

From: Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Fri, 8 Aug 2014 17:15:39 -0400
To: Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Hackett, Charles (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]; White, Brandon (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Bahrami, Tom (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: Tulane contract summary (2)
Attachments: Tulane contract summary (2).docx

David,

Tony wanted something shorter and less bureaucratic to go to Francis and the secretary, so that's what's attached (he may make some additional edits but you get the idea). This means we need to contact Tulane and tell them to submit a request for a contract modification that we'll expedite.

Be clear that this is a mod to the existing contract, not an opportunity for them to negotiate their new offer. There's probably not \$1.8 M remaining in the contract, but if that was the amount at the end of May there should be plenty for support of critical staff efforts at Kenema Govt. Hospital. This can be our response to their letter of Aug 7th.

Let me know if any questions and please cc me for the immediate future on any communications with Tulane.

Dan

An August 7, 2014 Reuters article commented on NIAID's decision not to fund a proposal from Tulane University submitted in response to a NIAID contract solicitation with the objective of profiling the human antibody response to emerging and re-emerging pathogens. The Tulane proposal is to continue work on Lassa Fever Virus (LASV) being conducted under a \$16.2M FY09-13 contract (HHSN272200900049C). NIAID's decision not to renew the Tulane contract was based on technical merit, scientific priorities, and availability of funds.

Under the FY09-13 contract Tulane investigators have been analyzing samples obtained from patients at the Kenema Government Hospital in Sierra Leone, now at an epicenter of the Ebola outbreak. NIAID contract funds have supported staff at this site and are now critically needed for to maintain staff and infrastructure who are engaged in activities related to Ebola.

However, contracting law prohibits use of the NIAID funds for work on Ebola, which was not included in the scope of work under the existing contract or proposed in the Tulane renewal application. Tulane will need to request a contract modification to re-direct funds remaining in the FY09-13 contract for Ebola-related activities. NIAID program and acquisition staff will expedite approval of such a request from Tulane.

Looking ahead, NIAID plans to award five contracts from this competition (BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIH AI 2013164) to offerors whose proposals include profiling the human antibody response to Ebola, malaria, influenza, and hepatitis C virus, among others. Information on these pending awards is procurement-sensitive and not to be released to the public.

From: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Fri, 8 Aug 2014 11:36:00 -0400
To: Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Bahrami, Tom (NIH/NIAID) [E]; White, Brandon (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: RE: media inquiries

I don't know if this matters, but we are planning to fund the Scripps T cell contract on Lassa (from the FY14 T cell epitope discovery renewal), which includes the Tulane/Sierra Leone work as major subcontractors

From: Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Friday, August 08, 2014 11:06 AM
To: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Bahrami, Tom (NIH/NIAID) [E]; White, Brandon (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: RE: media inquiries

Hi Stacy,

That response is perfectly acceptable. But... Given Dr. Rotrosen's latest e-mail regarding seeking a short-term solution, I think it might be best to wait until he gives the okay to send this response. Agree? Thanks.

David T. Lisle
Contracting Officer
Branch Chief, DAIT RCB / OA / DEA
NIAID / NIH / DHHS
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From: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Friday, August 08, 2014 10:56 AM
To: Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Bahrami, Tom (NIH/NIAID) [E]; White, Brandon (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: RE: media inquiries

Quick draft of my response to Pardis below.

David or Tom, please let me know if this is okay. I don't want to send it until it's been checked for potential issues.

Dear Pardis,

My understanding of Federal contract regulations is that use of contract funds for purposes not included in the Statement of Work is considered mis-use of Federal contract funds and that we cannot allow the Ebola work to be charged to the B cell epitope discovery contract. That said, my opinion on this type of question should not be considered official because I am not authorized to make decisions of this type. I have copied on this email the Contracting staff associated with contract, who will correct or clarify my response if necessary.

Any formal requests to charge Ebola-related expenses to the Lassa Fever B Cell Epitope Discovery contract should be sent to Tom Bahrami by either James Robinson or Bob Garry. Thank you for checking with me before charging these expenses to the contract.

Best,
Stacy

From: Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Friday, August 08, 2014 8:56 AM
To: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Bahrami, Tom (NIH/NIAID) [E]; White, Brandon (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: RE: media inquiries

Hi Stacy,

Your analysis is spot on! We can not allow these charges as they are well outside the bounds of the scope of our contracts.

I'd like to defer to you as to how best to respond. We can make an official OA response, but it would have to be to Tulane as the prime. As this seemed to be an informal inquiry from Pardis (as a sub), I also don't want to put her in an embarrassing position. Would you prefer to respond to Pardis and let her know you talked to us and we informed you that we can't allow the charges? We're happy to proceed either way with respect to ensuring a smooth working relationship – just let us know. Thanks.

David T. Lisle
Contracting Officer
Branch Chief, DAIT RCB / OA / DEA
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From: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 8:42 PM
To: Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Bahrami, Tom (NIH/NIAID) [E]; White, Brandon (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: RE: media inquiries

Dear David et al,

I now have additional issues that need to be addressed with Tulane since I just received an email from Pardis Sabeti this evening and need instructions from OA. Pardis is a sub-contractor on both the currently funded Tulane B cell epitope contract and the proposal currently in negotiation.

Her question is regarding the currently funded Tulane contract and normally, I would respond to her but would still be referring her to Tom Bahrami and Brandon White for a formal response. I have copied Tom and Brandon on this email since they are the CO and COS on the relevant contract. I will forward the email from Pardis after sending this one.

Pardis states that two people working under the Lassa Fever B cell epitope contract were working on Ebola instead of the Lassa Fever contract for a month and wants to know if it's okay to charge these costs to the Lassa Fever contract. She would acknowledge the contract on what will likely be a high profile paper with the Ebola sequences she generated.

I will defer to you because I don't believe that I have the authority to give a formal answer to her questions. Also, I have always been EXTREMELY cautious in the type of question I'm willing to respond to without directions from OA staff and this one is clearly one I'm unwilling to answer without OA guidance. These are my opinions, for what they are worth.

We should NOT allow these charges for those following reasons:

1. The work is outside the scope of the Lassa Fever contract. Last year another incumbent contractor asked me if it was okay to use unspent contract funds to work on another unrelated pathogen not included in her proposal. I told her I believed that this would be considered misuse of contract funds but stated that a formal response would need to come from Tom and Brandon. I copied them on the response, asking them to comment. Tom confirmed my response. I think that this situation is comparable except that we were not asked for prior approval.

(b)(5)

Please advise. While I have not responded to questions regarding the current competition, I think that I am clearly responsible for providing a response to questions about the active contract either directly or through OA.

Thanks,
Stacy

Stacy E. Ferguson, Ph.D.
Program Officer, Basic Immunology Branch
Division of Allergy, Immunology and Transplantation
NIAID, NIH
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Bethesda, MD 20892-6601
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From: Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 10:25 AM
To: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: RE: media inquiries

We did indeed receive the letter. We (OA) will respond as appropriate. Tulane was indeed informed of their exclusion from the competition and offered the opportunity for a debriefing – and the below mentioned letter was their response. We will clarify with Tulane as to their intent to request a debriefing.

Stacy, in the interim, please begin preparing the technical debriefing reasons we did not select Tulane for an award. I know that these reasons are provided in your recommendation memo which is being routed for Dr. McGowan's approval (attached), but I want to give you the opportunity to draft those reasons (and any other technical issues not resolved) in a format which can be provided to Tulane. Thanks.

David T. Lisle
Contracting Officer
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From: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 10:13 AM
To: Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: FW: media inquiries

FYI:

I got this email this morning and have no intention of responding unless instructed to do so.

Also, I am postponing my trip to Chapel Hill for next Thursday-Sunday instead of today through Sunday.

