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OFFICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY PROCUREMENT APPEALS

DATE: Nov 30, 2018

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FILE NO OPA-PA: 16-003 & 16-005

IN THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY

In the Appeal of

Docket No. OPA-PA-16-003 Docket No. OPA-PA-16-005

TLK Marketing Co. Ltd.,

Appellant.

DECLARATION OF JOYCE C.H. TANG IN SUPPORT OF TLK MARKETING CO. LTD'S OBJECTION TO APPOINTMENT OF PETER C. PEREZ AS PRESIDING AUDITOR

I, JOYCE C.H. TANG, hereby declare that:

- 1. I am a member of the firm of Civille & Tang, PLLC, and submit this declaration in support of Appellant TLK Marketing Co. Ltd.'s ("TLK") Objection to Appointment of Peter C. Perez as Presiding Auditor. I have personal knowledge of the facts set forth herein, and if called upon to testify, I would and could competently testify thereto.
- 2. Attached hereto as **Exhibit A** is a true and correct copy of TLK's "Verified Complaint" (without exhibits) filed on October 17, 2016 in TLK Marketing Co. LTD. vs. Guam Visistors Bureau, Office of Public Accountability, The Territory of Guam, and HIC, Inc., Superior Court of Guam Case No. CV0914-16.
- 3. Attached hereto as **Exhibit B** is a true and correct copy of "Defendant Office of Public Accountability's Answer to Plaintiff's Verified Complaint" filed on December 16, 2016 in

ORIGINAL

TLK Marketing Co. LTD. vs. Guam Visistors Bureau, Office of Public Accountability, The Territory of Guam, and HIC, Inc., Superior Court of Guam Case No. CV0914-16.

I declare under the penalty of perjury under the laws of Guam that the foregoing is true and correct.

DATED this 30th day of November, 2018.

JOYCE C.H. TANG

EXHIBIT A

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8	JOYCE C.H. TANG, ESQ. (jtang@civilletang.com) JOSHUA D. WALSH (jdwalsh@civilletang.com) CIVILLE & TANG, PLLC SUITE 200. 330 HERNAN CORTEZ AVENUE HAGATNA, GUAM 96910 TELEPHONE: (671) 472-8868/9 FACSIMILE: (671) 477-2511 Attorneys for Appellant TLK Marketing Co. Ltd		FILED SUPERIOR COURT OF GUAM 2016 OCT 17 PM 3: 04 CLERK OF COURT BY:
10	IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF GUAM		
11			
12		CIVIL CASE NO. CV	CV 09 14 - 16
13			
14	TLK MARKETING CO. LTD,	VERIFIED COMPL	AINT
15	Plaintiff		
16	v.		
17 18	GUAM VISITORS BUREAU, OFFICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY, THE TERRITORY OF GUAM, and HIC, INC.,		
19	Defendants.		
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I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

- 1. This civil action brought under 5 GCA § 5480 arises out of the Guam Visitors Bureau ("GVB") Request for Proposals No. 2016-006 (the "RFP") issued on November 25, 2016 for a contract to provide Tourism Destination Marketing Representation Services in the Republic of Korea (the "Contract"). TLK Marketing Co. Ltd. ("TLK) protested of the selection of HIC, Inc. ("HIC") as the highest ranked offeror and GVB's purported award of the contract to HIC. GVB's protests were denied by GVB, and TLK timely appealed the denials to the Guam Public Auditor. The Public Auditor affirmed GVB's denial of the protests in OPA-PA-16-003 and OPA-PA-16-005, consolidated.
- 2. This action is for judicial review and appeal of the October 3, 2016 Decision by the Office of Public Accountability in OPA-PA-16-003 and OPA-PA-16-005, which appeals were consolidated, that purports to ratify and affirm the selection of HIC as the highest ranked offeror and the purported award of the contract under the RFP to HIC.

II. <u>JURISDICTION</u>

3. This Court has jurisdiction over this matter under 7 GCA \S 3105 and 5 GCA \S 5480(a) and (c).

III. PARTIES

- 4. Plaintiff TLK is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the Republic of Korea, is licensed to do business in the Republic of Korea, has worked as a contractor with the Guam Visitors' Bureau, and is a person receiving an adverse decision from the Office of Public Accountability ("OPA").
 - 5. This Action is timely pursuant to 5 G.C.A. §5481(a).
- 6. The Territory of Guam is a proper party and has waived sovereign immunity pursuant to 5 G.C.A. §5480(a).
- 7. Defendant, GVB, is a public corporation organized and existing under the Guam Visitors Bureau Act, issued Request for Proposal No. 2016-006 (the "RFP") for a contract to provide Tourism Destination Marketing Representation Services in the Republic of Korea. GVB is a proper party and has waived sovereign immunity pursuant to 5 G.C.A. §5480.

