

GAO

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

Office of the General Counsel

B-223539

January 16, 1987

Mr. William Webster, Owner
Ms. Carol Webster, Owner
Fire Protection Corporation
P. O. Box 256
Crestline, California 92325

Dear Mr. and Ms. Webster:

Subject: Six Contracts - See Attachment A

The Assistant Administrator, U. S. Department of Labor, recommended to our Office that you and your related business be placed on the ineligible bidders list for violations of the Davis-Bacon Act, 40 U.S.C. §§ 276a to 276a-5 (1982), with respect to the first five contracts listed in Attachment A.

We concur with the Assistant Administrator's recommendation. The Davis-Bacon Act provides that the Comptroller General is to debar persons or firms whom he finds have disregarded their obligations to employees under the Act. 40 U.S.C. § 276a-2. Our review of the record confirms that there were substantial violations in this case which constitute a disregard of obligations to employees with respect to the minimum wage provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act.

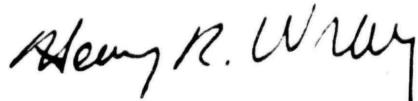
Accordingly, Fire Protection Corporation, a/k/a Fire Protection Engineers, William (Bill) Webster, individually and as President and owner, and Carol Webster, individually and as owner, will be included on a list to be distributed to all departments of the Government. Pursuant to statutory direction at 40 U.S.C. § 276a-2, no contract shall be awarded to them or to any firm, corporation, partnership, or association in which they, or any of them, have an interest until 3 years have elapsed from the date of publication of such list.

The Department of Labor also requested debarment under the Copeland Act, 40 U.S.C. § 276c (1982), for work performed at the Naval Weapons Center (contract no. 2 in Attachment A), and under the Airport and Airway Improvement Act of 1982,

49 U.S.C. App. § 2201 et seq. (1982), for work performed at the Los Angeles Airport (contract no. 6 in Attachment A). You and your related business were debarred under those authorities effective July 15, 1986.

Finally, our records indicate that payment has been made for all back wages, for the most part by the prime contractors for each project.

Sincerely yours,



Henry R. Wray
Associate General Counsel

Attachment

cc: Sylvester L. Green, Director
Contract Standards Operations
U. S. Department of Labor
(w/Attachment)

Group Director
Claims Group, GGD
w/files Z-2864024 and
Z-2864024(1-5) and Attachment

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Attachment A

Contracts under consideration in B-223539, Fire Protection Corp., DOL File Nos. IX-85-32,33, 36 thru 38.

1. Edward M. Pozzo Co. - Prime Contractor
Fire Protection Corp. - Subcontractor
Project No.: 956-476
Building #230, Jet Propulsion Laboratory
California Institute of Technology
2. Cox Construction Co. - Prime Contractor
Fire Protection Corp. - Subcontractor
Project No.: N62474-81-C-8250
Naval Weapons Center
China Lake, California
3. John R. Hundley, Inc. - Prime Contractor
Fire Protection Corp. - Subcontractor
Project No.: V-101-C-1156
VA Medical Center
Los Angeles, California
4. H. A. Kaufman Co. - Prime Contractor
Fire Protection Corp. - Subcontractor
Project No.: GS-098-83028SF
U. S. Court House
Los Angeles, California
5. Kunert Electric - Prime Contractor
Fire Protection Corp. - Subcontractor
Project No.: N62474-83-C-3861
Marine Corps Base
Twentynine Palms, California
6. John R. Hundley, Inc. - Prime Contractor
Fire Protection Corp. - Subcontractor
Project No.: 6-06-0139-08
Fire Station
Los Angeles Airport