job openings listed with DOES and other referral sources; and
- (d) Any documentation supporting the waiver request pursuant to section H.5.6.

H.5.6 The Contracting Officer may waive the provisions of section H.5.4 if the Contracting Officer finds that:

- (1) A good faith effort to comply is demonstrated by the Contractor;
- (2) The Contractor is located outside the Washington Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area and none of the contract work is performed inside the Washington Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area which includes the District of Columbia; the Virginia Cities of Alexandria, Falls Church, Manassas, Manassas Park, Fairfax, and Fredericksburg, the Virginia Counties of Fairfax, Arlington, Prince William, Loudoun, Stafford, Clarke, Warren, Fauquier, Culpeper, Spotsylvania, and King George; the Maryland Counties of Montgomery, Prince Georges, Charles, Frederick, and Calvert; and the West Virginia Counties of Berkeley and Jefferson.
- (3) The Contractor enters into a special workforce development training or placement arrangement with DOES; or
- (4) DOES certifies that there are insufficient numbers of District residents in the labor market possessing the skills required by the positions created as a result of the contract.

H.5.7 Upon receipt of the contractor's final payment request and related documentation pursuant to sections H.5.5 and H.5.6, the Contracting Officer shall determine whether the Contractor is in compliance with section H.5.4 or whether a waiver of compliance pursuant to section H.5.6 is justified. If the Contracting Officer determines that the Contractor is in compliance, or that a waiver of compliance is justified, the Contracting Officer shall, within two business days of making the determination forward a copy of the determination to the Agency Chief Financial Officer and the COTR.

H.5.8 Willful breach of the First Source Employment Agreement, or failure to submit the report pursuant to section H.5.5, or deliberate submission of falsified data, may be enforced by the Contracting Officer through imposition of penalties, including monetary fines of 5% of the total amount of the direct and indirect labor costs of the contract. The Contractor shall make payment to DOES. The Contractor may appeal to the D.C. Contract Appeals Board as provided in the contract any decision of the Contracting Officer pursuant to this section H.5.8.

H.5.9 The provisions of sections H.5.4 through H.5.8 do not apply to nonprofit organizations.

H.6 PROTECTION OF PROPERTY:

The Contractor shall be responsible for any damage to the building, interior, or their approaches in delivering equipment covered by this contract.

H.7 AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990 (ADA)

During the performance of the contract, the Contractor and any of its subcontractors shall comply with the ADA. The ADA makes it unlawful to discriminate in employment against a qualified individual with a disability.

See 42 U.S.C. §12101 et seq.

H.8 SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973, as amended.

During the performance of the contract, the Contractor and any of its subcontractors shall comply with Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended. This Act prohibits discrimination against disabled people in federally funded program and activities. See 29 U.S.C. §794 et seq.

SECTION I: CONTRACT CLAUSES

I.1 APPLICABILITY OF STANDARD CONTRACT PROVISIONS

The Standard Contract Provisions for use with District of Columbia Government Supplies and Services Contracts dated March 2007 (“SCP”), are incorporated as part of the contract resulting from this solicitation. To obtain a copy of the SCP go to www.ocp.dc.gov, click on OCP Policies under the heading “Information”, then click on “Standard Contract Provisions – Supplies and Services Contracts”.

I.2 CONTRACTS THAT CROSS FISCAL YEARS

Continuation of this contract beyond the current fiscal year is contingent upon future fiscal appropriations.

I.3 CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION

All information obtained by the Contractor relating to any employee or customer of the District will be kept in absolute confidence and shall not be used by the Contractor in connection with any other matters, nor shall any such information be disclosed to any other person, firm, or corporation, in accordance with the District and Federal laws governing the confidentiality of records.

I.4 TIME

Time, if stated in a number of days, will include Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, unless otherwise stated herein.

I.5 RIGHTS IN DATA

I.5.1 “Data,” as used herein, means recorded information, regardless of form or the media on which it may be recorded. The term includes technical data and computer software. The term does not include information incidental to contract administration, such as financial, administrative, cost or pricing, or management information.

I.5.2 The term “Technical Data”, as used herein, means recorded information, regardless of form or characteristic, of a scientific or technical nature. It may, for example, document research, experimental, developmental or engineering work, or be usable or used to define a design or process or to procure, produce, support, maintain, or operate material. The data may be graphic or pictorial delineations in media such as drawings or photographs, text in specifications or related performance or design type documents or computer printouts. Examples of technical data include research and engineering data, engineering drawings and associated lists, specifications, standards, process sheets, manuals, technical reports, catalog item identifications, and related information, and computer software documentation. Technical data does not include computer software or financial, administrative, cost and pricing, and management data or other information incidental to contract administration.

