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| itation Response(SR) Dept: 070 | 8 ID: ESR052     | 3170000005734 | Ver.: 1 Funct  | ion: New Pl | ase: Final | ✓ Mo         | dified by batch , | 05/23/2017       |                       |               |            |           |
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| Procurement Folder:            | 328218           |               |                |             |            |              | SO Doc Co         | de: CRFQ         |                       |               |            |           |
| Procurement Type:              | Central Contract | - Fixed Amt   |                |             |            |              | SO D              | ept: 0708        |                       |               |            |           |
| Vendor ID:                     | VS000007569      | 2             |                |             |            |              | SO Doc            | ID: ABC170       | 000002                |               |            |           |
| Legal Name:                    | Maher Duessel    |               |                |             |            |              | Published D       | ate: 5/3/17      |                       |               |            |           |
| Alias/DBA:                     |                  |               |                |             |            |              | Close D           | ate: 5/23/17     |                       |               |            |           |
|                                |                  |               |                |             |            |              |                   |                  |                       |               |            |           |
| Total Bid:                     | \$173,000.00     |               |                |             |            |              | Close Ti          | me: 13:30        |                       |               |            |           |
| Response Date:                 | 05/23/2017       |               |                |             |            |              | Stat              | tus: Closed      |                       |               |            |           |
| Response Time:                 | 9:04             |               |                |             |            | Solic        | itation Descripti | on: Annual WVABC | External Audits of th | • 0           |            |           |
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Purchasing Division 2019 Washington Street East Post Office Box 50130 Charleston, WV 25305-0130

# State of West Virginia Solicitation Response

|              | roc Folder : 328218 olicitation Description : A | Annual E   | ternal Audits of the WVABCA |         |  |
|--------------|---|------------|-----------------------------|---------|--|
| Р            | roc Type : Central Contra                       | act - Fixe | d Amt                       |         |  |
| Date issued  | Solicitation Closes                             | Solicita   | tion Response               | Version |  |
|              | 2017-05-23                                      | SR         | 0708 ESR0523170000005734    | 1       |  |
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Maher Duessel

 Solicitation Number:
 CRFQ
 0708
 ABC170000002

 Total Bid :
 \$173,000.00
 Response Date:
 2017-05-23
 Response Time:
 09:04:41

**Comments:** 

| FOR INFORMATION CONTACT THE BUYER            |        |      |
|--|--------|------|
| Michelle L Childers                          |        |      |
| (304) 558-2063<br>michelle.l.childers@wv.gov |        |      |
|  |        |      |
| Signature on File                            | FEIN # | DATE |

All offers subject to all terms and conditions contained in this solicitation

| Line   | Comm Ln Desc |  | Qty                 | Unit Issue    | Unit Price           | Ln Total Or Contract Amount |  |
|--|--------------|--|---------------------|---------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|--|
| 1 All Inclusive Auditing Services per<br>Contract Specifications |              |  |                     |               |                      | \$173,000.00                |  |
| Comm Code Manufacturer   |              | anufacturer  | Specification Mo    |               | Model #              |                             |  |
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| Extended Des   | scription :  | Soliciting bids to provide a   | II inclusive auditi | ng services a | s per specifications | 5.                          |  |
| Comments:  |              | 2017 - \$41,000<br>2018 - \$42,500<br>2019 - \$44,000<br>2020 - \$45,500 |                     |               |                      |                             |  |

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### A Proposal to Provide Professional Auditing Services

### State of West Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control Administration



Submitted: May 23, 2017 Contact: Jeffrey W. Kent, CPA Partner Maher Duessel D.L. Clark Building 503 Martindale Street Suite 600 Pittsburgh, PA 15212 412.535.5539 jkent@md-cpas.com



Pursuing the profession while promoting the public good®



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# MaherDuesse **Certified Public Accountants**

Pittsburgh 503 Martindale Street Suite 600 Pittsburgh, PA 15212 Main 412.471.5500 Fax 412.471.5508

#### Harrisburg

3003 North Front Street Suite 101 Harrisburg, PA 17110 Main 717.232.1230 Fax 717.232.8230

### Butler

112 Hollywood Drive Suite 204 Butler, PA 16001 Main 724.285.6800 724.285.6875 Fax

May 23, 2017

Ms. Michelle L. Childers, Bid Clerk State of West Virginia Department of Administration **Purchasing Division** 2019 Washington Street East Charleston, WV 25305

Dear Ms. Childers:

Thank you for the opportunity to present Maher Duessel's proposal to provide audit services to the West Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control Administration (WVABCA). Maher Duessel was founded in 1989 to provide high-caliber auditing services to clients in the governmental and non-profit sectors, and all of our professionals have significant experience and education in both markets. Our commitment and focus to the public sector will ensure a consistent and timely audit process for WVABCA. Since February 2016, we have been providing audit assistance services to the West Virginia Department of Administration. Also, we have provided audit services for the West Virginia Supreme Court of Appeals Public Campaign Financing Option. We also are licensed as a CPA firm in West Virginia. Attached in Appendix A is a copy of our firm's license. We have enjoyed working with the State of West Virginia and we look forward to expanding our service to additional agencies. In addition to the State of West Virginia, we serve several other state entities includina the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services, the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration/Department of Transportation, Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency, and Maryland Public Service Commission.

With approximately 95 employees, we offer the personalized service of a regional accounting firm with the added value of national technical expertise on the latest regulatory changes and compliance issues in public sector accounting. Maher Duessel is unique among Pennsylvania auditing firms in that virtually every hour of our practice is devoted to serving the governmental and non-profit sectors. The firm is registered as a Small Business through the Pennsylvania Department of General Services Small Business Self Certification Program (Certification Number 176022-2014-09-SB).

