

RECOMMENDATION FOR LAW FIRM SELECTION

Date: December 21, 2016

To: Rodney R. Akers
Deputy General Counsel, as designee for
The Honorable Denise J. Smyler, General Counsel

From: Jordan M. Kiessling
Issuing Officer

CC: Shawn E. Smith
Deputy Chief Counsel

RE: Evaluation of Proposals Submitted in Response to
RFP OGC-2016-15 Issued July 19, 2016

PART I.

This RFP was issued pursuant to Executive Order 2015-2 dated January 20, 2015, and in accordance with Section 518 of the Commonwealth Procurement Code, 62 Pa.C.S. § 518, and Part III Chapter 8 of the Department of General Services (DGS) Procurement Handbook.

The Issuing Office designated to conduct this procurement has completed its evaluation. As further described below, the following law firms are being recommended for award of a legal services contract:

Cozen O'Connor

This memorandum also documents that all necessary steps were taken in conducting the procurement in accordance with the provisions of the Commonwealth Procurement Code. To the extent that written determinations are required under the Code for any of the following steps and no attached record exists, this memorandum shall serve as written confirmation that such step occurred.

**** DUE TO THE URGENT NEED FOR LEGAL SERVICES, APPROVAL IS BEING SOUGHT FOR THE SELECTED LAW FIRM TO BEGIN WORK IMMEDIATELY ****

PART II.

A. PUBLIC NOTICE: Public notice of the RFP was posted on both the DGS website and the Office of General Counsel's website on **July 19, 2016**.

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B. EVALUATION COMMITTEE: An evaluation committee was established consisting of agency representatives from the **Pennsylvania Department of Insurance, Department of General Services and the Governor's Office of General Counsel.**

C. ADDENDA TO THE RFP: Potential offerors were given the opportunity in accordance with Section I-9 of the RFP to submit questions concerning the procurement to the Issuing Office. The official responses to the questions were incorporated into the RFP by addenda per Section I-10 of the RFP.

PART III.

A. CRITERIA: The relative importance of the major evaluation criteria established prior to opening the proposals consisted of **technical 60%, cost 20%, small diverse business (SDB) participation 20%, and 10 law firm diversity bonus points.**

B. PROPOSALS: A total of **six (6)** proposals were received on or before the due date of **August 19, 2016.** No law firms responded by stating that they would not be submitting proposals. No proposals were received late.

C. RESULTS:

1. The evaluation committee reported the following results of its evaluation to the Issuing Office:
2. As indicated in the Initial Scoring, all of the law firm's technical submissions received at least **70%** of the available technical points required in order to be eligible to be considered for award.
3. The Issuing Office evaluated and scored the cost proposals and law firm diversity submittals and combined the technical scores, cost scores, law firm diversity scores and the SDB scores received from the DGS Bureau of Diversity, Inclusion and Small Business Opportunities.

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4. INITIAL SCORING: The overall scoring for this procurement concluded as follows:

<i>Offeror</i>	<i>Technical Score</i>	<i>SDB Score</i>	<i>Price Score</i>	<i>Law Firm Diversity</i>	<i>Overall Score</i>
Blank Rome, LLP	49.84	0.00	11.36	4.00	65.20
Braverman Kaskey, P.C.	46.66	8.00	19.79	0.00	74.45
Cozen O'Connor	57.50	20.00	20.00	2.00	99.50
DLA Piper	60.00	12.00	10.53	3.00	85.53
Obermayer Rebmann Maxwell & Hippel, LLP	46.81	0.00	19.90	2.00	68.71
Pepper Hamilton, LLP	48.55	0.00	18.59	3.00	70.14

5. NEGOTIATIONS:

As provided in the RFP, and pursuant to Section 518 of the Procurement Code, fair and reasonable compensation was negotiated, as needed, with the best qualified law firm prior to award being made.

6. SMALL/DIVERSE BUSINESS COMMITMENTS:

Cozen O'Connor is committed to subcontracting with one (1) small diverse firm, Tucker Law Group, for legal services over the entire engagement timeframe. Cozen O'Connor is committing **25%** of the total value of its offering to **Tucker Law Group**.

7. CONTRACTOR RESPONSIBILITY: Cozen O'Connor and their respective subcontractor, required to be disclosed or approved by the Commonwealth, have been verified as responsible contractors in accordance with management directives, the Procurement Handbook and the Procurement Code, as applicable.

PART IV.

RECOMMENDATION: As the Issuing Officer, I recommend Cozen O'Connor be awarded a contract for legal services. This recommendation selection is based upon the results of the evaluation and review of the proposals as summarized above. **The term of the contract will be three years with two (2) additional one (1) year renewals.** The Department of Insurance, in consultation with the Office of General Counsel, will allocate the legal services set forth in the


resulting contract among the selected law firm. **Due to the urgent need for legal services, the Department of Insurance is seeking Cozen O'Connor to begin work immediately.**

PART V.

CONTRACTING OFFICER DETERMINATION:

Based upon the results of the evaluation and the above recommendation, I have determined that Cozen O'Connor is the best qualified law firm based on the evaluation factors set forth in the RFP.

I disapprove the recommendation.

 December 2016

Rodney R. Akers Date
Deputy General Counsel, as designee for
The Honorable Denise J. Smyler, General Counsel

PART VI.

AUTHORIZATION:

Based upon the Contracting Officer's determination, I authorize the Issuing Office to make a contract award to Cozen O'Connor.

Pennsylvania Department of Insurance:

 12/22/16

Amy G. Daubert Date
Chief Counsel