	8.	The OPA is an instrumentality of the Government of Guam, has exercised jurisdiction
over p	rocurem	ent protests denied by GVB, including the procurement at issue here, and is a proper
party.		

9. HIC, Inc. ("HIC") is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the Republic of South Korea, and was improperly awarded the Contract.¹

IV. RELEVANT FACTS

A. The RFP

- 10. GVB issued the RFP on November 25, 2015, seeking proposals from "professional and experienced companies" to serve as GVB's marketing representative in Korea. See, GVB RFP No. 2016-006 ("RFP"), a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 1.
- 11. At the time the RFP was issued, TLK was in the business of performing tourism destination marketing representation services for GVB in the Republic of Korea on a month-to-month basis.
- 12. In order for an Offeror to qualify, the RFP required, among other things, that the Offeror establish that it is a "qualified professional tourism destination marketing agency ("Agency") with a minimum of 5 years extensive and consistent experience working with the Republic of Korea travel trade, close relationship with the Korean government and the US Embassy...." See, §1.1, Exhibit 1. (Emphasis added.)
- 13. The RFP states that "Proposals submitted by Offerors who do not meet the evaluation criteria will not be considered for review by GVB." *See*, §3.13, Exhibit 1.
- 14. The deadline for submission of proposals in response to the RFP was February 8, 2016.

¹ HIC is registered in the Republic of Korea as "HIC, Inc." and in its proposal, identifies itself as "HIC, Inc." However, sometimes in its proposal HIC refers to itself as "Happy Idea Company," and the Public Auditor referred to the entity as "Happy Idea Company, Inc." HIC's Business Registration also names the entity as "HIC, Inc.," while its Certificate of Registered Incorporation names it as "HIC Co., Ltd."

- 15. Four Offerors timely submitted written proposals in response to the RFP, namely, TLK, HIC, Promac Partnership Co., Ltd. ("Promac") and Edelman Korea ("Edelman").
- 16. On February 16, 2016, the Evaluation Committee assessed and scored the written proposals. The Offerors who submitted the three highest ranked written proposals were invited to give oral presentations. They were TLK, HIC and Promac.
- 17. The three highest-ranking Offerors gave oral presentations on February 25, 2016, and the Evaluation Committee ranked the three highest-ranking offerors based on their combined scores for written proposals and oral presentations.
- 18. HIC was ranked highest, TLK was ranked second-highest, Promac was ranked third-highest, and Edelman was ranked last.
- 19. On March 4, 2016, Gina Kono, a Marketing Officer II with GVB, notified Mr. Sedong "Don" Park of HIC ("Mr. Park") by email that HIC was selected as the highest-rated most qualified offeror, and attached contract negotiation documents. GVB did not notify TLK or the other unsuccessful offerors regarding the status of their proposals at that time.
- 20. On March 9, 2016, Ms. Kono sent Mr. Park an email stating that the GVB General Manager would like to finalize the contract and finalize all necessary paperwork. The email also stated:
 - BTW, I was contacted by someone mentioning that HIC is communicating with the Korea media announcing that they have successfully been awarded the GVB Marketing Representative contract. Please refrain from publicly mentioning this until we have finalized negotiations and signed a contract. We do not want any protest from the other offerors.
- 21. On March 9, 2016, Mr. Park signed the Scope of Work as Agreed by GVB and HIC, effectively concluding contract negotiations between GVB and HIC. On the same date, GVB issued HIC a Notice of Award with an attached contract for signature.
- 22. On March 10, 2016, GVB issued notices of non-selection to TLK, Promac and Edelman. On the same date, GVB issued TLK a notice terminating TLK's month-to-month contract with GVB.

- 23. The Contract was signed by Mr. Park on March 11, 2016, and by GVB General Manager Jon Nathan Denight on March 14, 2016.
 - 24. On March 31, 2016, GVB terminated TLK's contract.