- I.5.3** The term “Computer Software”, as used herein means computer programs and computer databases. “Computer Programs”, as used herein means a series of instructions or statements in a form acceptable to a computer, designed to cause the computer to execute an operation or operations. "Computer Programs" include operating systems, assemblers, compilers, interpreters, data management systems, utility programs, sort merge programs, and automated data processing equipment maintenance diagnostic programs, as well as applications programs such as payroll, inventory control and engineering analysis programs. Computer programs may be either machine-dependent or machine-independent, and may be general purpose in nature or designed to satisfy the requirements of a particular user.
- I.5.4** The term "computer databases", as used herein, means a collection of data in a form capable of being processed and operated on by a computer.
- I.5.5** All data first produced in the performance of this Contract shall be the sole property of the District. The Contractor hereby acknowledges that all data, including, without limitation, computer program codes, produced by Contractor for the District under this Contract, are works made for hire and are the sole property of the District; but, to the extent any such data may not, by operation of law, be works made for hire, Contractor hereby transfers and assigns to the District the ownership of copyright in such works, whether published or unpublished. The Contractor agrees to give the District all assistance reasonably necessary to perfect such rights including, but not limited to, the works and supporting documentation and the execution of any instrument required to register copyrights. The Contractor agrees not to assert any rights in common law or in equity in such data. The Contractor shall not publish or reproduce such data in whole or in part or in any manner or form, or authorize others to do so, without written consent of the District until such time as the District may have released such data to the public.
- I.5.6** The District will have restricted rights in data, including computer software and all accompanying documentation, manuals and instructional materials, listed or described in a license or agreement made a part of this contract, which the parties have agreed will be furnished with restricted rights, provided however, notwithstanding any contrary provision in any such license or agreement, such restricted rights shall include, as a minimum the right to:
- I.5.6.1** Use the computer software and all accompanying documentation and manuals or instructional materials with the computer for which or with which it was acquired, including use at any District installation to which the computer may be transferred by the District;
- I.5.6.2** Use the computer software and all accompanying documentation and manuals or instructional materials with a backup computer if the computer for which or with which it was acquired is inoperative;
- I.5.6.3** Copy computer programs for safekeeping (archives) or backup purposes; and modify the computer software and all accompanying documentation and manuals or instructional materials, or combine it with other software, subject to the provision that the modified portions shall remain subject to these restrictions.
- I.5.7** The restricted rights set forth in section I.5.6 are of no effect unless

- (i) the data is marked by the Contractor with the following legend:

RESTRICTED RIGHTS LEGEND

Use, duplication, or disclosure is subject to restrictions stated in Contract No. _____

With _____(Contractor's Name); and

- (ii) If the data is computer software, the related computer software documentation includes a prominent statement of the restrictions applicable to the computer software. The Contractor may not place any legend on the computer software indicating restrictions on the District's rights in such software unless the restrictions are set forth in a license or agreement made a part of the contract prior to the delivery date of the software. Failure of the Contractor to apply a restricted rights legend to such computer software shall relieve the District of liability with respect to such unmarked software.

I.5.8 In addition to the rights granted in Section I.5.6 above, the Contractor hereby grants to the District a nonexclusive, paid-up license throughout the world, of the same scope as restricted rights set forth in Section I.5.6 above, under any copyright owned by the Contractor, in any work of authorship prepared for or acquired by the District under this contract. Unless written approval of the Contracting Officer is obtained, the Contractor shall not include in technical data or computer software prepared for or acquired by the District under this contract any works of authorship in which copyright is not owned by the Contractor without acquiring for the District any rights necessary to perfect a copyright license of the scope specified in the first sentence of this paragraph.

I.5.9 Whenever any data, including computer software, are to be obtained from a subcontractor under this contract, the Contractor shall use this clause, I.5, Rights in Data, in the subcontract, without alteration, and no other clause shall be used to enlarge or diminish the District's or the Contractor's rights in that subcontractor data or computer software which is required for the District.

I.5.10 For all computer software furnished to the District with the rights specified in Section I.5.5, the Contractor shall furnish to the District, a copy of the source code with such rights of the scope specified in Section I.5.5. For all computer software furnished to the District with the restricted rights specified in Section I.5.6, the District, if the Contractor, either directly or through a successor or affiliate shall cease to provide the maintenance or warranty services provided the District under this contract or any paid-up maintenance agreement, or if Contractor should be declared bankrupt or insolvent by a court of competent jurisdiction, shall have the right to obtain, for its own and sole use only, a single copy of the then current version of the source code supplied under this contract, and a single copy of the documentation associated therewith, upon payment to the person in control of the source code the reasonable cost of making each copy.

I.5.11 The Contractor shall indemnify and save and hold harmless the District, its officers, agents and employees acting within the scope of their official duties against any liability, including costs and expenses, (i) for violation of proprietary rights, copyrights, or rights of privacy,

arising out of the publication, translation, reproduction, delivery, performance, use or disposition of any data furnished under this contract, or (ii) based upon any data furnished under this contract, or based upon libelous or other unlawful matter contained in such data.

I.5.12 Nothing contained in this clause shall imply a license to the District under any patent, or be construed as affecting the scope of any license or other right otherwise granted to the District under any patent.

I.5.13 Paragraphs I.5.6, I.5.7, I.5.8, I.5.11 and I.5.12 above are not applicable to material furnished to the Contractor by the District and incorporated in the work furnished under contract, provided that such incorporated material is identified by the Contractor at the time of delivery of such work

I.6 OTHER CONTRACTORS

The Contractor shall not commit or permit any act that will interfere with the performance of work by another District contractor or by any District employee.

I.7 SUBCONTRACTS

The Contractor hereunder shall not subcontract any of the Contractor's work or services to any subcontractor without the prior written consent of the Contracting Officer. Any work or service so subcontracted shall be performed pursuant to a subcontract agreement, which the District will have the right to review and approve prior to its execution by the Contractor. Any such subcontract shall specify that the Contractor and the subcontractor shall be subject to every provision of this contract. Notwithstanding any such subcontract approved by the District, the Contractor shall remain liable to the District for all Contractor's work and services required hereunder.

