

## Limited-Sources Justification

Pursuant to the Multiple Award Schedule Program (as authorized by 40 U.S.C. § 501), this justification is prepared in accordance with the requirements of Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 8.405-6(c) for the use of sources limited to fewer than those required in FAR 8.405-1, FAR 8.405-2, and FAR 8.405-3. The circumstance justifying restriction is: 1) FAR 8.405-6(a)(1)(i)(B), Only one source is capable of providing the supplies or services required at the level of quality required because the supplies or services are unique or highly specialized; and 2) FAR 19.502-2 Total small business set-aside.

Red Six Solutions, LLC is a Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business (SDVOSB) and the only entity that has proven to safely perform the flight patterns, Concept of Operations (CONOPS), and landing/taking off from a moving vessel of limited size.

### **(1) Agency and Contracting Activity.**

The Department of Homeland Security, United States Coast Guard (USCG), Office of Contract Operations (CG-912) proposes to enter into an order on the basis of a limited-sources justification.

### **(2) Nature and/or description of the action being approved.**

(a) Nature of action: USCG intends to limit competition to Red Six Solutions, LLC for UAS Pilot Services.

(b) Name and address of the contractor:

Red Six Solutions, LLC  
3 Vineberry CT  
Severna Park, MD 21146-1918  
Phone: (845) 521-8359  
Fax: (410) 647-1907  
Web Address: <https://red-6.com/>

(c) Contract type: Firm-Fixed-Price

(d) Estimated total value (including options):

Period		Price
Base Year	2 mo.	\$29,000
Total		\$29,000

(e) Type of funding: R&D Funds

(f) Year of funding: FY 2022 – FY 2024

(g) Solicitation number: N/A

(h) Background information about the requirement:

The United States Coast Guard (USCG) Research and Development Center (RDC) is assisting with improving air search radar capabilities on USCG Cutters. This program requires threat representative Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) flights in order to validate regular software releases and collect data to be used to optimize the system during Research, Testing, Training and Evaluation (RTT&E) events. Additionally, the program requires UAS flights for crew training and VIP demonstrations. To support required testing, data collection, training and demonstrations, knowledgeable UAS pilots are required to provide and fly Red Team UAS flight patterns and Concept of Operations (CONOPS).

### **(3) Description of Supplies/Services.**

The requirement is to provide Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), UAS pilot services, and flight logs in support of Government RTT&E events. The objective is to provide Red Team UAS flight patterns and CONOPS to enable the Government to validate and optimize air search radar systems.

### **(4) Identification of the justification and the rationale.**

The justification for the limiting of sources is FAR 8.405-6(a)(1)(i)(B) – Only one source is capable of providing the supplies or services required at the level of quality required because the supplies or services are unique or highly specialized

The CONOPS flown by the contract UAV pilots may require them to fly aggressive Red Team patterns that are in close proximity to USCG assets and personnel and also land the UAS on limited sized cutters without incident. This requires a high level of expertise and flying skill not generally resident. This service is highly specialized.

On other contract, Red Six Solutions, LLC has executed similar CONOPS numerous times with the USCG through Dahlgren and DHS S&T contracts. They successfully completed the CONOPS in demanding conditions and challenging sea states. Red Six Solutions, LLC has demonstrated the high level of quality needed to fulfill the USCG's requirement.

A search of the schedules as documented in para (6) resulted in no other UAS pilot services for Red Team or underway activities.

### **(5) Determination by the ordering activity Contracting Officer that the anticipated order represents the best value consistent with 8.404(d).**

The Contracting Officer has determined that issuing the proposed task order to Red Six Solutions, LLC represents the best value and will result in the lowest overall cost alternative,

considering price and administrative costs, to meet the Government's needs. The ordering activity has considered the following:

- a) Level of effort and the mix of labor proposed to perform the tasks is reasonable.
- b) The total price is reasonable. GSA has already determined the prices of supplies and fixed-price services, and rates for services offered at hourly rates, under schedule contracts to be fair and reasonable. Therefore, ordering activities are not required to make a separate determination of fair and reasonable pricing. By placing an order against a schedule contract using the procedures in 8.405, the ordering activity has concluded that the order represents the best value (as defined in FAR 2.101) and results in the lowest overall cost alternative (considering price, special features, administrative costs, etc.) to meet the Government's needs.