B. TLK'S Protests and Appeals to the Public Auditor

- 25. On March 24, 2016, TLK protested GVB's decision to award the Contract to HIC ("Protest 1"). See, Protest 1, a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 2.
- 26. Protest 1 was based on the claim that HIC lacked the requisite five years of "extensive and consistent experience working with the Republic of Korea travel trade..." and was a nonresponsive offeror. *See*, Exhibit 2 at 2. Protest 1 invoked the Automatic Stay requirements of 5 G.C.A. §5425(g). *Id*.
- 27. On March 24, 2016, TLK filed a Sunshine Act Request with GVB, seeking documents related to the procurement. On April 7, 2016, GVB produced documents responsive to TLK's request.
- 28. On April 8, 2016, GVB denied TLK's Protest 1 on the ground that it was untimely because "TLK marketing received and was aware (or should have been aware) of the content of the RFP as well as the method of procurement more than fourteen (14) days prior to the submission of its Protest." *See*, Denial of Protest 1, a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 3. GVB also noted that it did not agree with TLK's claim that HIC was not a qualified proposer.
- 29. On April 22, 2016, TLK timely appealed GVB's denial of Protest 1 to the Public Auditor, in OPA-PA-16-003. *See*, Protest 1 Appeal, a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 4.
- 30. On April 21, 2016, TLK filed its second protest ("Protest 2") based on information contained in GVB's April 7, 2016 Sunshine Act Response. *See*, Protest 2, a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 5.
- 31. On May 6, 2016, TLK filed in OPA-PA-16-003 a Motion for Orders Confirming the Automatic Stay and Requiring the Guam Visitors Bureau to Issue a Final Decision on Protest 2 ("Motion to Confirm Stay"). *See*, Motion to Confirm Stay, a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 6.

- 32. On May 24, 2016, GVB denied TLK's Protest 2. *See*, Denial of Protest 2, a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 7.
- 33. On June 1, 2016, TLK timely appealed GVB's denial of Protest 2 to the Public Auditor, in OPA-PA-16-005. *See*, Protest 2 Appeal, a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 8. The two appeals were consolidated on June 24, 2016.
- 34. On June 15, 2016, the Public Auditor denied TLK's Motion for Orders Confirming the Automatic Stay. *See*, June 15, 2016 Decision and Order, a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 9.
- 35. After hearings were held on July 6, 2016, August 9, 2016, and August 10, 2016, the Public Auditor denied TLK's Consolidated Appeals. *See* Decision, OPA-PA-11-003 and OPA-PA-16-005 (Oct. 3, 2016), a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit 10.

V. CLAIMS FOR RELIEF

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

The Public Auditor's Finding that HIC had Sufficient Experience and Met the Qualifications of the RFP is Arbitrary, Capricious, Clearly Erroneous, or Contrary to Law

- 36. TLK realleges and incorporates by reference the allegations made in paragraphs 1 through 35 above as if fully set forth herein.
- 37. HIC failed to meet the RFP's requirement of a "qualified professional tourism destination marketing agency ("Agency") with a minimum of 5 years extensive and consistent experience working with the Republic of Korea travel trade, close relationship with the Korean government and the US Embassy...." See, §1.1, Exhibit 1. (Emphasis added.)
- 38. The experience requirements alleged in Paragraph 37 above were mandatory and the failure of HIC to meet those requirements rendered HIC's proposal non-responsive and rendered HIC non-responsible.
- 39. Because of HIC's failure to meet the *5 year minimum* experience requirements, GVB should not have accepted or considered HIC's proposal, should not have selected HIC as the most qualified offeror and should not have awarded the contract to HIC.

- 40. The Public Auditor's finding that HIC had sufficient experience and met the qualifications of the RFP is arbitrary, capricious, clearly erroneous, or contrary to law.
- 41. This Court should find, order and declare that the Public Auditor's finding that HIC had sufficient experience and met the qualifications of the RFP is arbitrary, capricious, clearly erroneous, or contrary to law.

SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

The Public Auditor's Finding that No 5 G.C.A. §5425(g) Stay Was Triggered by TLK's Protest 1 is Arbitrary, Capricious, Clearly Erroneous, or Contrary to Law