I.8 INSURANCE

I.8.1 Contractor shall procure and maintain, during the entire period of performance under this contract, the types of insurance specified below. The Contractor shall submit a certificate of insurance giving evidence of the required coverages prior to commencing work. All insurance shall be written with responsible companies licensed by the District of Columbia's Department of Insurance, Securities and Banking. The Contractor shall require all subcontractors to carry the insurance required herein, or Contractor may, at its option, provide the coverage for any or all subcontractors, and if so, the evidence of insurance submitted shall so stipulate. All insurance provided by the Contractor as required by this section, except comprehensive automobile liability insurance, shall set forth the District as an additional named insured. In no event shall work be performed until the required certificates of insurance have been furnished. The insurance shall provide for 30 days' prior written notice to be given to the District in the event coverage is substantially changed, canceled or non-renewed. If the insurance provided is not in compliance with all the requirements herein, the District maintains the right to stop work until proper evidence is provided.

I.8.1.1 **Commercial General Liability Insurance**, \$1,000,000 limits per occurrence, District added as an additional insured.

- I.8.1.2** **Automobile Liability Insurance**, \$1,000,000 per occurrence combined single limit.
- I.8.1.3** **Worker’s Compensation Insurance** according to the statutes of the District of Columbia, including Employer’s Liability, \$100,000 per accident for injury, \$100,000 per employee for disease, \$500,000 policy limit disease.
- I.8.1.4** **Umbrella/ Excess Liability Insurance**, \$5,000,000 limits per occurrence.
- I.8.1.5** **Professional Liability Insurance**, \$1,000,000 limits per claim (note: such insurance is typically called medical malpractice insurance for doctors, professional liability insurance for lawyers and nurses, and errors and omissions liability insurance for all other “professions” with a professional liability exposure

I.9 EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

In accordance with the District of Columbia Administrative Issuance System, Mayor’s Order 85-85 dated June 10, 1985, the forms for completion of the Equal Employment Opportunity Information Report are incorporated herein as Section J.2.1. An award cannot be made to any offeror who has not satisfied the equal employment requirements.

I.10 ORDER OF PRECEDENCE

Any inconsistency in this solicitation shall be resolved by giving precedence in the following order: the Supplies or Services and Price/Cost Section (Section B), Specifications/Work Statement (Section C), the Special Contract Requirements (Section H), the Contract Clauses (Section I), and the SCP.

I.11 CONTRACTS IN EXCESS OF ONE MILLION DOLLARS

Any contract in excess of \$1,000,000 shall not be binding or give rise to any claim or demand against the District until approved by the Council of the District of Columbia and signed by the Contracting Officer.

SECTION J: LIST OF ATTACHMENTS

J J.1 ATTACHMENT

J.1.1 Wage Determination No: 2005-2103 Revision 6, dated 5/29/08

J.1.2 Past Performance Evaluation

J.1.3 Living Wage Notice

J.1.4 Living Wage Fact Sheet

J.2 INCORPORATED ATTACHMENTS

(The following forms shall be completed and incorporated with the offer.)

J.2.1 E.E.O. Information and Mayor's Order 85-85
(located at www.ocp.dc.gov ; click on Solicitation Attachments)

J.2.2 Tax Certification Affidavit
(located at www.ocp.dc.gov ; click on Solicitation Attachments)

J.2.3 First Source Employment Agreement
(located at www.ocp.dc.gov ; click on Solicitation Attachments)

J.2.4 Cost Price Disclosure Certification

SECTION K: REPRESENTATIONS, CERTIFICATIONS AND OTHER STATEMENTS OF OFFERORS

K.1 AUTHORIZED NEGOTIATORS

The offeror represents that the following persons are authorized to negotiate on its behalf with the District in connection with this request for proposals: (list names, titles, and telephone numbers of the authorized negotiators).

K.2 TYPE OF BUSINESS ORGANIZATION

K.2.1 The offeror, by checking the applicable box, represents that

(a) It operates as:

- a corporation incorporated under the laws of the State of: _____
- an individual,
- a partnership,
- a nonprofit organization, or
- a joint venture.

(b) If the offeror is a foreign entity, it operates as:

- an individual,
- a joint venture, or
- a corporation registered for business in _____
(Country)

K.3 CERTIFICATION AS TO COMPLIANCE WITH EQUAL OPPORTUNITY OBLIGATIONS

Mayor's Order 85-85, "Compliance with Equal Opportunity Obligations in Contracts", dated June 10, 1985 and the Office of Human Rights' regulations, Chapter 11, "Equal Employment Opportunity Requirements in Contracts", promulgated August 15, 1986 (4 DCMR Chapter 11, 33 DCR 4952) are included as a part of this solicitation and require the following certification for contracts subject to the order. Failure to complete the certification may result in rejection of the offeror for a contract subject to the order. I hereby certify that I am fully aware of the content of the Mayor's Order 85-85 and the Office of Human Rights' regulations, Chapter 11, and agree to comply with them in performance of this contract.

Offeror _____ Date _____

Name _____ Title _____

Signature _____

Offeror ___has ___has not participated in a previous contract or subcontract subject to the Mayor's Order 85-85. Offeror ___has ___has not filed all required compliance reports, and representations indicating submission of required reports signed by proposed subofferors. (The above representations need not be submitted in connection with contracts or subcontracts which are exempt from the Mayor's Order.)

