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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON  
HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS  
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6250

June 19, 2013

General Frank Grass  
Chief  
National Guard Bureau  
111 S. George Mason Drive  
Arlington, VA 22204

Dear General Grass:

I am writing to you to request information and documents regarding National Guard contracts for the coordination of mental health services personnel at Air National Guard Wings and National Guard bases across the country.

In September 2010, the National Guard awarded a two-year, \$17 million contract for mental health services at Air National Guard Wings to Optimization Consulting Inc. (OCI).<sup>1</sup> In March 2013, the National Guard awarded a new, \$200 million contract for mental health services at National Guard bases, including Air National Guard Wings, to Goldbelt Glacier Healthcare Services, LLC, a subsidiary of Goldbelt Inc., an Alaska Native Corporation.<sup>2</sup> According to information received by the Subcommittee, the contract with OCI officially ended on September 28, 2012, but was extended six times in one-month increments due to a protest. Goldbelt Glacier Healthcare Services began performance of the new contract on March 21, 2013, one week before the end of the last OCI contract extension.

The Subcommittee has received information showing that the National Guard's management and oversight of both contracts may have resulted in inadequate mental health care services for members of the National Guard. According to this information, it appears that the National Guard failed to ensure a proper transfer of patient files from OCI to Goldbelt Glacier, leaving ongoing cases vulnerable. It also appears that the new contractor, Goldbelt Glacier Health Services, has failed to provide the required number of mental health professionals to serve the needs of the National Guard.<sup>3</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Federal Business Opportunities Award Notice W9133L10D0002, (online at [www.fbo.gov](http://www.fbo.gov)) (accessed May 15, 2013).

<sup>2</sup> Department of Defense Contract Award Announcement W9133-13-D-0002, March 21, 2013 (online at [www.defense.gov/contracts](http://www.defense.gov/contracts)) (accessed May 15, 2013).

<sup>3</sup> Goldbelt Inc. Employment Opportunities, (online at [www.goldbelt.com](http://www.goldbelt.com)) (accessed May 17, 2013).

I am deeply concerned that the National Guard's poor contracting decisions may have placed the mental health care of the men and women of the National Guard at risk. I therefore request that you provide information and documents regarding the award, management, and oversight of these contracts, as well as the National Guard's plan for ensuring mental health care to its members and their families. Specifically, please provide the following:

- (1) The final contracts and all modifications for both contracts;
- (2) Documents related to the justification of any modification for both contracts;
- (3) The solicitation and all amendments for both contracts;
- (4) OCI's final proposal, both technical and cost, which led to the award of the Psychological Healthcare Subject Matter Experts contract to OCI;
- (5) Goldbelt Glacier Healthcare Services' final proposal, both technical and cost, which led to the award of the Reserve Component Psychological Health (PH-RC) Services contract to Goldbelt Glacier Healthcare Services;
- (6) The memoranda which documented the justification for award to OCI, any trade-offs made during the source selection process, the negotiations with OCI, the responsibility determination, and the determination of price reasonableness;
- (7) The memoranda which documented the justification for award to Goldbelt Glacier Healthcare Services, any trade-offs made during the source selection process, the negotiations with Goldbelt Glacier Healthcare Services, the responsibility determination, and the determination of price reasonableness;
- (8) Analyses, including all required determinations and findings, and communications regarding the exercise of any options for both contracts, including justifications for not exercising the 30-day close out option on the OCI contract;
- (9) All reviews or evaluations, including justifications required under Federal Acquisition Regulation § 42.15, regarding OCI's performance;
- (10) All reviews or evaluations, including justifications required under Federal Acquisition Regulation § 42.15, regarding Goldbelt Glacier Healthcare Services' performance;
- (11) All stop work orders and cure notices, if issued;
- (12) OCI's invoicing and payment history for the contract and any communications related to available funding for the contract;
- (13) Justifications for stop payment orders or determinations not to pay invoices on the OCI contract;



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- (14) Inspection and acceptance reports and any communications related to inspection and acceptance;
- (15) Documents detailing how OCI's performance would be monitored and communications related to OCI's performance under the contract;
- (16) Documents related to the decision regarding competition for the PH-RC contract;
- (17) The justification for the post-award amendment of Solicitation W9133L-12-R-0024 from a firm-fixed price contract to a time and materials contract, and documents related to any analysis done to determine the impact on the best value analysis of all proposals;
- (18) The justification for competing Contract W9133L-13-D-0002 as a firm fixed price contract;
- (19) What steps the National Guard took to ensure that mental health services were not compromised between contracts;
- (20) Documents detailing the plan for transition of patient files and information between the two contracts as well as current status of mental health care at National Guard bases across the country that have been without a Director of Psychological Health during the new contract period;
- (21) The National Guard's policy for the use of contractor personnel in the competition and award of contracts;
- (22) National Guard rules and policies relating to the direction of contractor personnel decisions; and
- (23) National Guard rules and policies relating to communication with contractor personnel during a solicitation.

I request that you provide this information as soon as possible, but in no case later than **July 18, 2013**. If you determine that you will be unable to make a complete production by this date, please contact Subcommittee staff to discuss possible modifications to this schedule.

The jurisdiction of the Subcommittee on Financial and Contracting Oversight is set forth in Senate Rule XXV clause 1(k); Senate Resolution 445 section 101 (108<sup>th</sup> Congress); and Senate Resolution 64 (113<sup>th</sup> Congress). An attachment to this letter provides additional information on how to respond to the Subcommittee's request.

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Please have your staff contact Sarah Garcia with the Subcommittee staff at (202) 224-5602 with any questions. Please send any official correspondence relating to this request to [lauren\\_corcoran@hsgac.senate.gov](mailto:lauren_corcoran@hsgac.senate.gov).

Sincerely,



Senator Claire McCaskill  
Chairman  
Subcommittee on Financial and Contracting  
Oversight

cc: Ron Johnson  
Ranking Member  
Subcommittee on Financial and Contracting Oversight

Enclosure