- 42. TLK realleges and incorporates by reference the allegations made in paragraphs 1 through 41 above as if fully set forth herein.
- 43. Guam law provides, in relevant part, that "[I]n the event of a timely protest under Subsection (a) of this Section or under Subsection (a) of § 5480 of this Chapter, the Territory shall not proceed further with the solicitation or with the award of the contract prior to final resolution of such protest, and any such further action is void...." 5 GCA §5425(g).
- 44. The provisions of 5 GCA §5425(g) are intended to trigger an automatic stay of the procurement process upon the filing of a timely protest in order to preserve the status quo and promote the integrity and purposes of the procurement law.
- 45. On March 24, 2016, TLK filed a timely protest under Subsection (a) of 5 GCA §5425(g).
- 46. The filing of TLK's timely protect triggered the automatic stay provided in 5 GCA §5425(g).
- 47. GVB intentionally waited until after a contract had been negotiated with HIC before notifying TLK and other Offerors that they had not been selected.
- 48. GVB intentionally conducted the procurement for RFP No. 2016-006 in such a manner as to prevent any aggrieved offeror from submitting a timely protest prior to the award of the contract to HIC.

- 49. The Public Auditor acknowledged and found that GVB's actions resulted in "fundamental unfairness" and that "TLK was deprived of any meaningful opportunity to protest the procurement prior to award or to receive the benefits of the automatic stay." *See* Exhibit 9 at 3.
- 50. The Public Auditor should have found that the automatic stay remained in effect for a reasonable time, for a period of (14) fourteen days after the announcement in order to afford other Offerors the opportunity to protest the procurement.
- 51. The Public Auditor also should have found that GVB was required to give contemporaneous notification to all offerors when it selected HIC as the highest ranked offeror.
- 52. The Public Auditor's finding that no 5 G.C.A. §5425(g) stay was triggered by TLK's Protest 1 is arbitrary, capricious, clearly erroneous, or contrary to law.
- 53. The OPA's determination that the 5 G.C.A. §5425(g) automatic stay was not triggered upon the filing of a timely protest that is made after contract award is arbitrary, capricious, clearly erroneous, or contrary to law. The purported award of the contract to HIC was void because the automatic stay was in effect at the time the purported award was made.
- 54. This Court should find, order, and declare that the award of the contract to HIC is void because of the violation of the automatic stay.

THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF

The Public Auditor's Failure to Address the Deficiencies in the Procurement Record is Arbitrary, Capricious, Clearly Erroneous, or Contrary to Law

- 55. TLK realleges and incorporates the allegations made in paragraphs 1 through 54 above as if fully set forth herein.
- 56. Guam Procurement Law requires that "No procurement award shall be made unless the responsible procurement officer certifies in writing under penalty of perjury that he has maintained the record required by §5249 of this Chapter and that it is complete and available for public inspection." See 5 G.C.A. §5250.
- 57. Among the requirements of §5249 are a log of communications relating to the procurement **and** sound recordings of all pre-bid conferences, negotiations arising from a request for

proposals and discussions with vendors concerning small purchase procurement. *See* 5 G.C.A. §5249. It is undisputed that GVB failed to maintain a log of communications, sound recordings of pre-bid conferences and of negotiations. Thus, the procurement record was incomplete and could not be certified to meet the requirements of §5249.

- 58. Nathan Denight submitted a Negotiation Memorandum, which is a required as part of the procurement record, prepared by counsel for GVB, which did not meet the requirements of 2 G.A.R. Div. 4 §3114.
- 59. Nathan Denight, the Chief Procurement Officer, knowingly submitted a false Certification of Procurement Record that the procurement record is complete under penalty of perjury.
- 60. TLK raised these deficiencies and the Public Auditor was aware of the deficiencies in the procurement record through TLK's filings. TLK specifically cited to a recent decision in *Teleguam Holdings LLC v. Government of Guam*, Superior Court of Guam Case No. CV0334-13 in which a solicitation was canceled based on an incomplete procurement record, although the procurement record had not been raised as a protest claim against the agency in that case
- 61. The Public Auditor denied TLK's Consolidated Appeals in spite of the fact that the procurement record was incomplete and could not be certified under 5 GCA §5249, and failed to discuss the deficiencies of the procurement record in the October 3, 2016 Decision.
- 62. The Public Auditor's failure to address the deficiencies in the procurement record and to find it was incomplete precluding an award is arbitrary, capricious, clearly erroneous, or contrary to law.

VI. PRAYERS FOR RELIEF

WHEREFORE, TLK respectfully requests that this Court issue the following relief:

1. Pursuant to the First Claim for Relief, that this Court order, find and declare that HIC did not meet the five year minimum experience requirement in GVB RFP No. 2016-006, that because of this HIC's proposal should not have been accepted or considered and the contract purportedly awarded to HIC should not have been awarded to HIC, and that the Public Auditor's denial of TLK's

protest based on the failure of HIC to satisfy the experience requirement required the HIC's proposal not be accepted or considered or the contract awarded is arbitrary, capricious, clearly erroneous, or contrary to law.