K.4 BUY AMERICAN CERTIFICATION

The offeror hereby certifies that each end product, except the end products listed below, is a domestic end product (See Clause 23 of the SCP, "Buy American Act"), and that components of unknown origin are considered to have been mined, produced, or manufactured outside the United States.

_____ EXCLUDED END PRODUCTS
_____ COUNTRY OF ORIGIN

K.5 DISTRICT EMPLOYEES NOT TO BENEFIT CERTIFICATION

Each offeror shall check one of the following:

- _____ No person listed in Clause 13 of the SCP, "District Employees Not To Benefit" will benefit from this contract.
- _____ The following person(s) listed in Clause 13 may benefit from this contract. For each person listed, attach the affidavit required by Clause 13 of the SCP.

K.6 CERTIFICATION OF INDEPENDENT PRICE DETERMINATION

- (a) Each signature of the offeror is considered to be a certification by the signatory that:
 - 1) The prices in this contract have been arrived at independently, without, for the purpose of restricting competition, any consultation, communication, or agreement with any offeror or competitor relating to:
 - (i) those prices
 - (ii) the intention to submit a contract, or
 - (iii) the methods or factors used to calculate the prices in the contract.
 - 2) The prices in this contract have not been and will not be knowingly disclosed by the offeror, directly or indirectly, to any other offeror or competitor before contract opening unless otherwise required by law; and
 - 3) No attempt has been made or will be made by the offeror to induce any other concern to submit or not to submit a contract for the purpose of restricting competition.

- (b) Each signature on the offer is considered to be a certification by the signatory that the signatory:
- 1) Is the person in the offeror's organization responsible for determining the prices being offered in this contract, and that the signatory has not participated and will not participate in any action contrary to subparagraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) above; or
 - 2) Has been authorized, in writing, to act as agent for the following principals in certifying that those principals have not participated, and will not participate in any action contrary to subparagraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) above:

(insert full name of person(s) in the organization responsible for determining the prices offered in this Contract and the title of his or her position in the offeror's organization);

As an authorized agent, does certify that the principals named in subdivision (b)(2) have not participated, and will not participate, in any action contrary to subparagraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) above; and

As an agent, has not participated, and will not participate, in any action contrary to subparagraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) above.

- (c) If the offeror deletes or modifies subparagraph (a)(2) above, the offeror must furnish with its offer a signed statement setting forth in detail the circumstances of the disclosure.

K.7 TAX CERTIFICATION

Each offeror must submit with its offer, a sworn Tax Certification Affidavit, incorporated herein as Attachment J.2.2.

SECTION L: INSTRUCTIONS, CONDITIONS AND NOTICES TO OFFERORS

L.1 CONTRACT AWARD

L.1.1 Most Advantageous to the District

The District may award multiple contract(s) resulting from this solicitation to the responsible offeror(s) whose offer(s) conforming to the solicitation will be most advantageous to the District, cost or price, technical and other factors, specified elsewhere in this solicitation considered.

L.1.2 Initial Offers

The District may award contracts on the basis of initial offers received, without discussion. Therefore, each initial offer should contain the offeror's best terms from a standpoint of cost or price, technical and other factors.

L.2 PROPOSAL FORM, ORGANIZATION AND CONTENT

One original and four (4) copies of the written proposals shall be submitted in two parts, titled "Technical Proposal" and "Price Proposal". Proposals shall be typewritten in 12 point font size on 8.5" by 11" bond paper. Telephonic, telegraphic, and facsimile proposals will not be accepted. Each proposal shall be submitted in a sealed envelope conspicuously marked: "Proposal in Response to Solicitation No.: DCJR-2008-R-0088 – Sign Language Interpreter Services.

Offerors are directed to the specific proposal evaluation criteria found in Section M of this solicitation, Evaluation Factors. The Offeror shall respond to each factor in a way that will allow the District to evaluate the Offeror's response. The Offeror shall submit information in a clear, concise, factual and logical manner providing a comprehensive description of program supplies and services delivery thereof. The information requested below for the technical proposal shall facilitate evaluation and best value source selection for all proposals. The technical proposal must contain sufficient detail to provide a clear and concise representation of the requirements in Section C.

L.2.1 Technical Proposal

L.2.1.1 Technical Expertise

- a.** The Offeror shall provide a brief narrative which demonstrates its ability to meet the stated requirements in the timeframes(s) given. Demonstrate that you have enough sign language interpreters to meet the District's requirements.
- b.** Offeror shall provide sample resumes of interpreters who may be assigned to the District.
- c.** Offeror shall provide copy of its Quality Assurance Plan.

L.2.1.2 Past Performance and Previous Experience

- a. Offeror shall provide a brief narrative describing the Offeror's experience in providing sign language interpreters for public and private sector clients.
- b. Offeror shall provide at least three (3) client references of comparable size to the District government for whom similar services have been rendered, particularly on three days notice or less. The Offeror's submission shall indicate the name, address, and telephone number of clients that requested such services. **The offeror shall have its client references complete the attached Past Performance Evaluation Form (Attachment J.1.2) and return the signed form directly to Elona Evans-McNeill, Contract Specialist via fax at 202-727-0245 or via email at Elona.Evans-McNeill@dc.gov on or before Friday, September 26, 2008.**

L.2.2 Price Proposal

This section shall be submitted under a separate cover titled **"Price Proposal."**

The Offeror's proposal shall complete Attachment B - Price Schedule which will outline the total price for the entire project, as set forth in the Statement of Work. Offeror shall provide a breakdown of the labor categories (Project Director, Project Manager, Senior Consultants, Consultants, Analysts, Administrative Staff, etc) as well as a detailed outline of budgeted project hours and the type of work to be performed.