Stacy

From: Garry, Robert F [<mailto:rfgarry@tulane.edu>]
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 8:28 AM
To: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Repik, Patricia (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: media inquiries

Dear Stacy,

I have been getting a barrage of media inquiries . I am not certain of the source, but, as in the past there have been a number of "media briefings" distributed widely to the press related to Tulane's "activities" in Sierra Leone.

This time apparently it is about a how

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

This latest briefing appears to be

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Anyway, I have very much tried and tried to emphasize to the latest media inquiries that NIH has been and is very supportive of our research, and that

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

And, I'll get the final B cell report to you ASAP (day or so). Sorry, that it's overdue.

Best regards,

Bob

From: Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Fri, 8 Aug 2014 11:29:57 -0400
To: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Bahrami, Tom (NIH/NIAID) [E]; White, Brandon (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: RE: media inquiries
Attachments: Letter toTulane_Unsuccessful.pdf, Request for Debriefing for NIAID-DAIT2013164 doc.pdf

Stacy,

To help in preparation of your summary, attached is the July 30 letter to Tulane informing them that they were no longer being considered for an award. Please note that the letter offers them the chance for a debriefing so that they could learn the more specific technical reasons they were not getting an award. Please also see their attached response, dated August 1 (prior to the more recent appeal letter from Dr. Garry) in which they requested a post award debriefing – meaning they chose not to receive the technical reasons for their exclusion until after the successful awards had been made. And of course as you know, those awards have not yet been made.

Please let me know if there is anything else I can do to help. Thanks.

David T. Lisle
Contracting Officer
Branch Chief, DAIT RCB / OA / DEA
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From: Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Friday, August 08, 2014 11:13 AM
To: Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Bahrami, Tom (NIH/NIAID) [E]; White, Brandon (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: Re: media inquiries

Stacy and Helen.

Just spoke with tony who asked that we prepare a brief summary of what's happened with the contract. Will go to him, Francis and HHS secretary who saw the Reuters report and asked Francis what's going on.

Please prepare a concise draft. I need to send to tony by 2 pm. I'm at HHS meeting till noon.

Tks. Dan

On Aug 8, 2014, at 10:25 AM, "Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]" <HQUILL@niaid.nih.gov> wrote:

Perhaps we need to look at the PopGen contract as well, since it's the same organization in Sierra Leone and same personnel including Sabeti and Garry. I could come in this afternoon after 2 pm if needed, or can it wait until Monday?

From: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Friday, August 08, 2014 10:22 AM
To: Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Bahrami, Tom (NIH/NIAID) [E]; White, Brandon (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: RE: media inquiries

Dan,

Yes. That is the Lassa Fever contract number.

Stacy

From: Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Friday, August 08, 2014 9:20 AM
To: Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Bahrami, Tom (NIH/NIAID) [E]; White, Brandon (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: Re: media inquiries

Stacy,

Is the Tulane contract the one cited in the draft manuscript from Pardis?

David, I don't think we'll want to go in this direction but I'd like to know anyway. Are there any mechanisms/clauses we could invoke under a public health emergency to provide a short-term supplement to the existing contract for orderly shutdown, etc? This would require some sort of contract amendment and recognize openly that the shutdown funds would be to support staff working on Ebola.

Thanks, Dan

On Aug 8, 2014, at 8:55 AM, "Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]" <dlisle@niaid.nih.gov> wrote:

Hi Stacy,

Your analysis is spot on! We can not allow these charges as they are well outside the bounds of the scope of our contracts.

I'd like to defer to you as to how best to respond. We can make an official OA response, but it would have to be to Tulane as the prime. As this seemed to be an informal inquiry from Pardis (as a sub), I also don't want to put her in an embarrassing position. Would you prefer to respond to Pardis and let her know you talked to us and we informed you that we can't allow the charges? We're happy to proceed either way with respect to ensuring a smooth working relationship – just let us know. Thanks.

David T. Lisle
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From: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 8:42 PM
To: Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Bahrami, Tom (NIH/NIAID) [E]; White, Brandon (NIH/NIAID) [E]
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and Brandon on this email since they are the CO and COS on the relevant contract. I will forward the email from Pardis after sending this one.

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Thanks,
Stacy

Stacy E. Ferguson, Ph.D.
Program Officer, Basic Immunology Branch
Division of Allergy, Immunology and Transplantation
NIAID, NIH
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6610 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, MD 20892-6601
Phone: (b)(6)
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Cc: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: RE: media inquiries

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Stacy, in the interim, please begin preparing the technical debriefing reasons we did not select Tulane for an award. I know that these reasons are provided in your recommendation memo which is being routed for Dr. McGowan's approval (attached), but I want to give you the opportunity to draft those reasons (and any other technical issues not resolved) in a format which can be provided to Tulane. Thanks.

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Subject: FW: media inquiries

FYI:

I got this email this morning and have no intention of responding unless instructed to do so.

Also, I am postponing my trip to Chapel Hill for next Thursday-Sunday instead of today through Sunday.

Stacy

From: Garry, Robert F [mailto:rfgarry@tulane.edu]

Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 8:28 AM

To: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]

Cc: Repik, Patricia (NIH/NIAID) [E]

Subject: media inquiries

Dear Stacy,

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This time apparently it is about a how (b)(6)

(b)(6)

This latest briefing appears to be (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Anyway, I have very much tried and tried to emphasize to the latest media inquiries that NIH has been and is very supportive of our research, and that (b)(6)

(b)(6)

And, I'll get the final B cell report to you ASAP (day or so). Sorry, that it's overdue.

Best regards,

Bob



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Public Health Service

Phone: 301-496-0612
Fax: 301-480-4675
<http://www.niaid.nih.gov/>

National Institutes of Health (NIH)
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
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Bethesda, MD 20892-7612

July 30, 2014

Kathleen M. Kozar
Director, Research Administration
Tulane University
1430 Tulane Avenue, JBJ 569
New Orleans, LA 70112

Subject: Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) NIAID-DAIT2013164
Title: Roles of Protective or Pathogenic B Cell Epitopes in Human Lassa Fever

Dear Ms. Kozar:

The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) has completed its review of the proposal revision dated June 11, 2014 submitted by Tulane University. After a comprehensive evaluation of your proposal revision, the NIAID has determined to not further negotiate with your organization. This decision was based on technical factors, scientific priority, and availability of funds (FAR 35.016(e)). A proposal revision will not be considered.

You will be notified of any award made as a result of this solicitation. Notification will include the name and address of the successful offeror and the dollar amount of the resulting contract. Award is anticipated in late September 2014.

This should not be construed adversely against your organization, nor does it in any way prejudice your possible acceptability under the requirements of any other Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) acquisition in which you may be involved. It is determined that, for purposes of the instant acquisition, your proposal falls short of those considered by NIAID to offer the best opportunities for the most successful accomplishment of the acquisition objectives.

It is the policy of this Department to provide a debriefing to offerors who have unsuccessfully competed for a DHHS acquisition. If you desire a debriefing, please refer to FAR 15.505 – Pre-award debriefings of offerors and FAR 15.506 – Post-award debriefings of offerors. Your request must be submitted in writing to the Contracting Officer within 3 days from your receipt of this notification and your request must indicate if you are requesting a pre-award or post-award debriefing.

Absent receipt of a timely written request, the Government is not obligated to provide a pre-award or post-award debriefing. You are entitled to no more than one debriefing on this acquisition.