- 2. Pursuant to the First Claim for Relief, that this Court order GVB to commence negotiations with TLK as the next highest ranked offeror for the contract under GVB RFP No. 2016-006.
- 3. Pursuant to the Second Claim for Relief, that this Court order, find and declare that the Public Auditor erred in not holding that the automatic stay remained in effect until at least 14 days after the announcement of the selection of HIC, in not staying the award of GVB RFP No. 2016-006 and in not finding that the purported award of the contract under GVB RFP No. 2016-006 was and is void and that the Public Auditor's holding in this respect is arbitrary, capricious, clearly erroneous, or contrary to law.
- 4. Pursuant to the Second Claim for Relief, that this Court order, find and declare that the automatic stay remained in effect until at least 14 days after the announcement of the selection of HIC, that any further action with respect to GVB RFP No. 2016-006 be stayed, and order, find and declare that the purported award of the contract under GVB RFP No. 2016-006 was and is void;
- 5. Pursuant to the Second Claim for Relief, that this Court order, find and declare that that GVB was required to give contemporaneous notification to all offerors when it selected HIC as the highest ranked offeror;
- 6. Pursuant to the Second Claim for Relief, that this Court order that GVB RFP No. 2016-006 be resolicited;
- 7. Pursuant to the Third Claim for Relief, that this Court order, find and declare that the Public Auditor erred in not addressing the lack of a complete procurement record and in not ordering the contract to be resolicited, that because a complete procurement record was not created did not exist no award of a contract under GVB RFP No. 2016-006 could be made, that any purported award was void, and that GVB RFP No. 2016-006 be cancelled and the contract be resolicited and that such error is arbitrary, capricious, clearly erroneous, or contrary to law;
 - 8. That this Court award TLK attorney's fees and costs; and

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9. That this Court award any other and further relief as may be deemed appropriate by this Court.

DATED: October 17, 2016

CIVILLE & TANG, PLLC

JOYCE C.H. TANG

JOSHUA D. WALSH
Attorneys for TLK Marketing Co. Ltd.

VERIFICATION

I, Henry Lee, am the President of Appellant, TLK Marketing Co. Ltd., and I am authorized to make this Verification. I have read the foregoing Complaint, and based on information and belief, and to the best of my knowledge, the facts therein are true and correct.

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of Guam, that the foregoing is true and correct.

This Verification was executed on this 17 day of October 2016

TLK MARKETING CO. LTD.

Henry Lee President

EXHIBIT B

SUPERIOR COURT 1 LAW OFFICE OF PETER C. PEREZ THAM Suite 802, DNA Bldg. 2 238 Archbishop Flores Street 2014 FEC 16 PM 4:48 Hagåtña, Guam 96910 3 Telephone (671) 475-5055/6 Facsimile (671) 477-5445 CLERK OF COURT 4 Attorney for Defendant 5 Office of Public Accountability 6 7 IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF GUAM 8 TLK MARKETING CO. LTD. CIVIL CASE NO. CV0914-16 9 Plaintiff, **DEFENDANT OFFICE OF** 10 VS. PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY'S ANSWER TO PLAINTIFF'S 11 VERIFIED COMPLAINT GUAM VISITORS BUREAU, OFFICE OF 12 PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY. TERRITORY OF GUAM and HIC, INC., 13 Defendants. 14 15 Defendant, OFFICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNT BILITY ("OPA"), by and through 16 counsel, PETER C. PEREZ, ESQ., answers Plaintiff's Verified Complaint filed October 17, 2016, 17 as follows: 18 1. The OPA admits the allegations contained in paragraphs 11, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 19 20 23, 24, 34, and 49. 21 2. The OPA denies the allegations contained in paragraphs 3, 12, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 46, 48, 22 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 58, 59, 60, 61, and 62. 23 3. The OPA is without knowledge sufficient to admit or deny the allegations contained in 24 paragraphs 5, 6, 27, and 47 and on that basis denies the allegations contained therein. 25 4. Regarding the allegations contained in paragraph 1, the OPA admits that TLK protested 26 Civille & Tang, PLLC the selection of HIC and admits that the Public Auditor affirmed CVPP denial of the 27 DATE: 12/14/14 28

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protests in OPA-PA-16-003 and OPA-PA-16-005. The OPA is without knowledge sufficient to admit or deny whether this civil action is brought under 5 G.C.A. § 5480 or from what it arises. The OPA denies "GVB's protests" were denied by GVB. The OPA denies the remaining allegations therein.