Offeror shall include a firm fixed price for the project inclusive of all costs.

L.3 PROPOSAL SUBMISSION DATE AND TIME, AND LATE SUBMISSIONS, LATE MODIFICATIONS, WITHDRAWAL OR MODIFICATION OF PROPOSALS AND LATE PROPOSALS

L.3.1 Proposal Submission

Proposals must be submitted no later than 2 p.m. on Friday, September 26, 2008. Proposals, modifications to proposals, or requests for withdrawals that are received in the designated District office after the exact local time specified above, are "late" and shall be considered only if they are received before the award is made and one (1) or more of the following circumstances apply:

- (a) The proposal or modification was sent by registered or certified mail not later than the fifth (5th) day before the date specified for receipt of offers;
- (b) The proposal or modification was sent by mail and it is determined by the Contracting Officer that the late receipt at the location specified in the solicitation was caused by mishandling by the District, or
- (c) The proposal is the only proposal received.

L.3.2 Withdrawal or Modification of Proposals

An offeror may modify or withdraw its proposal upon written, telegraphic notice, or facsimile transmission if received at the location designated in the solicitation for submission of proposals, but not later than the closing date for receipt of proposals.

L.3.3 Postmarks

The only acceptable evidence to establish the date of a late proposal, late modification or late withdrawal sent either by registered or certified mail shall be a U.S. or Canadian Postal Service postmark on the wrapper or on the original receipt from the U.S. or Canadian Postal Service. If neither postmark shows a legible date, the proposal, modification or request for withdrawal shall be deemed to have been mailed late. When the postmark shows the date but not the hour, the time is presumed to be the last minute of the date shown. If no date is shown on the postmark, the proposal shall be considered late unless the offeror can furnish evidence from the postal authorities of timely mailing.

L.3.4 Late Modifications

A late modification of a successful proposal, which makes its terms more favorable to the District, shall be considered at any time it is received and may be accepted.

L.3.5 Late Proposals

A late proposal, late modification or late request for withdrawal of an offer that is not considered shall be held unopened, unless opened for identification, until after award and then retained with unsuccessful offers resulting from this solicitation.

L.4 EXPLANATION TO PROSPECTIVE OFFERORS

If a prospective offeror has any questions relative to this solicitation, the prospective offeror shall submit the question in writing to the contact person, identified on page one. The prospective offeror shall submit questions no later than **ten (10)** days prior to the closing date and time indicated for this solicitation. The District will not consider any questions received less than **ten (10)** days before the date set for submission of proposals. The District will furnish responses promptly to all other prospective offerors. An amendment to the solicitation will be issued if that information is necessary in submitting offers, or if the lack of it would be prejudicial to any other prospective offerors. Oral explanations or instructions given before the award of the contract will not be binding.

L.5 FAILURE TO SUBMIT OFFERS

Recipients of this solicitation not responding with an offer should not return this solicitation. Instead, they should advise the Contracting Officer, Office of Contracting and Procurement, 441 4th Street – Suite 700 South, Washington DC 20001, (202) 727-0252, by letter or postcard whether they want to receive future solicitations for similar requirements. It is also requested that such recipients advise the Contracting Officer, Office of Contracting and Procurement, 441 4th Street – Suite 700 South, Washington DC 20001, of the reason for not submitting a proposal in response to this solicitation. If a recipient does not submit an offer and does not notify the Contracting Officer, Office of Contracting and Procurement, that

future solicitations are desired, the recipient's name may be removed from the applicable mailing list.

L.6 RESTRICTION ON DISCLOSURE AND USE OF DATA

L.6.1 Offerors who include in their proposal data that they do not want disclosed to the public or used by the District except for use in the procurement process shall mark the title page with the following legend:

"This proposal includes data that shall not be disclosed outside the District and shall not be duplicated, used or disclosed in whole or in part for any purpose except for use in the procurement process.

If, however, a contract is awarded to this offeror as a result of or in connection with the submission of this data, the District will have the right to duplicate, use, or disclose the data to the extent consistent with the District's needs in the procurement process. This restriction does not limit the District's rights to use, without restriction, information contained in this proposal if it is obtained from another source. The data subject to this restriction are contained in sheets (insert page numbers or other identification of sheets)."

L.6.2 Mark each sheet of data it wishes to restrict with the following legend:

"Use or disclosure of data contained on this sheet is subject to the restriction on the title page of this proposal."

L.7 PROPOSALS WITH OPTION YEARS

The offeror shall include option year prices in its price/cost proposal. An offer may be determined to be unacceptable if it fails to include option year pricing.

L.8 PROPOSAL PROTESTS

Any actual or prospective offeror or contractor who is aggrieved in connection with the solicitation or award of a contract must file with the D.C. Contract Appeals Board (Board) a protest no later than 10 business days after the basis of protest is known or should have been known, whichever is earlier. A protest based on alleged improprieties in a solicitation which are apparent at the time set for receipt of initial proposals shall be filed with the Board prior to the time set for receipt of initial proposals. In procurements in which proposals are requested, alleged improprieties which do not exist in the initial solicitation, but which are subsequently incorporated into the solicitation, must be protested no later than the next closing time for receipt of proposals following the incorporation. The protest shall be filed in writing, with the Contract Appeals Board, 717 14th Street, N.W., Suite 430, Washington, D.C. 20004. The aggrieved person shall also mail a copy of the protest to the Contracting Officer for the solicitation.

