



United States
General Accounting Office
Washington, D.C. 20548

Office of the General Counsel

B-231866

July 13, 1988

The Honorable John R. Bolton
Assistant Attorney General
Civil Division
Department of Justice

Dear Mr. Bolton:

Subject: SMS Data Products Group, Inc. v. United States, Cl. Ct. No. 361-88C

We refer to your letter dated June 24, 1988, requesting a report on the above-referenced case.

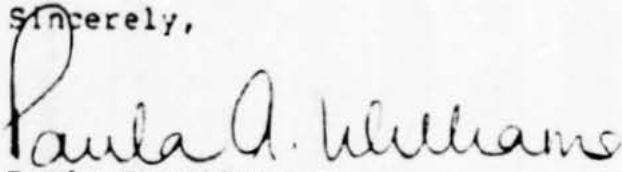
We have no relevant records or information concerning the factual or legal issues involved. Our records indicate no claim or other demand against the plaintiff which might furnish the basis for a counterclaim or setoff in this case.

You should be aware that GAO's data base of debt cases has become quite limited. When GAO and the Justice Department amended the Federal Claims Collection Standards in 1984, the requirement that agencies routinely refer uncollectible debts to GAO was deleted (4 C.F.R. § 105.1). Since that time, our data base has been decreasing as the older cases are disposed of. Therefore, to obtain a more reliable indication of outstanding indebtedness, you may wish to selectively consult other sources. Depending on the identity of the plaintiff(s), these might include the Army Holdup List (government contractors), Department of Education (student loans), Veterans Administration, or Small Business Administration.

Finally, at the request of your staff member Jeanne A. Anderson, we enclose copies of a General Services Board of Contract Appeals (GSBCA) decision, along with its supporting documentation, concerning a protest filed by the plaintiff objecting to the award of a contract by the Environmental Protection Agency. Pursuant to the decision of the GSBCA, on May 28, 1987, GAO authorized payment of \$500,000 from the indefinite judgment fund to the plaintiff.

If you need further information from our Office, you may contact the undersigned on .

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paula A. Williams". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Paula A. Williams
Attorney-Adviser

Enclosure