



Comptroller General  
of the United States

Washington, D.C. 20548

## Decision

**Matter of:** Newbegin Enterprises, Inc.

**File:** B-257246

**Date:** May 17, 1994

### DECISION

Newbegin Enterprises, Inc. protests the award of a contract to any other bidder by the Department of the Air Force under solicitation No. F31610-94-B-0002. Newbegin alleges that the Air Force has improperly determined and applied a 10 percent small disadvantaged business preference to Jay Automotive Specialists, which certified itself as such. Newbegin contends that Jay was not entitled to the preference and that Newbegin is the low responsive bidder and should receive the award.

We dismiss the protest because our Office generally does not review the stewardship of small disadvantaged business contracting programs.

Small disadvantaged business status under the Department of Defense's small disadvantaged business contracting program is determined by the Small Business Administration (SBA), not the General Accounting Office. 13 C.F.R. §§ 124.601 et seq. Under SBA's regulations, a protest challenging the disadvantaged status of a bidder or offeror is to be timely filed with the contracting officer, who in turn refers it to the SBA for a decision. 13 C.F.R. § 124.605. Accordingly, there is no basis for us to consider the protest.

The protest is dismissed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ronald Berger".

Ronald Berger  
Associate General Counsel