- 5. Regarding the allegations contained in paragraph 2, the OPA admits this action is for judicial review and appeal of the October 3, 2016 Decision in OPA-PA-16-003 and OPA-PA-16-005, admits that the appeals were consolidated, and denies the remaining allegations therein.
- 6. Regarding the allegations contained in paragraph 4, the OPA is without knowledge sufficient to admit or deny the allegations that TLK is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the Republic of Korea or is licensed to do business in the Republic of Korea. The OPA admits that TLK has worked with GVB. The OPA denies the remaining allegations therein.
- 7. Regarding the allegations contained in paragraph 7, the OPA admits that GVB is a public corporation organized and existing, admits that GVB issued the RFP for a contract to provide Tourism Destination Marketing Representation Services in the Republic of Korea, and denies the remaining allegations therein.
- 8. Regarding the allegations contained in paragraph 8, the OPA admits that the OPA is an instrumentality of the Government of Guam and denies the remaining allegations therein.
- 9. Regarding the allegations contained in paragraph 9, the OPA is without knowledge sufficient to admit or deny that HIC is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the Republic of South Korea and on that basis denies them, and denies the remaining allegations therein.

10. Regarding the allegations contained in paragraph 10, upon information and belief Exhibit1 is a true and correct copy of the RFP, and the OPA admits the remaining allegations therein.

- 11. Regarding the allegations contained in paragraph 21, the OPA is without knowledge sufficient to admit or deny the allegation "effectively concluding the contract negotiations between GVB and HIC" and on that basis denies them, and admits the remaining allegations therein.
- 12. Regarding the allegations contained in paragraph 22, the OPA asserts that GVB's termination of TLK's month to month contract with GVB was effective March 31, 2016.

 To the extent paragraph 22 asserts a different effective termination date, the allegation is denied. The OPA admits the remaining allegations therein.
- 13. Regarding the allegations contained in paragraph 25, upon information and belief Exhibit 2 is a true and correct copy of Protest 1, and the OPA admits the remaining allegations therein.
- 14. Regarding the allegations contained in paragraph 26, to the extent the allegations are inconsistent with the actual language of Protest 1, the OPA denies those allegations, and the OPA denies any remaining allegations therein.
- 15. Regarding the allegations contained in paragraph 28, the OPA admits that on April 8, 2016, GVB denied TLK's Protest and, upon information and belief, admits that Exhibit 3 is a true and correct copy of the Denial of Protest, and regarding the remaining allegations therein, the OPA responds that the Denial of Protest states the grounds for the denial, and any TLK allegation inconsistent with the Denial of Protest grounds language is denied.

- 16. Regarding the allegations allegations contained in paragraph 29, upon information and belief Exhibit 4 is a true and correct copy of the Protest 1 Appeal, and the OPA admits the remaining allegations therein.
- 17. Regarding the allegations allegations contained in paragraph 30, upon information and belief Exhibit 5 is a true and correct copy of the Protest 2, and the OPA admits that on April 21, 2016, TLK filed Protest 2, and the OPA is without knowledge sufficient to admit or deny the remaining allegations therein and on that basis denies them.
- 18. Regarding the allegations allegations contained in paragraph 31, upon information and belief Exhibit 6 is a true and correct copy of the Motion to Confirm Stay, and admits the remaining allegations therein.
- 19. Regarding the allegations allegations contained in paragraph 32, upon information and belief Exhibit 7 is a true and correct copy of the Denial of Protest 2, and the OPA admits the remaining allegations therein.
- 20. Regarding the allegations contained in paragraph 33, upon information and belief Exhibit 8 is a true and correct copy of the Protest 2 Appeal, and the OPA admits the remaining allegations therein.
- 21. Regarding the allegations contained in paragraph 35, the OPA denies Plaintiff's reference to "OPA-PA-11-003" and admits the remaining allegations therein.
- 22. Regarding the allegations contained in paragraphs 43, 44, and 56, the OPA denies any citation to any citation or policy statement that TLK asserts, if inconsistent with the statute and statutory policies stated.
- 23. Regarding the allegations contained in paragraph 45, the OPA admits that TLK filed a timely protest, and is without knowledge sufficient to admit or deny the remaining allegations therein and on that basis denies them.