The NIAID appreciates your submission and looks forward to your continued interest in our future acquisitions.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

Liem T. Nguyen
Contracting Officer, AIT Contracts Branch



Tulane University

Tulane University Health Sciences Center
Sponsored Projects Administration, EP-15
1430 Tulane Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70112
(504) 588-5613
(504) 584-1748 Fax

Kathleen M. Kozar
Director
Email: kkozar@tulane.edu

August 1, 2014

Liem T. Nguyen
Contracting Officer, AIT Contracts Branch
NIH/ NIAID
Office of Acquisitions, DEA
6700B Rockledge Drive, Room 3214, MSC 7612
Bethesda, MD 20892-7612

Subject: Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) NIAID-DAIT2013164
Title: Roles of Protective or Pathogenic B Cell Epitopes in Human Lassa Fever

Dear Dr. Nguyen:

Per the instructions in your letter to me dated July 30, 2014 I am hereby requesting a post-award debriefing in accordance with FAR 15.506 for the proposal submitted by Tulane University to the referenced BAA. Please advise when we may expect the debriefing to occur.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

(b)(6)

Kathleen Kozar
Director, Sponsored Projects Administration

From: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Fri, 8 Aug 2014 11:07:20 -0400
To: Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Bahrami, Tom (NIH/NIAID) [E]; White, Brandon (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: RE: media inquiries

Absolutely. Thanks, David.

Stacy

From: Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Friday, August 08, 2014 11:06 AM
To: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Bahrami, Tom (NIH/NIAID) [E]; White, Brandon (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: RE: media inquiries

Hi Stacy,

That response is perfectly acceptable. But... Given Dr. Rotrosen's latest e-mail regarding seeking a short-term solution, I think it might be best to wait until he gives the okay to send this response. Agree? Thanks.

David T. Lisle
Contracting Officer
Branch Chief, DAIT RCB / OA / DEA
NIAID / NIH / DHHS
6700-B Rockledge Dr., Rm. 3214, MSC 7612
Bethesda, MD 20892-7612
(b)(6) - Direct
301-496-0612 - Branch
301-402-0972 - Fax
E-mail: DL115Q@nih.gov
For Express Mail change zip code to 20817-7612

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From: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Friday, August 08, 2014 10:56 AM
To: Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]

Cc: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Bahrami, Tom (NIH/NIAID) [E]; White, Brandon (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: RE: media inquiries

Quick draft of my response to Pardis below.

David or Tom, please let me know if this is okay. I don't want to send it until it's been checked for potential issues.

Dear Pardis,

My understanding of Federal contract regulations is that use of contract funds for purposes not included in the Statement of Work is considered mis-use of Federal contract funds and that we cannot allow the Ebola work to be charged to the B cell epitope discovery contract. That said, my opinion on this type of question should not be considered official because I am not authorized to make decisions of this type. I have copied on this email the Contracting staff associated with contract, who will correct or clarify my response if necessary.

Any formal requests to charge Ebola-related expenses to the Lassa Fever B Cell Epitope Discovery contract should be sent to Tom Bahrami by either James Robinson or Bob Garry.
Thank you for checking with me before charging these expenses to the contract.

Best,
Stacy

From: Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Friday, August 08, 2014 8:56 AM
To: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Bahrami, Tom (NIH/NIAID) [E]; White, Brandon (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: RE: media inquiries

Hi Stacy,

Your analysis is spot on! We can not allow these charges as they are well outside the bounds of the scope of our contracts.

I'd like to defer to you as to how best to respond. We can make an official OA response, but it would have to be to Tulane as the prime. As this seemed to be an informal inquiry from Pardis (as a sub), I also don't want to put her in an embarrassing position. Would you prefer to respond to Pardis and let her know you talked to us and we informed you that we can't allow the charges? We're happy to proceed either way with respect to ensuring a smooth working relationship – just let us know. Thanks.

David T. Lisle
Contracting Officer
Branch Chief, DAIT RCB / OA / DEA
NIAID / NIH / DHHS
6700-B Rockledge Dr., Rm. 3214, MSC 7612
Bethesda, MD 20892-7612

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From: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 8:42 PM
To: Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Bahrami, Tom (NIH/NIAID) [E]; White, Brandon (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: RE: media inquiries

Dear David et al,

I now have additional issues that need to be addressed with Tulane since I just received an email from Pardis Sabeti this evening and need instructions from OA. Pardis is a sub-contractor on both the currently funded Tulane B cell epitope contract and the proposal currently in negotiation.

Her question is regarding the currently funded Tulane contract and normally, I would respond to her but would still be referring her to Tom Bahrami and Brandon White for a formal response. I have copied Tom and Brandon on this email since they are the CO and COS on the relevant contract. I will forward the email from Pardis after sending this one.

Pardis states that two people working under the Lassa Fever B cell epitope contract were working on Ebola instead of the Lassa Fever contract for a month and wants to know if it's okay to charge these costs to the Lassa Fever contract. She would acknowledge the contract on what will likely be a high profile paper with the Ebola sequences she generated.

I will defer to you because I don't believe that I have the authority to give a formal answer to her questions. Also, I have always been EXTREMELY cautious in the type of question I'm willing to respond to without directions from OA staff and this one is clearly one I'm unwilling to answer without OA guidance. These are my opinions, for what they are worth.

We should NOT allow these charges for those following reasons:

1. The work is outside the scope of the Lassa Fever contract. Last year another incumbent contractor asked me if it was okay to use unspent contract funds to work on another unrelated pathogen not included in her proposal. I told her I believed that this would be considered misuse of contract funds but stated that a formal response would need to come from Tom and Brandon. I copied them on the response, asking them to comment. Tom confirmed my response. I think that this situation is comparable except that we were not asked for prior approval.

(b)(5)

Please advise. While I have not responded to questions regarding the current competition, I think that I am clearly responsible for providing a response to questions about the active contract either directly or through OA.

Thanks,
Stacy

Stacy E. Ferguson, Ph.D.
Program Officer, Basic Immunology Branch
Division of Allergy, Immunology and Transplantation
NIAID, NIH
Room 6400n
6610 Rockledge Drive
Bethesda, MD 20892-6601
Phone: (b)(6)
Fax: 301-480-2381
E-mail: (b)(6)

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From: Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 10:25 AM
To: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: RE: media inquiries

We did indeed receive the letter. We (OA) will respond as appropriate. Tulane was indeed informed of their exclusion from the competition and offered the opportunity for a debriefing – and the below mentioned letter was their response. We will clarify with Tulane as to their intent to request a debriefing.

Stacy, in the interim, please begin preparing the technical debriefing reasons we did not select Tulane for an award. I know that these reasons are provided in your recommendation memo which is being routed for Dr. McGowan's approval (attached), but I want to give you the opportunity to draft those reasons (and any other technical issues not resolved) in a format which can be provided to Tulane. Thanks.

David T. Lisle
Contracting Officer
Branch Chief, DAIT RCB / OA / DEA
NIAID / NIH / DHHS
6700-B Rockledge Dr., Rm. 3214, MSC 7612
Bethesda, MD 20892-7612
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From: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 10:13 AM
To: Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: FW: media inquiries

FYI:

I got this email this morning and have no intention of responding unless instructed to do so.

Also, I am postponing my trip to Chapel Hill for next Thursday-Sunday instead of today through Sunday.

Stacy

From: Garry, Robert F [<mailto:rfgarry@tulane.edu>]
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 8:28 AM
To: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Repik, Patricia (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: media inquiries

Dear Stacy,

I have been getting a barrage of media inquiries . I am not certain of the source, but, as in the past there have been a number of "media briefings" distributed widely to the press related to Tulane's "activities" in Sierra Leone.

This time apparently it is about a how (b)(6)

This latest briefing appears to be (b)(6)

Anyway, I have very much tried and tried to emphasize to the latest media inquiries that NIH has been and is very supportive of our research, and that (b)(6)

(b)(6)

And, I'll get the final B cell report to you ASAP (day or so). Sorry, that it's overdue.

Best regards,

Bob

From: Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Fri, 8 Aug 2014 09:31:28 -0400
To: Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Bahrami, Tom (NIH/NIAID) [E]; White, Brandon (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: RE: media inquiries

Dr. Rotrosen,

(b)(5)

David T. Lisle
Contracting Officer
Branch Chief, DAIT RCB / OA / DEA
NIAID / NIH / DHHS
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From: Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Friday, August 08, 2014 9:20 AM
To: Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Bahrami, Tom (NIH/NIAID) [E]; White, Brandon (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: Re: media inquiries

Stacy,

(b)(5)

(b)(5)

Thanks, Dan

On Aug 8, 2014, at 8:55 AM, "Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]" <dlisle@niaid.nih.gov> wrote:

Hi Stacy,

Your analysis is spot on! We can not allow these charges as they are well outside the bounds of the scope of our contracts.

