

Exhibit A - Written Justification for Sec. 040(a)(1)

Professional Services Contract between

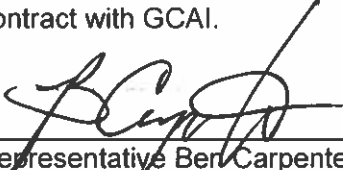
**Legislative Budget & Audit Committee
and
Gaffney, Cline & Associates, Inc.**

Under section 040(a)(1) of the Legislative Procurement Procedures, I find it is not practicable to award this contract by competitive sealed bidding, competitive sealed proposals, or other competitive method. Further, it is in the best interests of the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee (Committee) to award a contract to Gaffney, Cline & Associates, Inc., (GCAI).

It is not practicable to award this contract by a competitive method. On January 29, 2024, the Committee posted Request for Proposals (RFP) 24-33-02 seeking firms that offer economic expertise in Alaska natural resource fiscal systems, including oil and gas systems, gas pipelines, carbon offsets, carbon credits, carbon storage projects, and the development and operation of liquid natural gas infrastructure. GCAI was the only respondent to the RFP. However, the Committee chose not to award a contract to GCAI due to concerns that GCAI could not provide services in the scope described in the RFP because GCAI is already contracted by the executive branch for a similar scope of services. The contract with the executive branch presents a conflict of interest for the Committee, which is tasked with ensuring the recommendations of the executive branch are sound. Independent analysis is required to ensure that this is the case.

It would be time-consuming and impractical to resolicit for these services. Since it is necessary to act immediately to secure these commitments to assure the availability of these professional resources which are essential to the Committee, this contract employs GCAI for the portion of the work in the RFP unrelated to the work GCAI is doing for the executive branch. In sum, the competitive method required by the Committee did not result in an offer that met the needs of the Committee, therefore, it is not practicable to award this contract by competitive method.

Awarding the contract to GCAI is in the best interest of the Committee. Due to the limited time available to complete necessary work for the legislative session, it is in the best interest of the Committee to carve out services related to Cook Inlet and award this portion of the desired work directly to GCAI. The Committee's best interest will be served because there is an immediate need for the services provided by GCAI and GCAI has unique capabilities, professional knowledge, and experience with Alaska's oil and gas fiscal systems. GCAI can also provide senior personnel on short notice for presentations as needed by legislative committees during a possible special session in the interim. For these reasons, it is in the best interest of the Committee to contract with GCAI.


Representative Bert Carpenter
Chair, Legislative Budget and Audit Committee
Procurement Officer

4-22-24
Date