



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**  
NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING SYSTEMS COMMAND, HAWAII  
400 MARSHALL ROAD  
JBPHH, HAWAII 96860-3139

J&A No. 23-10

JUSTIFICATION AND APPROVAL  
FOR USE OF OTHER THAN FULL AND OPEN COMPETITION

SOLICITATION WORK ORDER NUMBER [REDACTED], FY 2023 P-956 BACHELOR  
ENLISTED QUARTERS AND [REDACTED] FY 2024 P-973 BACHELOR ENLISTED  
QUARTERS, MARINE CORPS BASE HAWAII, KANEOHE, HAWAII

1. Contracting Activity.

Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command, Hawaii (NAVFAC HI),  
Architect-Engineer Contracts Branch, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam  
(JBPHH), Hawaii.

2. Description of the Action Being Approved.

Request approval for the use of Knox Box 3200 fire department access  
box by Knox Company for the construction project FY23 MCON P-956  
Bachelor Enlisted Quarters [REDACTED] and FY24 MCON P-973 Bachelor  
Enlisted Quarters [REDACTED], Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH),  
Kaneohe, Hawaii. The brand name description is essential to the  
Activity's requirements, which will not provide for full and open  
competition. This J&A is to cover only the portion of the acquisition  
that relates to this brand-name specification.

3. Description of Supplies/Services.

These projects will construct a multi-story bachelor enlisted quarters  
building, including 95 Units in "2+0" room configurations, duty  
office, vending area, laundry room and multipurpose room with  
restrooms and kitchen in P-956; and 95 Units in "2+0" room  
configurations, lounge, vending areas and laundry rooms in P-973.  
These projects will be awarded with P-956 as the base bid item and an  
option for P-973, where the option is anticipated to be exercised in  
the following fiscal year. P-956 will be constructed first with pile  
foundations, concrete masonry unit (CMU) walls, concrete floor and  
roof structure with aluminum sloped roofing. P-973 construction will  
follow after P-956 with similar construction as P-956. The projects  
will also include installing new Heating, Ventilation and Air  
Conditioning (HVAC), Fire Protection, Plumbing and Metering system.  
The built-in equipment includes passenger/freight elevators for the  
BEQs and emergency electrical generators.

The projects requires fire department access boxes that complies with  
National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) 1. Knox Box fire  
department access boxes will be installed on the exterior of the

building to provide secure storage of building entry keys for use by the Federal Fire Department during an emergency response. Providing secure access to building entry keys avoids the need to use forced entry, which facilitates faster entry into the building and avoids permanent damage to the building entry doors. The Knox Box 3200 fire department access box system, manufactured by the Knox Company, is utilized by the Federal Fire Department and can only be opened with a unique master key furnished by the Knox Company.

The estimated costs of construction for P-956 and P-973 are

[REDACTED], [REDACTED] will be for the procurement of two (2) Knox Boxes.

4. Statutory Authority Permitting Other Than Full and Open Competition.

This request is submitted pursuant to the authority of 10 U.S.C. 2304(c)(1), only one responsible source and no other supplies or services will satisfy agency requirements.

5. Rationale Justifying Use of Cited Statutory Authority.

This is a new requirement for a component of a secure rapid building entry system where award to another source would result in substantial duplication costs to the Government that is not expected to be recovered by competition. The Knox Box 3200 fire department access box by the Knox Company will be used for this project because it is the only source compatible with the existing Federal Fire Department access box system.

These projects require a fire department access box to be compliant with NFPA 1. An access box is defined in NFPA 1 as "an approved secure box, accessible by the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) master key or control, containing entrance keys or other devices to gain access to a secure structure or area." In accordance with NFPA Code 1 (2021 Edition, Chapter 18, Fire Department Access and Water Supply, 18.2.2.1), when required by the AHJ, a UL 1037 (Standard for Antitheft Alarms and Devices) listed fire department access box is required in an accessible location when access to or within a facility is difficult due to security. The fire department access box allows keys unique to each facility to be stored within the box, providing the responding fire department personnel with rapid entry into the building during emergency responses without forced entry or damage to the facility.