**(6) A description of the market research conducted among schedule holders and the results or a statement of the reason market research was not conducted.**

Red Six Solutions, LLC holds a contract on SIN 541380 Testing Laboratory Services. A search of vendor pricelists on SIN 541380 Testing Laboratory Services for "UAS" showed six contractors out of 511 had "UAS" on their pricelist. Each pricelist was reviewed for a UAS pilot for red teaming. No pricelist included those services.

Although Red Six Solutions, LLC's pricelist states they are awarded SIN 541380 Testing Laboratory Services, their GSA eLibrary record links them to SIN 334515 Diagnostic, Measuring and Testing Equipment. The same "UAS" pricelist search was conducted and one of 65 contractors (besides Red Six Solutions, LLC) pricelist contained "UAS." That contractor did not provide UAS pilot services.

Based on the market research above, the Contracting Officer does not have a reasonable expectation that two or more qualified disabled veterans' small businesses will submit offers.

**(7) Any other facts supporting the justification.**

In accordance with FAR 8.405-6(a)(1)(i)(C), Red Six Solutions, LLC provided services on the following NSWC Dahlgren contracts from 23 February 2021 to present: N0017822FS721, N0017821FS708, and N0017832FS804. On these NSWC Dahlgren contracts, Red Six Solutions, LLC executed similar CONOPS numerous times with the USCG, successfully completing the challenging CONOPS in demanding conditions and sea states. Red Six has repeatedly demonstrated the high level of UAV piloting skills and quality needed to fulfill the USCG's requirement.

Each RTT&E event requires a considerable investment in government personnel and equipment. Because the primary purpose of these events is to test an air search radar system, a failure to properly fly the CONOPS would require the event to be repeated. The cost to the government of a representative cutter based upon USCG Reimbursable Standard Rates, COMDTINST 7310.1V, is \$7,560 per hour or \$181,000 per day of the RTT&E event. Red Six Solutions, LLC's demonstrated performance with USCG cutters on numerous other contracts with DHS S&T and

NSWC Dahlgren greatly reduces the risk that this type of failure and high federal cost would occur.

In accordance with FAR 19.502-2 Total small business set-aside, Red Six Solutions, LLC is a Service Disabled Veteran Owned Small Business (SDVOSB). Based on the market research above, the Contracting Officer does not have a reasonable expectation that two or more qualified disabled veterans' small businesses will submit offers.

**(8) A statement of actions, if any, the agency may take to remove or overcome any barriers that preclude the agency from meeting the requirements of 8.405-1 and 8.405-2 before any subsequent acquisition for the supplies or services is made.**

The essential requirement to have UAS pilots capable of red teaming an adversary in the demanding maritime environment is highly specialized. The primary reason for this sole source is because there were no other vendors on the GSA schedule capable of providing the highly specialized nature of this requirement. Since the unique nature of the requirement cannot be changed, there are no actions that can be taken to increase competition.

**(9) Contracting Officer's Certification.**

I certify that the data supporting the recommended use of other than full and open competition is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kiemisha Sweetney  
Contracting Officer

16 Sep 2022  
Date

**(10) Technical/Requirements Personnel Certification.**

I certify that this requirement meets the Government's minimum need and that the supporting data, which forms a basis for the justification, is accurate and complete.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Robert Taylor  
Technical Representative/COR

16 Sep 2022  
Date

**APPROVAL:**

*Final approver if total estimated value does not exceed \$750K and  
Signature still required here if total estimated value exceeds \$750K:*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kiemisha Sweetney  
Contracting Officer

16 Sep 2022  
Date