I'd like to defer to you as to how best to respond. We can make an official OA response, but it would have to be to Tulane as the prime. As this seemed to be an informal inquiry from Pardis (as a sub), I also don't want to put her in an embarrassing position. Would you prefer to respond to Pardis and let her know you talked to us and we informed you that we can't allow the charges? We're happy to proceed either way with respect to ensuring a smooth working relationship – just let us know. Thanks.

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Cc: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Bahrami, Tom (NIH/NIAID) [E]; White, Brandon (NIH/NIAID) [E]
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Stacy E. Ferguson, Ph.D.
Program Officer, Basic Immunology Branch
Division of Allergy, Immunology and Transplantation
NIAID, NIH
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To: Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: FW: media inquiries

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Stacy

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Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 8:28 AM
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Cc: Repik, Patricia (NIH/NIAID) [E]
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(b)(6)

This latest briefing appears to be (b)(6)

(b)(6)

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(b)(6)

And, I'll get the final B cell report to you ASAP (day or so). Sorry, that it's overdue.

Best regards,

Bob

From: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thu, 7 Aug 2014 20:48:58 -0400
To: Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: FW: funding from Bcell for Ebola
Attachments: GireCompleteSubmission.pdf

Liem,

I think your email address got dropped from this email so I'm resending.

Stacy

From: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 8:46 PM
To: Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Bahrami, Tom (NIH/NIAID) [E]; White, Brandon (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: FW: funding from Bcell for Ebola

All:

This is the question I received from Pardis Sabeti, referenced in the email I just sent to you.

Stacy

From: Pardis Sabeti [pardis@broadinstitute.org]
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 6:37 PM
To: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Robert Garry; Giovanni, Maria (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: Re: funding from Bcell for Ebola

Hi Stacy,

I forgot to include the manuscript. Here it is attached.

Pardis

On Thu, Aug 7, 2014 at 6:35 PM, Pardis Sabeti <pardis@broadinstitute.org> wrote:
Dear Stacy,

I hope that all is well. As you know, over the last 5 years with your NIAID Bcell award we have developed techniques for Lassa, and we put these methods to great use to rapidly sequence 99 Ebola

virus samples to 2000x coverage. The NIH Innovator paid for the sequencing reagents, sequencing and sample shipment.

Since our Lassa viral sequencing we deprioritized temporarily, two of our staff working on the Bcell, (b)(6) all spent a month working on this project. It is a small expense and we can place them on other grants for the month, but I wanted to check with you first.

I am writing here to see if we should acknowledge the Bcell for this sequencing (which we would love to do) or if you prefer if we move off the 2 personnel for the month and not acknowledge the grant.

We love NIAID and always want to acknowledge your tremendous support, but I know there are sensitivities around the outbreak, and so we only want to do what recommend.

Thank you,

Pardis

--

Pardis Sabeti, MD, DPhil
Associate Professor, Harvard University
Center for Systems Biology
Department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology
Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard

Assistant: (b)(6)
Phone: (b)(6)
Website: www.sabetilab.org

--

Pardis Sabeti, MD, DPhil
Associate Professor, Harvard University
Center for Systems Biology
Department of Organismic and Evolutionary Biology
Broad Institute of MIT and Harvard

Assistant: (b)(6)
Phone: (b)(6)
Website: www.sabetilab.org

(b)(4); (b)(6)

Page 031 of 404 to Page 087 of 404

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4); (b)(6)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

From: Pham, Mylinh (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thu, 7 Aug 2014 11:17:51 -0400
To: kkozar@tulane.edu
Cc: Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Garry, Robert F (rfgarry@tulane.edu); jrobinso@tulane.edu; Jenniskens, Tami G; Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: FW: Letter to Tulane Univ_BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164.
Attachments: Letter to Tulane Univ_BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164

Dear Dr. Kozar,

After receiving your request for a post-award debriefing dated August 1, we received the attached letter from Dr. Garry, dated August 6. While we understand the disappointment at not having been selected for an award conveyed in Dr. Garry's letter, the NIAID also recognizes that Tulane was offered multiple opportunities to respond and revise their proposal during the course of negotiations. Due to the receipt of this subsequent letter, we ask that you please confirm your request for a post-award debriefing as communicated in your August 1 letter. Thank you.

MyLinh Pham

**Contract Specialist
DAIT RCB/OA/DEA
NIAID/NIH/DHHS**

6700-B Rockledge Dr., Rm.3240, MSC 7612

Tel: 301-496-0993

Fax: 301-402-0972

Email: phamm@exchange.nih.gov

From: Pham, Mylinh (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Tuesday, August 05, 2014 11:40 AM
To: 'Kozar, Kathleen M'
Subject: RE: Letter to Tulane Univ_BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164.

Dear Kathleen,

Yes, we received the email and will providing Post-award debriefing when contract awarded.

With bests,
MyLinh

MyLinh Pham

**Contract Specialist
DAIT RCB/OA/DEA
NIAID/NIH/DHHS**

6700-B Rockledge Dr., Rm.3240, MSC 7612

Tel: 301-496-0993

Fax: 301-402-0972

Email: phamm@exchange.nih.gov

From: Kozar, Kathleen M [<mailto:kkozar@tulane.edu>]
Sent: Tuesday, August 05, 2014 11:04 AM
To: Pham, Mylinh (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: FW: Letter to Tulane Univ_BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164.

Dear MyLinh:
Can you kindly confirm that you received this email last Friday?
Thank you,
Kathleen

Kathleen M. Kozar
Director, Sponsored Projects Administration
Tulane University

From: Kozar, Kathleen M
Sent: Friday, August 01, 2014 3:52 PM
To: Pham, Mylinh (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Robinson, James E; 'Garry, Robert F'; Jenniskens, Tami G
Subject: RE: Letter to Tulane Univ_BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164.

Dear MyLinh:

Attached is a request for a debriefing for the proposal we submitted in response to the solicitation BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164.

Could you kindly acknowledge receipt of this email?

Many thanks.

Sincerely,
Kathleen

Kathleen M. Kozar
Director, Sponsored Projects Administration

(b)(6)

From: Pham, Mylinh (NIH/NIAID) [E] [<mailto:phamm@exchange.nih.gov>]
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2014 3:30 PM
To: Kozar, Kathleen M
Cc: jrobinson@tulane.edu; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: Letter to Tulane Univ_BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164.

Please respond to acknowledge your receiving of this email.

Dear Ms. Kozar,

Enclosed is a letter regarding to negotiation decision of your proposal submitted in response to the solicitation BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164.

Should you have questions, please let us know.

Thank you,
MyLinh

MyLinh Pham

Contract Specialist

DAIT RCB/OA/DEA

NIAID/NIH/DHHS

6700-B Rockledge Dr., Rm.3240, MSC 7612

Tel: 301-496-0993

Fax: 301-402-0972

Email: phamm@exchange.nih.gov

From: Garry, Robert F
Sent: Wed, 6 Aug 2014 15:26:06 +0000
To: Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Pham, Mylinh (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Pardis Sabeti; Erica Ollmann Saphire; Thomas W. Geisbert; Luis Branco -
ZalgenLabs.com; Russell Wilson; Doug Simpson; Robinson, James E; Augustine Goba; Christian Happi
Subject: Letter to Tulane Univ_BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164
Attachments: B cell letter.pdf

Dear Dr. Pham,

Please see the attached letter submitted on behalf of a number of colleagues.

Thank you for your consideration.

