

Comptroller General of the United States

Washington, D.C. 20548

206188

Decision

Matter of: Maram Service Corporation

File:

B-255062.3

Date:

August 18, 1994

DECISION

Maram Service Corporation protests any award of a contract to North East Imaging Inc. under invitation for bids (IFB) No. 526-1-94, issued by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

We dismiss the protest.

The protester challenges North East's ability to perform under the contract, contending that North East does not have personnel with the qualifications and experience called for by the IFB. The protester also states that the Small Business Administration (SBA) has issued a certificate of competency (COC) to North East.

The Small Business Act, 15 U.S.C. S 637(b) (1988), gives SBA, not our Office, the conclusive authority to review a contracting officer's determination that a small business is not responsible. We have been given no authority to review SBA's judgments concerning COC issuance. Since SBA has exclusive authority to finally determine the responsibility of a small business, our Office generally does not review SBA's decision to issue or deny a COC. See 4 C.F.R. \$ 21.3(m)(3) (1994); Priority I Constr. of Brevard. Inc., B-255721 et al., Nov. 16, 1993, 93-2 CPD ¶ 285.

The protest is dismissed.

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