

DECISION



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

FILE: B-215928

DATE: August 20, 1984

MATTER OF: Townhouse Carpets and Interiors

DIGEST:

A bid that does not include, at bid opening, a bid sample as required by the invitation for evaluation purposes, is nonresponsive and therefore must be rejected.

Townhouse Carpets and Interiors protests the rejection of its bid by the District of Columbia under invitation for bids No. 4047-AA-72-0-4-GA-D for carpet installation in several District of Columbia public schools. The bid was rejected because Townhouse failed to submit a bid sample prior to bid opening.

The invitation required that bid samples be furnished as a part of the bid and be received before the time set for opening of bids. The invitation stated that samples would be evaluated to determine compliance with all characteristics listed for examination in the solicitation, and warned that failure to furnish samples by bid opening would result in rejection of the bid.

Where an invitation requires the submission of a sample, for evaluation purposes, by bid opening, the sample must be furnished by that time or the bid must be rejected as nonresponsive. D. N. Owens Company, 57 Comp. Gen. 231 (1978), 78-1 CPD ¶ 66. Here, the protester's sample was hand-carried to the procurement office the day after bid opening. Since Townhouse did not timely submit its bid sample, the bid properly was rejected.

The protest is summarily denied.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Milton J. Fowler".

Acting Comptroller General
of the United States

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