James Robinson
Bob Garry

From: Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thu, 7 Aug 2014 14:41:15 +0000
To: Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: RE: media inquiries
Attachments: RE: Letter to Tulane Univ_BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164.

Dave,

Tulane submitted a request for Post-Award debriefing. See attached.

From: Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 10:37 AM
To: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: RE: media inquiries

We'll respond and clarify regarding Tulane's latest letter today and I'd like to be able to provide them the written debriefing early next week. If you could have me something by mid-morning on Monday, I believe that should be sufficient. Thanks.

David T. Lisle
Contracting Officer
Branch Chief, DAIT RCB / OA / DEA
NIAID / NIH / DHHS
6700-B Rockledge Dr., Rm. 3214, MSC 7612
Bethesda, MD 20892-7612
(b)(6) - Direct
301-496-0612 - Branch
301-402-0972 - Fax
E-mail: DL115Q@nih.gov
For Express Mail change zip code to 20817-7612

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From: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 10:32 AM
To: Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: RE: media inquiries

David,

I will begin working on this. Is there a specific deadline? I will try to get it done today.

I can provide more thorough lists of concerns. I will first prepare an internal draft list for your review and then ask you and Liem to remove any that you do not think should be in the final version sent to Tulane.

Stacy

From: Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 10:26 AM
To: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: RE: media inquiries

We did indeed receive the letter. We (OA) will respond as appropriate. Tulane was indeed informed of their exclusion from the competition and offered the opportunity for a debriefing – and the below mentioned letter was their response. We will clarify with Tulane as to their intent to request a debriefing.

Stacy, in the interim, please begin preparing the technical debriefing reasons we did not select Tulane for an award. I know that these reasons are provided in your recommendation memo which is being routed for Dr. McGowan's approval (attached), but I want to give you the opportunity to draft those reasons (and any other technical issues not resolved) in a format which can be provided to Tulane. Thanks.

David T. Lisle
Contracting Officer
Branch Chief, DAIT RCB / OA / DEA
NIAID / NIH / DHHS
6700-B Rockledge Dr., Rm. 3214, MSC 7612
Bethesda, MD 20892-7612
(b)(6) - Direct
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From: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 10:13 AM
To: Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: FW: media inquiries

FYI:

I got this email this morning and have no intention of responding unless instructed to do so.

Also, I am postponing my trip to Chapel Hill for next Thursday-Sunday instead of today through Sunday.

Stacy

From: Garry, Robert F [<mailto:rfgarry@tulane.edu>]

Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 8:28 AM

To: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]

Cc: Repik, Patricia (NIH/NIAID) [E]

Subject: media inquiries

Dear Stacy,

I have been getting a barrage of media inquiries . I am not certain of the source, but, as in the past there have been a number of "media briefings" distributed widely to the press related to Tulane's "activities" in Sierra Leone.

This time apparently it is about a how (b)(6)

(b)(6)

This latest briefing appears to be (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Anyway, I have very much tried and tried to emphasize to the latest media inquiries that NIH has been and is very supportive of our research, and that (b)(6)

(b)(6)

And, I'll get the final B cell report to you ASAP (day or so). Sorry, that it's overdue.

Best regards,

Bob

From: Kozar, Kathleen M
Sent: Fri, 1 Aug 2014 20:51:58 +0000
To: Pham, Mylinh (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Robinson, James E; Garry, Robert F; Jenniskens, Tami G
Subject: RE: Letter to Tulane Univ_BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164.
Attachments: Request for Debriefing for NIAID-DAIT2013164.doc.pdf

Dear MyLinh:

Attached is a request for a debriefing for the proposal we submitted in response to the solicitation BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164.

Could you kindly acknowledge receipt of this email?

Many thanks.

Sincerely,
Kathleen

Kathleen M. Kozar
Director, Sponsored Projects Administration

(b)(6)

From: Pham, Mylinh (NIH/NIAID) [E] [mailto:phamm@exchange.nih.gov]
Sent: Wednesday, July 30, 2014 3:30 PM
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Cc: jrobinson@tulane.edu; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: Letter to Tulane Univ_BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164.

Please respond to acknowledge your receiving of this email.

Dear Ms. Kozar,

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Should you have questions, please let us know.

Thank you,
MyLinh

MyLinh Pham
Contract Specialist

**DAIT RCB/OA/DEA
NIAID/NIH/DHHS
6700-B Rockledge Dr., Rm.3240, MSC 7612
Tel: 301-496-0993
Fax: 301-402-0972
Email: phamm@exchange.nih.gov**

From: Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thu, 7 Aug 2014 10:25:57 -0400
To: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: RE: media inquiries
Attachments: NIHA12013164 B Cell award request.pdf

We did indeed receive the letter. We (OA) will respond as appropriate. Tulane was indeed informed of their exclusion from the competition and offered the opportunity for a debriefing – and the below mentioned letter was their response. We will clarify with Tulane as to their intent to request a debriefing.

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David T. Lisle
Contracting Officer
Branch Chief, DAIT RCB / OA / DEA
NIAID / NIH / DHHS
6700-B Rockledge Dr., Rm. 3214, MSC 7612
Bethesda, MD 20892-7612
(b)(6) - Direct
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From: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 10:13 AM
To: Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: FW: media inquiries

FYI:

I got this email this morning and have no intention of responding unless instructed to do so.

Also, I am postponing my trip to Chapel Hill for next Thursday-Sunday instead of today through Sunday.

Stacy

From: Garry, Robert F [<mailto:rfgarry@tulane.edu>]
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 8:28 AM
To: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Repik, Patricia (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: media inquiries

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This time apparently it is about a how

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

This latest briefing appears to be

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Anyway, I have very much tried and tried to emphasize to the latest media inquiries that NIH has been and is very supportive of our research, and that

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

And, I'll get the final B cell report to you ASAP (day or so). Sorry, that it's overdue.

Best regards,

Bob

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Public Health Service
National Institutes of Health

Phone: 301-496-0612
Fax: 301-480-5253

MEMORANDUM

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
DEA, Contract Management Program
6700-B Rockledge Drive, Room 3214, MSC 7612
Bethesda, MD 20892-7612

DATE: August 4, 2014

FROM: Liam T Nguyen, Contracting Officer, AIT-RCB, OA, DEA, NIAID

THROUGH: David T. Lisle, Contracting Officer, Chief AIT-RCB, OA, DEA, NIAID
Charles W. Grewe, Director, OA, DEA, NIAID (b)(6) 8/7/14
Matthew J. Fenton, Director, DEA, NAID

TO: John J. McGowan, Deputy Director for Science Management & Operation, NIAID

SUBJECT: BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164 – B-Cell Epitope Discovery and
Mechanism of Antibody Protection
Pre-Award Objective

Dear Dr. McGowan,

This memo serves as my request for concurrence to enter negotiations with offerors out of technical score order under the subject procurement. Our Program Office has informed us that they would like to award five (5) contracts to the top eight (8) offerors and provided the attached recommendation memo as justification. The below table provides a summary of the technical scores and program award recommendations.

Offer Number	Offeror	Technical Score	Acceptable (A) Or Unacceptable (U)	Negotiate Or Not	Award
(b)(4); (b)(5)					

The current Source Section Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) states, "If awarding a contract or contracts under a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) and the award decision is out of sequence of the initial scores of the SRG, document the rationale in a memo to the NIAID Deputy Director for Science Management to be routed through the applicable OA Branch Chief, OA Director, and DEA Director."

The SOP references that this memo be prepared during the Source Selection Determination. However, since there are a significant number of offerors being eliminated out of the top eight (8), I feel it is imperative we obtain concurrence with your office prior to making final selection for awards. It would be extremely inefficient for both the Government and offerors to enter negotiations, to only then be held up prior to source selection.

I request that this issue be reviewed and that any questions or concerns be addressed prior to the start of final selection for awards.

