## DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE



**ARLINGTON, VA 22202-3258** 

OCT 2 4 2011

Office Of The Deputy General Counsel

## MEMORANDUM IN SUPPORT OF THE PROPOSED DEBARMENTS OF:

ADVANCED C4 SOLUTIONS, INC. SUPERIOR COMMUNICATIONS SOLUTIONS, INC. IRON BOW TECHNOLOGIES JOHN WILKERSON ANDREW BENNETT

Effective this date, the Air Force has proposed the debarment of Advanced C4 Solutions, Inc., Superior Communications Solutions, Inc., Iron Bow Technologies, John Wilkerson, and Andrew Bennett (collectively, "Subjects") from Government contracting and from directly or indirectly receiving the benefits of federal assistance programs. This action is initiated pursuant to Federal Acquisition Regulation ("FAR") Subpart 9.4.

## INFORMATION IN THE RECORD

Information in the record establishes by a preponderance of the evidence that at all times relevant hereto:

- 1. Advanced C4 Solutions, Inc. ("AC4S"), is a Florida-based contractor.
- 2. Superior Communications Solutions, Inc. ("SCSI"), is a Georgia-based contractor. John Wilkerson ("Wilkerson") is the Majority Owner of SCSI and Andrew Bennett ("Bennett") is its Vice President of Service Delivery and Operations.
- 3. Iron Bow Technologies is a Virginia-based contractor. Wilkerson is also an employee of Iron Bow Technologies.
- 4. Beginning as early as August 2009, contractors Advanced C4 Solutions, Inc. (AC4S), Superior Communications Solutions, Inc. (SCSI), and Iron Bow Technologies, through their executives and/or representatives Bennett and Wilkerson, participated extensively and directly in developing requirements and cost estimates, and conducting market research, associated with a major information technology and furnishings project for the Jones and Smart Buildings located on Joint Base Andrews.
- 5. In March 2010, The Space and Naval Warfare Systems Command Systems Center Atlantic (SPAWAR) issued a task order solicitation, on a competitive basis, to obtain contractor support to complete the service tasks associated with building, configuring, and maintaining the information technology systems in the Jones and Smart buildings. This is the same project on which subjects worked to develop requirements and cost estimates (among other things).

- 6. In April 2010, AC4S submitted a proposal and included a subcontractor business proposal prepared by SCSI, signed by Wilkerson.
- 7. On 10 June 2010, SPAWAR awarded the multi-million dollar task order to AC4S. Thereafter, AC4S (prime contractor) and SCSI and Iron Bow Technologies (subcontractors to AC4S) worked on the Jones and Smart Building project. Wilkerson and Bennett oversaw this work on behalf of SCSI and Iron Bow Technologies.
- 8. In September 2010 and thereafter, Iron Bow Technologies competed for and received award of multiple orders to provide audio-visual equipment and furnishings to satisfy requirements associated with the information technology project at the Jones and Smart Buildings. Iron Bow Technologies then subcontracted with SCSI to provide material and furnishings. Both prior to and after September 2010, Iron Bow Technologies submitted invoices for materials/equipment to SPAWAR. These invoices identified Mr. John Wilkerson as an Iron Bow employee.
- 9. Because of their extensive involvement in providing requirements definition, cost estimating, and market research services for the Jones and Smart building information technology and furnishings project, AC4S, SCSI, and Iron Bow Technologies all had conflicts of interest that should have prevented them from competing for the opportunity to provide the Air Force with the information technology services and materials (equipment and furnishings) necessary to complete the very same project. Stated differently, AC4S, SCST and Iron Bow set the standards against which they would be measured in a manner that is impermissible under Government contracting rules.
- 10. Even though AC4S, SCSI and Iron Bow improperly developed their own contract requirements, Subjects failed to meet their own requirements. For example, despite requirements to provide mission critical information technologies to more than 2,200 personnel, within the first two months after the building opened, a review by an unaffiliated contractor discovered fourteen critical findings, nineteen major findings and seven minor findings that impacted the overall security, access to, and performance of the information technology network in the Jones and Smart Buildings. More than 145 customer-generated trouble tickets also issued during the same time period and identified incorrectly configured network equipment, non-industry standard installation practices, and a disregard for critical network security and information protection regulations.
- 11. Subjects ceased work and left the job site without fulfilling the contract requirements that they had improperly set. Since that time, Subjects have been unwilling to provide operational manuals or source-code data to permit the Air Force to begin to correct Subjects' work, causing substantial harm to the Air Force. As one example, because the information technology systems at the Jones and Smart Buildings remain unfinished, the audio visual and teleconference systems capability are not functioning.

## BASES FOR THE PROPOSED DEBARMENTS

1. AC4S, SCSI, and Iron Bow Technologies willfully failed to perform in accordance with the terms of one or more contracts. This failure provides a basis for each of their debarments pursuant to FAR 9.406-2(b)(1)(i)(A).

- 2. AC4S, SCSI and Iron Bow Technologies' conduct evidences a history of failure to perform, or of unsatisfactory performance of, one or more contracts. This history provides a separate and independent basis for each of their debarments pursuant to FAR 9.406-2(b)(1)(i)(B).
- 3. The conduct of AC4S, SCSI, Iron Bow Technologies, Bennett and Wilkerson is of such a serious and compelling nature that it affects their present responsibility to be Government contractors or subcontractors and provides a separate and independent basis for each of their debarments pursuant to FAR 9.406-2(c).
- 4. Pursuant to FAR 9.406-1(b), debarments may be extended to the affiliates of a contractor. Wilkerson, Bennett, Iron Bow Technologies and SCSI are affiliates, as defined at FAR 9.403 (Affiliates) because directly or indirectly, one has the power to control the other or a third party has the power to control all of them. The affiliation of Wilkerson, Bennett, Iron Bow Technologies and SCSI provides a separate and independent basis for each of their debarments.

STEVEN A. SHAW

Deputy General Counsel (Contractor Responsibility)