L.9 SIGNING OF OFFERS

The offeror shall sign the offer and print or type its name on the Solicitation, Offer and Award form of this solicitation. Offers signed by an agent shall be accompanied by evidence

of that agent's authority, unless that evidence has been previously furnished to the Contracting Officer.

L.10 UNNECESSARILY ELABORATE PROPOSALS

Unnecessarily elaborate brochures or other presentations beyond those sufficient to present a complete and effective response to this solicitation are not desired and may be construed as an indication of the offeror's lack of cost consciousness. Elaborate artwork, expensive paper and bindings, and expensive visual and other presentation aids are neither necessary nor desired.

L.11 RETENTION OF PROPOSALS

All proposal documents will be the property of the District and retained by the District, and therefore will not be returned to the offerors.

L.12 PROPOSAL COSTS

The District is not liable for any costs incurred by the offerors in submitting proposals in response to this solicitation.

L.13 ELECTRONIC COPY OF PROPOSALS FOR FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT REQUESTS

In addition to other proposal submission requirements, the offeror must submit an electronic copy of its proposal, redacted in accordance with any applicable exemptions from disclosure in D.C. Official Code § 2-534, in order for the District to comply with Section 2-536(b) that requires the District to make available electronically copies of records that must be made public. The District's policy is to release documents relating to District proposals following award of the contract, subject to applicable FOIA exemption under Section 2-534(a)(1).

L.14 CERTIFICATES OF INSURANCE

The Contractor shall submit certificates of insurance giving evidence of the required coverages as specified in Section I.8 prior to commencing work. Evidence of insurance shall be submitted within two (2) days of contract award to:

Elona Evans-McNeill
Office of Contracting and Procurement
441 4th Street NW, Suite 700 South
Washington, DC 20001
202-727-0252

L.15 ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF AMENDMENTS

The offeror shall acknowledge receipt of any amendment to this solicitation (a) by signing and returning the amendment; (b) by identifying the amendment number and date in the space provided for this purpose in Section A, Solicitation, Offer and Award form; or (c) by

letter or telegram including mailgrams. The District must receive the acknowledgment by the date and time specified for receipt of offers. Offerors' failure to acknowledge an amendment may result in rejection of the offer.

L.16 BEST AND FINAL OFFERS

If, subsequent to receiving original proposals, negotiations are conducted, all offerors within the competitive range will be so notified and will be provided an opportunity to submit written best and final offers at the designated date and time. Best and Final Offers will be subject to the Late Submissions, Late Modifications and Late Withdrawals of Proposals provision of the solicitation. After receipt of best and final offers, no discussions will be reopened unless the Contracting Officer determines that it is clearly in the District's best interest to do so, e.g., it is clear that information available at that time is inadequate to reasonably justify Contractor selection and award based on the best and final offers received. If discussions are reopened, the Contracting Officer shall issue an additional request for best and final offers to all offerors still within the competitive range.

L.17 LEGAL STATUS OF OFFEROR

Each proposal must provide the following information:

L.17.1 Name, address, telephone number and federal tax identification number of offeror;

L.17.2 A copy of each District of Columbia license, registration or certification that the offeror is required by law to obtain. This mandate also requires the offeror to provide a copy of the executed "Clean Hands Certification" that is referenced in D.C. Official Code §47-2862 (2001), if the offeror is required by law to make such certification. If the offeror is a corporation or partnership and does not provide a copy of its license, registration or certification to transact business in the District of Columbia, the offer shall certify its intent to obtain the necessary license, registration or certification prior to contract award or its exemption from such requirements; and

L.17.3 If the offeror is a partnership or joint venture, the names and addresses of the general partners or individual members of the joint venture, and copies of any joint venture or teaming agreements.

L.18 FAMILIARIZATION WITH CONDITIONS

Offerors shall thoroughly familiarize themselves with the terms and conditions of this solicitation, acquainting themselves with all available information regarding difficulties which may be encountered, and the conditions under which the work is to be accomplished. Contractors will not be relieved from assuming all responsibility for properly estimating the difficulties and the cost of performing the services required herein due to their failure to investigate the conditions or to become acquainted with all information, schedules and liability concerning the services to be performed.

L.19 STANDARDS OF RESPONSIBILITY

The prospective contractor must demonstrate to the satisfaction of the District the capability in all respects to perform fully the contract requirements; therefore, the prospective contractor must submit the documentation listed below, within five (5) days of the request by the District.

- L.19.1** Evidence of adequate financial resources, credit or the ability to obtain such resources as required during the performance of the contract.
- L.19.2** Evidence of the ability to comply with the required or proposed delivery or performance schedule, taking into consideration all existing commercial and governmental business commitments.
- L.19.3** Evidence of the necessary organization, experience, accounting and operational control, technical skills or the ability to obtain them.
- L.19.4** Evidence of compliance with the applicable District licensing and tax laws and regulations.
- L.19.5** Evidence of a satisfactory performance record, record of integrity and business ethics.
- L.19.6** Evidence of the necessary production, construction and technical equipment and facilities or the ability to obtain them.
- L.19.7** Evidence of other qualifications and eligibility criteria necessary to receive an award under applicable laws and regulations
- L.19.8** If the prospective contractor fails to supply the information requested, the Contracting Officer shall make the determination of responsibility or nonresponsibility based upon available information. If the available information is insufficient to make a determination of responsibility, the Contracting Officer shall determine the prospective contractor to be nonresponsible.