NAVFAC HI is requesting approval to use a Knox Box 3200 fire department access box by Knox Company for the following reasons:

a. The Knox Box fire department access box system allows responding Federal Firefighters to retrieve keys necessary to gain entry into

buildings using a single, secure master key. Use of other than Knox Box fire department access boxes will require fire apparatus (vehicles) to carry multiple manufacturer's keys, which will delay rapid building entry and potentially endanger life and/or property.

b. The Knox Box fire department access box system provides the highest level of security to protect the building's entry keys. Knox Box is a UL 1037 listed, high security, tamper-proof box mounted on the exterior of the building that can only be unlocked with a Knox Company issued master key. Knox Box keys are only issued to Federal Fire Department apparatus, where the Fire Chief is ultimately accountable for the security of these keys. The Knox Box master key is unique and specifically assigned to the Federal Fire Department. Utilizing Knox Box prevents the need for the Federal Fire Department to maintain key rings with hundreds of keys to various buildings. Because Knox Box precludes the use of forced entry, the building can simply be secured by closing and locking the doors after the emergency incident.

c. The facilities on Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH) are currently equipped with Knox Boxes. Installation of a non-Knox Box fire department access box would require purchasing of a new master key vault/safe compatible with each of the 16 fire apparatus operated by the Federal Fire Department at MCBH. The fire apparatus cabin interior is already crowded with equipment and instruments, and cannot fit another master key vault/safe. A new master key vault/safe is approximately [REDACTED] the cost of procuring a Knox Box fire department access box, multiplied by the 16 fire apparatus operated by the Federal Fire Department [REDACTED] and is not cost effective. In addition, the access boxes currently in place at MCBH require no upgrades with very little to no maintenance costs. Finally, the Knox Company is the sole manufacturer and inventor, and is supplied only through Knox Box directly or through limited trusted partner distributors.

#### 6. Description of Efforts Made to Solicit Offers from as Many Offerors as Practicable.

A Sources Sought notice (No. N62478CON33FY2303) was posted on 9 December 2022 on the SAM.gov website to identify any other sources that could provide the fire department access box with equal performance and listing/approval requirements compatible to the Knox Box. No responses were received in response to the announcement.

#### 7. Determination of Fair and Reasonable Cost.

The estimated price of [REDACTED] is based on a recent, independent Government Estimate and consistent with current market prices. The Contracting Officer has determined the anticipated cost to the Government of the supplies/services covered by this J&A to be fair and reasonable.

8. Market Research.

a. Market research was conducted between 9 December 2022 - 16 December 2022 to determine if there are any vendors who could provide similar items, and to perform a price comparison. As mentioned in Paragraph 6 above, there were no alternate sources found from the Sources Sought.

b. Additional market research was conducted in December 2022, revealing other manufacturers who provide only the access box housing, where the housing is ready to add on a Knox keyswitch or Knox padlock (sold separately). Another source, [REDACTED], manufactures an Emergency Fire Department Access control product; however, since [REDACTED] utilizes a scanner radio technology, with their own unique proprietary systems, it cannot be easily integrated with the existing Federal Fire Department systems without significant initial investment/outlay and potential security vulnerabilities. Only the Knox Box is able to maintain compatibility and security with the existing unique fire department access box key utilized by the Federal Fire Department at all military installations on Oahu.

9. Actions to Remove Barriers to Future Competition.

For the reasons set forth in Paragraph 5, NAVFAC HI has no plans at this time to compete future contracts for the types of supplies/ services covered by this document. To evaluate the use of full and open competition for acquiring the same or similar supplies in the future, market research will be conducted periodically to ascertain the availability of new technology that may provide for other sources to meet the Government's needs. Should any other potential sources of supply for compatible fire department access box be submitted during the source selection process, the Government will consider each, as applicable.

CERTIFICATIONS AND APPROVAL

TECHNICAL/REQUIREMENTS CERTIFICATION

I certify that the facts and representations under my cognizance which are included in this Justification and its supporting acquisition planning documents, except as noted herein are complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

