OFFICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY



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February 19, 2024

TO: Interested Offerors

RE: Responses to Written Questions

OPA-RFP-24-001 Government of Guam Independent Financial Audit Services

Håfa Adai! The Office of Public Accountability (OPA) is in receipt of written questions submitted by Ernst & Young LLP on February 16, 2024. Kindly see below for the OPA's responses.

Page 11: "A statement that the Offeror will periodically rotate assigned key persons if they served more than two years on the assignment."

1. Does the assignment of "key persons" include Audit Partners, Senior Managers, Managers, and Audit Seniors?

OPA Response: Yes.

2. Is a statement that the Offeror will attempt to implement such rotation plan sufficient given the obvious staff constraints, loss of institutional knowledge, potential impact on audit quality, and the negative impact on overall audit costs as a result of a two-year rotation.

<u>OPA Response:</u> The Offeror's statement of its attempt to meet the requirement will be accepted. The justification for such an attempt will be evaluated against the criteria as set forth in the RFP.

Page 11: "A statement that the firm, in collaboration with the agency, shall submit a Gantt chart no later than June 30th of the fiscal year outlining the necessary tasks and dates for completing the FY 2023 financial audit by June 30th and the subsequent years' financial audit by March 31st, following the fiscal year end. On or before the 5th day of each month, the firm shall submit a report to the OPA detailing the state and progress of the audit and attach a list of the Gantt chart projects the agency failed to complete the previous month."

3. Given the delay in the issuance of RFP # OPA-RFP-24-001 and the subsequent awarding of the audit for FY 2023, how does OPA realistically believe that the FY2023 audit can be completed by the required June 30, 2024 deadline when audit commencement will not occur until on or around mid-March 2024 and will require a timeline of approximately 6 months to complete?

<u>OPA Response:</u> The June 30th deadline for the FY 2023 financial audit is what we strive for and will not be adjusted in the RFP.

4. Given an anticipated completion date for the FY2023 audit of August 31, 2024, how does OPA realistically believe that the FY2024 audit can be completed by March 31, 2025 when audit commencement is contingent upon completion of the FY2023 audit as well as the need for DOA to close the FY2024 books, to provide a reconciled trial balance within a 6-month timeline sufficient to perform the audit, and the need for the auditors to assess and understand post-implementation procedures associated with the new FMIS?

OPA Response: The March 31st deadline for the FY 2024 financial audit is what we strive for and will not be adjusted in the RFP.

This response does not revise any part of the RFP. The deadline for proposals remains at <u>3:00 PM</u>, Chamorro Standard Time, Tuesday, February 27, 2024.

Senseramente,

Benjamin J.F. Cruz Public Auditor