Respectfully,

(b)(6)

Liem T Nguyen
Contracting Officer

Concur: _____

Do Not Concur: _____

Dr. John McGowan

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Public Health Service
National Institutes of Health

Phone: 240-627-3504

MEMORANDUM

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
DAIT, Basic Immunology Branch
5601 Fishers lane, Rm 7B49
Rockville, MD 20852

DATE: July 24, 2014
FROM: Stacy E. Ferguson, Ph.D.
TO: Liem Nguyen, Contracting Officer
SUBJECT: Project Officer Recommendation BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164 "B cell epitope discovery and mechanisms of antibody protection"

In a prior memo dated January 28, 2014, Program recommended that NIAID initiate negotiations with five Offerors: (b)(4); (b)(5)

(b)(4); (b)(5)

The Project Officer also requested that the option to negotiate remain open for the following three Offerors:

(b)(4); (b)(5)

Following two rounds of negotiation with the top five potential offerors completed in June 2014, Program recommends that NIAID awards contracts to the following three Offerors:

(b)(4); (b)(5)

On 7/10/2014, Program decided to initiate negotiations with the two Offerors listed below. Due to limited of current funds availability, the Program has decided to request the two offerors to reduce the scope of their initial proposals and to limit their proposed budget to \$700,000 annually per contract.

(b)(4); (b)(5)

The Program has decided to terminate negotiation with the following three Offerors:

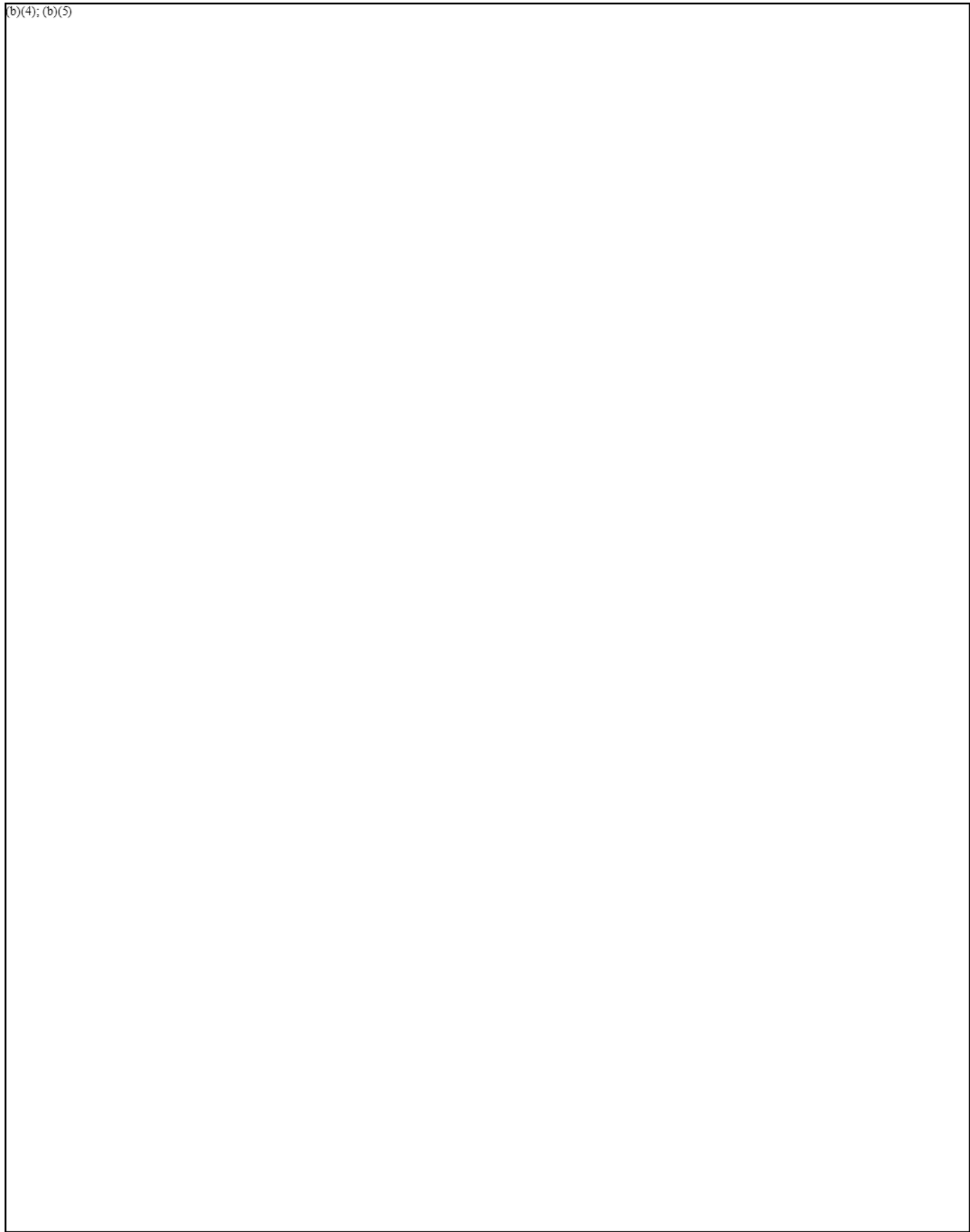
(b)(4); (b)(5)

Justification for Recommended Awards:

(b)(4); (b)(5)

Attachment 1

(b)(4); (b)(5)



Page 103 of 404 to Page 105 of 404

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4); (b)(5)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

U. S. Department of Health and Human Services
Public Health Service
National Institutes of Health

Phone: 301-451-3103
Fax: 301-480-6597

MEMORANDUM

National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
DAIT, Basic Immunology Branch
6610 Rockledge Drive, Room 6400
Bethesda, MD 20892

DATE: January 28, 2014

FROM: Stacy E. Ferguson, Ph.D.