SECTION M - EVALUATION FACTORS

M.1 EVALUATION FOR AWARD

The contract will be awarded to the responsible offeror(s) whose offer(s) is/are most advantageous to the District, based upon the evaluation criteria specified below. Thus, while the points in the evaluation criteria indicate their relative importance, the total scores will not necessarily be determinative of the award. Rather, the total scores will guide the District in making an intelligent award decision based upon the evaluation criteria.

M.2 EVALUATION OF OPTION YEARS

The District will evaluate bids for award purposes by evaluating the total price for all options as well as the base year. Evaluation of options shall not obligate the District to exercise them. The total District's requirements may change during the option years. Quantities to be awarded will be determined at the time each option is exercised.

M.3 TECHNICAL RATING

The Technical Rating Scale is as follows:

<u>Numeric Rating</u>	<u>Adjective</u>	<u>Description</u>
0	Unacceptable	Fails to meet minimum requirements; e.g., no demonstrated capacity, major deficiencies which are not correctable; offeror did not address the factor.
1	Poor	Marginally meets minimum requirements; major deficiencies which may be correctable.
2	Minimally Acceptable	Marginally meets minimum requirements; minor deficiencies which may be correctable.
3	Acceptable	Meets requirements; no deficiencies.
4	Good	Meets requirements and exceeds some requirements; no deficiencies.
5	Excellent	Exceeds most, if not all requirements; no deficiencies.

For example, if a sub factor has a point evaluation of 0 to 6 points, and (using the Technical Rating Scale) the District evaluates as "good" the part of the proposal applicable to the sub factor, the score for the sub factor is 4.8 (4/5 of 6). The sub factor scores will be added together to determine the score for the factor level.

M.4 EVALUATION FACTORS

Proposals will be evaluated based on the following technical evaluation factors listed in descending order of importance.

M.4.1 TECHNICAL FACTORS (80 Points)

M.4.1.1 Technical Expertise (30 Points)

Offeror has or has the ability to obtain a sufficient number of certified or highly qualified interpreters to fulfill the District's need and has included resumes in its proposal that demonstrate the interpreters have the required certifications. Offeror has the ability to provide interpreters on 3 business days' notice and has back-up systems in place.

M.4.1.2 Past Performance and Previous Experience (30 Points)

The Offeror has detailed its experience in providing high-quality sign language interpretation services. This factor considers the offeror's past performance in performing services similar to the required services as described in Section C of this solicitation. This factor includes an examination of the quality of services provided, timeliness in service delivery, business practices, and overall satisfaction of the offeror's performance

The standard is met when:

- a) The offeror provides references for all contracts in which the offeror has performed similar work. Work is similar, if the function, responsibilities, and duties of the offeror are essentially the same as the required services described in C.3; and
- b) The past performance evaluations obtained by the District from a minimum of three (3) references provided by the offeror, are satisfactory or better, as described in the instructions and rating criteria on page 2 of the District's Past Performance Evaluation Form.

M.4.1.3 Quality Assurance Plan (20 Points)

The Offeror has detailed its mechanism(s) for periodic screening, testing, and monitoring quality of sign language interpreters. The Quality Assurance Plan includes consistent, timely, and rigorous screening, testing, and monitoring, provides qualifications of individuals who will conduct screening, testing, and monitoring, and includes input from deaf individuals.

M.4.2 PRICE FACTORS

(Total Points Possible: 20 points)

The Offeror's pricing proposal will be evaluated separately from the technical proposal.

The price evaluation will be objective. The offeror with the lowest price will receive the maximum price points. All other proposals will receive a proportionately lower total score. The following formula will be used to determine each offeror's evaluated price score:

$$\frac{\text{Lowest price proposal}}{\text{Price of proposal being evaluated}} \times 20 = \text{Evaluated price score}$$

The technical evaluation criteria above serve as the standard against which all proposals will be evaluated and serve to identify the significant areas which the offeror should specifically address in complying with the requirements in the Scope of Work. The technical proposal and price proposal shall be evaluated separately.

M.4.3 PREFERENCE (12 Points)

M.4.4 TOTAL (112 Points)

M.5 Preferences for Local Businesses, Disadvantaged Businesses, Resident-owned Businesses, Small Businesses, Longtime Resident Businesses, or Local Businesses with Principal Offices Located in an Enterprise Zone

Under the provisions of the “Small, Local, and Disadvantaged Business Enterprise Development and Assistance Act of 2005” (the Act), Title II, Subtitle N, of the “Fiscal Year 2006 Budget Support Act of 2005”, D.C. Law 16-33, effective October 20, 2005, the District shall apply preferences in evaluating bids or proposals from businesses that are small, local, disadvantaged, resident-owned, longtime resident, or local with a principal office located in an enterprise zone of the District of Columbia.

