

DECISION

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

27250

FILE: B-211549**DATE:** January 24, 1984**MATTER OF:** International Alliance of Sports Officials**DIGEST:**

1. Third low bidder protesting that the low bid should be rejected is an "interested party" under GAO's Bid Protest Procedures where the second low bid has expired.
2. Agency did not abuse its discretion in determining that it may accept low bid for sports officiating services from organization it regards as substantially owned or controlled by government employees where price of other bidder is 38 percent higher and in all likelihood same individuals would perform this essentially part-time work regardless of which bidder was awarded the contract.
3. A bid submitted by a for-profit commercial concern may be unreasonably high, even if shown to accurately reflect the costs unique to that bidder plus a moderate profit, if the marketplace which includes nonprofit associations can satisfy the government's needs for substantially less--here, 38 percent.
4. Protest that performance of sports officiating services by active duty military and by civilian government personnel would violate dual compensation laws is denied where protester has not met its burden of proof.

International Alliance of Sports Officials (IASO) protests the award of a contract to Twin States Athletic Officials Association under invitation for bids (IFB) No.

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