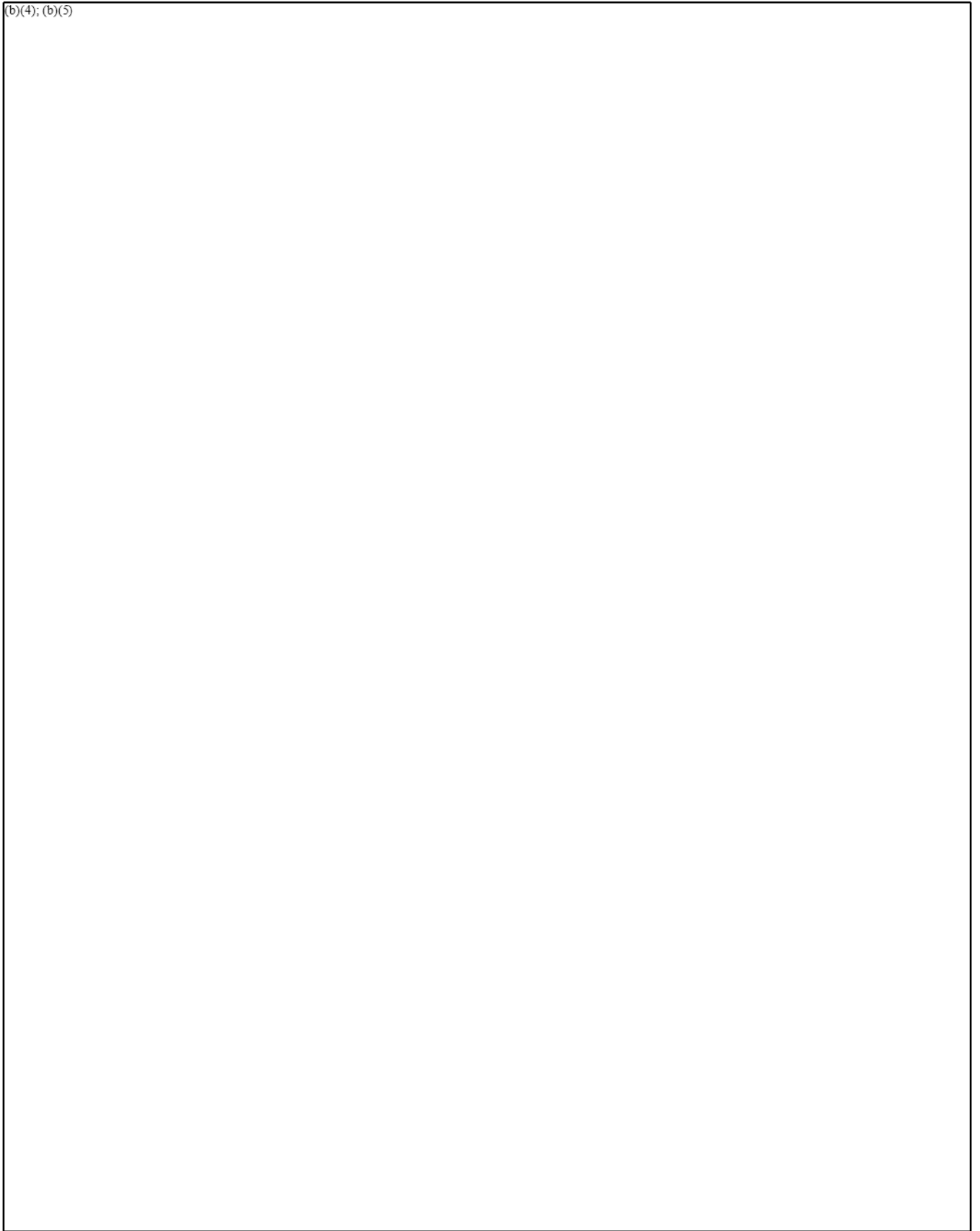
TO: Liem Nguyen and MyLinh Pham

SUBJECT: Project Officer Recommendation BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164 "B cell epitope discovery and mechanisms of antibody protection"

(b)(4); (b)(5)

Attachment 2

(b)(4); (b)(5)

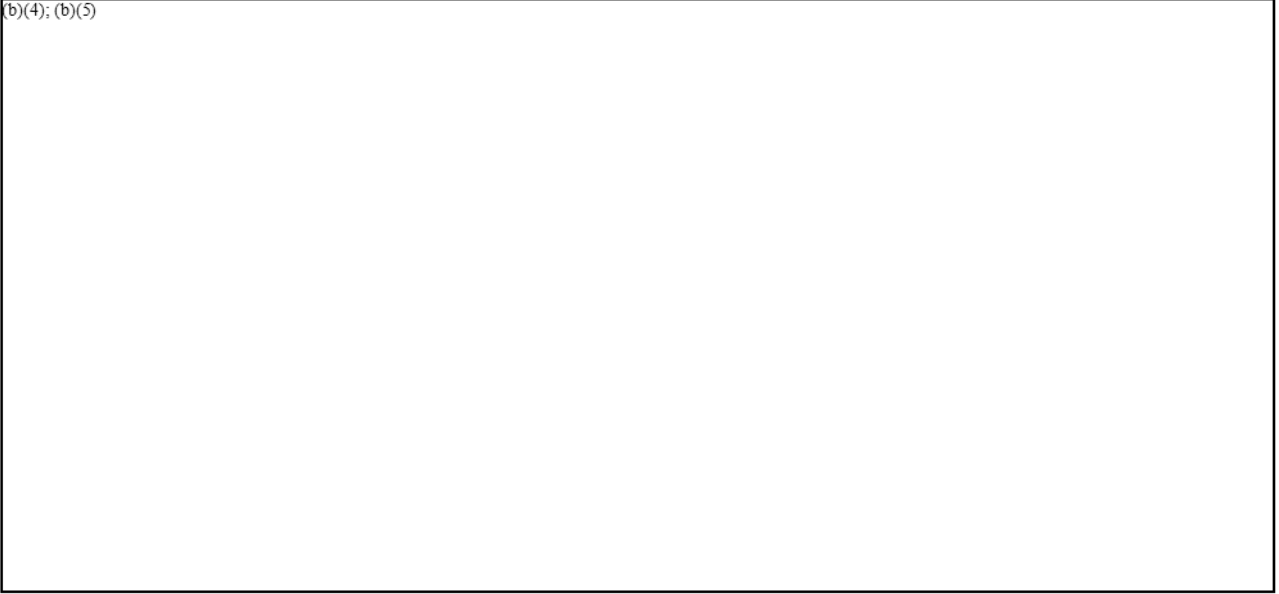


Attachment 2

(b)(4); (b)(5)

Attachment 2

(b)(4); (b)(5)



From: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thu, 7 Aug 2014 10:12:34 -0400
To: Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: FW: media inquiries
Attachments: B cell letter.pdf

FYI:

I got this email this morning and have no intention of responding unless instructed to do so.

Also, I am postponing my trip to Chapel Hill for next Thursday-Sunday instead of today through Sunday.

Stacy

From: Garry, Robert F [mailto:rfgarry@tulane.edu]
Sent: Thursday, August 07, 2014 8:28 AM
To: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Repik, Patricia (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: media inquiries

Dear Stacy,

I have been getting a barrage of media inquiries . I am not certain of the source, but, as in the past there have been a number of "media briefings" distributed widely to the press related to Tulane's "activities" in Sierra Leone.

This time apparently it is about a how (b)(6)

(b)(6)

This latest briefing appears to be (b)(6)

(b)(6)

Anyway, I have very much tried and tried to emphasize to the latest media inquiries that NIH has been and is very supportive of our research, and that (b)(6)

(b)(6)

And, I'll get the final B cell report to you ASAP (day or so). Sorry, that it's overdue.

Best regards,

Bob



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Robert F. Garry, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology

Director, Interdisciplinary Program in Cellular and Molecular Biology

Assistant Dean for Graduate Studies in Biomedical Sciences

8-6-14

MyLinh Pham

Contract Specialist

DAIT RCB/OA/DEA

NIAID/NIH/DHHS

6700-B Rockledge Dr., Rm.3240, MSC 7612

Dear Dr. Pham,

We are writing on behalf of our colleagues in the United States and Africa who have been working with the B cell epitope program for the past nearly five years. We have been extremely grateful for the generous support of the Division of Allergy, Immunology and Transplantation's B Cell Epitope Discovery and Mechanisms of Antibody Protection Program.

(b)(6)

Health Sciences Center

1430 Tulane Avenue, (b)(4) New Orleans, LA 70112-2699 tel 504.988.2027 fax 504.988.1994
rfgarry@tulane.edu www.som.tulane.edu/departments/microbiology/garry.htm www.virology.net www.virologyj.com

(b)(6)

Thank you for your consideration.

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Bob Garry

rfg

(b)(6)

From: Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Wed, 6 Aug 2014 21:41:22 +0000
To: Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: FW: URGENT: Reuters seeking info on Tulane U Lassa Fever prg
Attachments: Letter to Tulane Univ_BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164

Dave,

In related to the email below, please see the email I received this morning from Tulane. I spoke with Stacy about this and her response was their so-called 'important' research doesn't respond to the requirement of our BAA and it is not considered for award by the Program under this acquisition.

Liem

From: Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Wednesday, August 06, 2014 5:35 PM
To: Billet, Courtney (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Hackett, Charles (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Schneider, Johanna (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Oplinger, Anne (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Quill, Helen (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: RE: URGENT: Reuters seeking info on Tulane U Lassa Fever prg

Courtney and Anne,

Any comment on this to the public would be strictly prohibited by contracting regulations. We and you would be in for some serious repercussions if we were to answer these questions.

I've copied David Lisle who's the head of the DEA acquisitions branch for DAIT. He can provide suitable language from the contracting regulations if that's even needed.

