

11631 PL-11

DECISION



**THE COMPTROLLER GENERAL
OF THE UNITED STATES**
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

FILE: B-196204

DATE: October 10, 1979

MATTER OF: Resource Development Institute, Inc.

DIGEST:

*[Protest Alleging Awardee's Proposal Was Based on Proprietary
Information Obtained From Protester]*

Protest based on potential awardee's use of protester's employees and of proprietary information gained from those employees is essentially dispute between private parties which is not for consideration under GAO Bid Protest Procedures.

Resource Development Institute, Inc. (Resource) protests the proposed award of a contract to Powell & Associate under request for proposal (RFP) 79-71, issued by the Office of Education, Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The protester alleges that Powell has offered to use persons from Resource's staff and that Powell has based its proposal on proprietary information obtained from the Resource personnel. Resource requests that no award be made to Powell.

Basically, this case involves a question of alleged improper business practices. As such, we believe it is a dispute between private parties which is not for consideration under our Bid Protest Procedures. See Computer Science Corporation, B-194286.3, July 3, 1979, 79-2 CPD 5.

The protest is dismissed.

F. H. Lawley Jr.
For Milton J. Socolar
General Counsel

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