M.5.1 General Preferences

For evaluation purposes, the allowable preferences under the Act for this procurement are as follows:

- M.5.1.1** Three percent reduction in the bid price or the addition of three points on a 100-point scale for a small business enterprise (SBE) certified by the Small and Local Business Opportunity Commission (SLBOC) or the Department of Small and Local Business Development (DSLBD), as applicable;
- M.5.1.2** Three percent reduction in the bid price or the addition of five points on a 100-point scale for a resident-owned business enterprise (ROB) certified by the SLBOC or the DSLBD, as applicable;
- M.5.1.3** Ten percent reduction in the bid price or the addition of ten points on a 100-point scale for a longtime resident business (LRB) certified by the SLBOC or the DSLBD, as applicable;

- M.5.1.4** Two percent reduction in the bid price or the addition of two points on a 100-point scale for a local business enterprise (LBE) certified by the SLBOC or the DSLBD, as applicable;
- M.5.1.5** Two percent reduction in the bid price or the addition of two points on a 100-point scale for a local business enterprise with its principal office located in an enterprise zone (DZE) and certified by the SLBOC or the DSLBD, as applicable; and
- M.5.1.6** Two percent reduction in the bid price or the addition of two points on a 100-point scale for a disadvantaged business enterprise (DBE) certified by the SLBOC or the DSLBD, as applicable.

M.5.2 Application of Preferences

The preferences shall be applicable to prime contractors as follows:

- M.5.2.1** Any prime contractor that is an SBE certified by the SLBOC or the DSLBD, as applicable, will receive a three percent (3%) reduction in the bid price for a bid submitted by the SBE in response to an Invitation for Bids (IFB) or the addition of three points on a 100-point scale added to the overall score for proposals submitted by the SBE in response to a Request for Proposals (RFP).
- M.5.2.2** Any prime contractor that is an ROB certified by the SLBOC or the DSLBD, as applicable, will receive a five percent (5%) reduction in the bid price for a bid submitted by the ROB in response to an IFB or the addition of five points on a 100-point scale added to the overall score for proposals submitted by the ROB in response to an RFP.
- M.5.2.3** Any prime contractor that is an LRB certified by the SLBOC or the DSLBD, as applicable, will receive a ten percent (10%) reduction in the bid price for a bid submitted by the LRB in response to an IFB or the addition of ten points on a 100-point scale added to the overall score for proposals submitted by the LRB in response to an RFP.
- M.5.2.4** Any prime contractor that is an LBE certified by the SLBOC or the DSLBD, as applicable, will receive a two percent (2%) reduction in the bid price for a bid submitted by the LBE in response to an IFB or the addition of two points on a 100-point scale added to the overall score for proposals submitted by the LBE in response to an RFP.
- M.5.2.5** Any prime contractor that is a DZE certified by the SLBOC or the DSLBD, as applicable, will receive a two percent (2%) reduction in the bid price for a bid submitted by the DZE in response to an IFB or the addition of two points on a 100-point scale added to the overall score for proposals submitted by the DZE in response to an RFP.
- M.5.2.6** Any prime contractor that is a DBE certified by the SLBOC or the DSLBD, as applicable, will receive a two percent (2%) reduction in the bid price for a bid submitted by the DBE in response to an IFB or the addition of two points on a 100-

point scale added to the overall score for proposals submitted by the DBE in response to an RFP.

M.5.3 Maximum Preference Awarded

Notwithstanding the availability of the preceding preferences, the maximum total preference to which a certified business enterprise is entitled under the Act for this procurement is twelve percent (12%) for bids submitted in response to an IFB or the equivalent of twelve (12) points on a 100-point scale for proposals submitted in response to an RFP. There will be no preference awarded for subcontracting by the prime contractor with certified business enterprises.

M.5.4 Preferences for Certified Joint Ventures

When the SLBOC or the DSLBD, as applicable, certifies a joint venture, the certified joint venture will receive preferences as a prime contractor for categories in which the joint venture and the certified joint venture partner are certified, subject to the maximum preference limitation set forth in the preceding paragraph.

M.5.5 Vendor Submission for Preferences

M.5.5.1 Any vendor seeking to receive preferences on this solicitation must submit at the time of, and as part of its bid or proposal, the following documentation, as applicable to the preference being sought:

M.5.5.1.1 Evidence of the vendor's or joint venture's certification by the SLBOC as an SBE, LBE, DBE, DZE, LRB, or RBO, to include a copy of all relevant letters of certification from the SLBOC; or

M.5.5.1.2 Evidence of the vendor's or joint venture's provisional certification by the DSLBD as an SBE, LBE, DBE, DZE, LRB, or RBO, to include a copy of the provisional certification from the DSLBD.

M.5.5.2 Any vendor seeking certification or provisional certification in order to receive preferences under this solicitation should contact the:

Department of Small and Local Business Development
ATTN: LSDBE Certification Program
441 Fourth Street, N.W., Suite 970N
Washington, DC 20001

M.5.5.3 All vendors are encouraged to contact the DSLBD at (202) 727-3900 if additional information is required on certification procedures and requirements.

M.6 EVALUATION OF PROMPT PAYMENT DISCOUNT

- M.6.1** Prompt payment discounts shall not be considered in the evaluation of offers. However, any discount offered will form a part of the award and will be taken by the District if payment is made within the discount period specified by the offeror.
- M.6.2** In connection with any discount offered, time will be computed from the date of delivery of the supplies to carrier when delivery and acceptance are at point of origin, or from date of delivery at destination when delivery, installation and acceptance are at that, or from the date correct invoice or voucher is received in the office specified by the District, if the latter date is later than date of delivery. Payment is deemed to be made for the purpose of earning the discount on the date of mailing of the District check.