Dan

(b)(5)

From: Billet, Courtney (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Wednesday, August 06, 2014 4:57 PM
To: Rotrosen, Daniel (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Hackett, Charles (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Schneider, Johanna (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Oplinger, Anne (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: URGENT: Reuters seeking info on Tulane U Lassa Fever prg
Importance: High

Hi DAIT –can you please give us the answers to these questions from a Reuters reporter working on tight deadline? If easier to talk – Anne Oplinger is on point in my office and can be reached at (b)(6)
Can you call her ASAP?

I gather NIAID has decided not to further negotiate with Tulane University over renewing that organization's Lassa Fever program ("Roles of Protective or Pathogenic B Cell Epitopes in Human Lassa Fever). As a result funding to two labs in Africa at the forefront of the ebola battle may struggle to stay afloat.

- 1) Could NIAID provide further detail as to why it rejected the proposal – beyond the general comment that it was based on technical factors, scientific priority and availability of funds."
- 2) Would NIAID reconsider its decision in light of the fact that the Sierra Leone facility in particular is currently looking after dozens of ebola victims, was the first lab to diagnose the problem and is one of only two labs focusing on these type of fevers in the world.

I am on a very tight deadline and expect to be reporting this today.

From: Garry, Robert F
Sent: Wed, 6 Aug 2014 15:26:06 +0000
To: Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Pham, Mylinh (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Pardis Sabeti; Erica Ollmann Saphire; Thomas W. Geisbert; Luis Branco -
ZalgenLabs.com; Russell Wilson; Doug Simpson; Robinson, James E; Augustine Goba; Christian Happi
Subject: Letter to Tulane Univ_BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164
Attachments: B cell letter.pdf

Dear Dr. Pham,

Please see the attached letter submitted on behalf of a number of colleagues.

Thank you for your consideration.

James Robinson
Bob Garry

From: Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Wed, 6 Aug 2014 15:39:49 +0000
To: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Pham, Mylinh (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: FW: Letter to Tulane Univ_BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164
Attachments: B cell letter.pdf

Stacy,

FYI. I don't think it will make any change in your decision but just in case, please let me know if there is.

Thanks,

Liem

From: Garry, Robert F [mailto:rfgarry@tulane.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, August 06, 2014 11:26 AM
To: Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Pham, Mylinh (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Pardis Sabeti; Erica Ollmann Saphire; Thomas W. Geisbert; Luis Branco - ZalgenLabs.com; Russell Wilson; Doug Simpson; Robinson, James E; Augustine Goba; Christian Happi
Subject: Letter to Tulane Univ_BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164

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Bob Garry



SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Robert F. Garry, Ph.D.

Professor, Department of Microbiology and Immunology

Director, Interdisciplinary Program in Cellular and Molecular Biology

Assistant Dean for Graduate Studies in Biomedical Sciences

8-6-14

MyLinh Pham

Contract Specialist

DAIT RCB/OA/DEA

NIAID/NIH/DHHS

6700-B Rockledge Dr., Rm.3240, MSC 7612

Dear Dr. Pham,

We are writing on behalf of our colleagues in the United States and Africa who have been working with the B cell epitope program for the past nearly five years. We have been extremely grateful for the generous support of the Division of Allergy, Immunology and Transplantation's B Cell Epitope Discovery and Mechanisms of Antibody Protection Program.

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Thank you for your consideration.

(b)(6)

(b)(6)

Bob Garry

rfg

(b)(6)

From: Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thu, 26 Dec 2013 15:41:41 +0000
To: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Pham, Mylinh (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: FW: TER for BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164, "B Cell Epitope Discovery and Mechanisms of Antibody Protection"-CORRECTION
Attachments: TER__B cell epitope discovery FINAL CORRECTED.pdf

Hello Stacy and Alison,

Please find attached the correct version of the TER. An error on page 41 as you had mentioned was corrected. Please let us know if you catch any other errors.

Thanks,

Liem

From: Maric, Maja (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thursday, December 26, 2013 10:21 AM
To: Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Pham, Mylinh (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Maric, Maja (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: TER for BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164, "B Cell Epitope Discovery and Mechanisms of Antibody Protection"-CORRECTION

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Date: December 26, 2013

To: Concerned Staff

From: Tahlia Patterson, Extramural Support Assistant

For: Maja Maric, Ph.D.

Subject: TER for BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164, "B Cell Epitope Discovery and Mechanisms of Antibody Protection"

Attached please find the completed Technical Evaluation Report for the review of the response to RFP BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164, "B Cell Epitope Discovery and Mechanisms of Antibody Protection". For additional information, please contact Dr. Maja Maric at 301-451-2634. This email is being distributed to the appropriate staff in

the NIAID Office of Acquisitions. You are responsible for the distribution of this document to the appropriate staff for this solicitation.

<<INSERT TER FILE HERE>>

DEA Number

ADMINISTRATIVE CONFIDENTIAL

**NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ALLERGY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**SPECIAL REVIEW OF PROPOSALS IN RESPONSE TO
BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164**

"B cell epitope discovery and mechanisms of antibody protection"

(b)(4); (b)(5)

Page 122 of 404 to Page 254 of 404

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4); (b)(5)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

From: Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thu, 19 Dec 2013 19:59:59 +0000
To: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Deckhut, Alison (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Pham, Mylinh (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: FW: TER for RFP BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164, "B Cell Epitope Discovery and Mechanisms of Antibody Protection"
Attachments: TER__B cell epitope discovery FINALDec192013.pdf

Hello Stacy and Alison,

We have just received the official TER from SRP, attached here for your info.

As we discussed last week, with the holidays approach and many of us will be out of the office starting tomorrow, we will push back the date to open negotiation to Jan 16, 2014. We look forward to receiving the technical questions from you by next Friday, 12/27.

I will be in the office thru Dec 31, if you have any question for me.

Thank you,

Liem

From: Maric, Maja (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Thursday, December 19, 2013 2:35 PM
To: Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Pham, Mylinh (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Lisle, David (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Mehrotra, Priti (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Maric, Maja (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: TER for RFP BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164, "B Cell Epitope Discovery and Mechanisms of Antibody Protection"

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Date: December 18, 2013
To: Concerned Staff
From: Tahlia Patterson, Extramural Support Assistant
For: Maja Maric, Ph.D.

Subject: TER for RFP BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164, "B Cell Epitope Discovery and Mechanisms of Antibody Protection"

Attached please find the completed Technical Evaluation Report for the review of the response to RFP BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164, "B Cell Epitope Discovery and Mechanisms of Antibody Protection". For additional information, please contact Dr. Maja Maric at 301-451-2634. This email is being distributed to the appropriate staff in the NIAID Office of Acquisitions. You are responsible for the distribution of this document to the appropriate staff for this solicitation.

<<INSERT TER FILE HERE>>

DEA Number: (b)(4)

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**NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH
NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ALLERGY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASES
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**

**SPECIAL REVIEW OF PROPOSALS IN RESPONSE TO
BAA-NIAID-DAIT-NIHAI2013164**

"B cell epitope discovery and mechanisms of antibody protection"

(b)(4); (b)(5)

Page 258 of 404 to Page 390 of 404

Withheld pursuant to exemption

(b)(4); (b)(5)

of the Freedom of Information and Privacy Act

From: Maric, Maja (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Sent: Fri, 15 Nov 2013 19:18:42 -0500
To: Nguyen, Liem (NIH/NIAID) [E]; Pham, Mylinh (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Cc: Ferguson, Stacy (NIH/NIAID) [E]
Subject: TER drafts for B cell epitope contracts
Attachments: (b)(4) BDP2MM.docx, Tulane UniversityBDP2MM.docx

Hello All,

Please find attached DRAFTS of TERs for (b)(4) and Tulane University. Additional 4 TERs are already written, but are being reviewed. I will send them to you as they get ready. I did TERs for 6 highest scoring proposals first, as that should give you heads up for the negotiations.

Maja

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(b)(4); (b)(5)

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