We understand that the audits to be completed under this engagement are to be incorporated into the State's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR), and the State has been awarded the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting since 1995. Maher Duessel serves 13 clients that hold this prestigious GFOA Certificate of Achievement including the West Virginia Department of Administration. Your proposed Engagement Partner, Jeffrey W. Kent, CPA, serves on the GFOA's CAFR Review Committee as a Technical Reviewer and seven other members of the firm also serve on this committee. Our widespread experience with the CAFR program's requirements will provide exceptional added value when we finalize the audits.

# MaherDuessel Certified Public Accountants

Maher Duessel offers the personalized service of a regional accounting firm with the added value of national technical expertise on the latest regulatory changes and compliance issues in public sector accounting. A firm, in which all professionals are trained in and serve local governments on a daily basis, and not just occasionally, will best serve you. For over 25 years, we have proudly served governments with integrity and excellence, and we would be pleased to further expand our service in West Virginia. Please contact me at 412.535.5539 or at jkent@md-cpas.com at your convenience.

Sincerely,

JWKint

Jeffrey W. Kent, CPA Partner

Certified Public Accountants

#### **3.1 Minimum Qualifications**

Maher Duessel affirms that we have 52 CPA's in the firm. We certify that we have read and understand the statutory provisions governing the operation of the WVABCA in West Virginia and that we will be conversant concerning those statutes while engaged in the audit. If we substitute staff for the account, at any time during the term of the contract or potential renewal or extension years, the experience and qualification levels will be of a similar quality to the level of those initially proposed. We understand that WVABCA reserves the right to request staff changes throughout the term of the contract.

#### **3.2 Compliance Requirements**

#### A. Client References

As a testament to our ability to provide the highest level of service to our clients, we encourage you to contact the references below:

#### West Virginia Department of Administration

Contact Information: Mr. David Mullins West Virginia Department of Administration 2019 Washington Street East P.O. Box 50130 Charleston, WV 25305-0130 304.558.0076 dave.w.mullins@wv.gov

*Scope of Work:* Since February 2016, we have been providing audit assistance services to the West Virginia Department of Administration to ensure their continued successful participation in the GFOA's Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting program.

#### West Virginia State Election Commission

Contact Information: Mr. John Sandoro West Virginia State Election Commission Building 1 Suite 157K 1900 Kanawha Blvd. E Charleston, WV 25305-0770 304.356.2607 jsandoro@wvsos.com

*Scope of Work:* We conduct audits of the Supreme Court of Appeal Public Campaign Financing Option.

#### Port Authority of Allegheny County

Contact Information: Mr. Peter Schenk, Chief Financial Officer Port Authority of Allegheny County 345 Sixth Avenue – Third Floor Pittsburgh, PA 15222-2527 412.566.5244 pschenk@portauthority.org

*Scope of Work:* Annual Single Audits, review and certification of the Authority's statistical data, preparation of supplementary schedules for grant close outs, separate pension audits of three retirement and disability allowance plans, and special studies/projects as needed.

#### Municipality of Mt. Lebanon

Contact Information: Mr. Andrew McCreery Director of Finance Municipality of Mt. Lebanon 710 Washington Road Mt. Lebanon, PA 15228 412.343.3949 amccreery@mtlebanon.org



#### MaherDuessel Certified Public Accountants

*Scope of Work:* Annual Financial Statement Audits and preparation of the Municipality's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for successful participation in the GFOA Awards program.

#### Maryland Public Service Commission

Contact Information: Mr. Daniel Hurley Contract Manager Maryland Public Service Commission 6 St. Paul Street 16<sup>th</sup> Floor Baltimore, MD 21202 410.767.8024 daniel.hurley@maryland.gov

Scope of Work: Maher Duessel audits 16 programs funded by the Maryland Public Service Commission's Consumer Investment Fund. We work with staff to develop criteria to compare program performance to funds expended, apply the criteria to each program to compare funds expended to program results, work with staff to evaluate and audit the programs funded using the established criteria, and develop Corrective Action Plans where needed. We also conduct one financial and operational audit per program. This engagement involves the dispatch of multiple engagement team members to various program locations throughout Maryland.

#### B. Proposed Engagement Team

With professionals committed to serving the public sector, the WVABCA will be served by an engagement team with all team members having extensive experience serving governmental entities.

Jeffrey W. Kent, CPA will serve as Engagement Partner. Mr. Kent will have overall responsibility for conducting your audits and will be involved in the field, relying on his 15 years of governmental accounting experience to guide you through every audit phase.



Lisa A. Ritter, CPA, CFE, CITP will serve as Engagement Quality Control Review Partner. Ms. Ritter will independently review the draft reports and corresponding audit work, as appropriate, to ensure all significant auditing, accounting, and reporting issues are handled appropriately.



Levi D. Zielinski, CPA will serve as Supervisor. Mr. Zeilinski will be responsible for the direct oversight of the audit on-site during the audit process, including review of audit work and support to the **Senior**.



Andrew Hudock will serve as In-Charge. Mr. Hudock will assist Mr. Zielinski with the oversight of the audit on-site during the audit process, including review of audit work and support to the Staff.



**Staff Auditors**, to be assigned, will perform audit work in the field under the direction of the **In-Charge**.





Resumes of the proposed team members, detailing their experience, are included in Appendix B.

#### C. Access to Private and Confidential Data

We understand that if awarded a contract, Maher Duessel will have access to private and confidential data maintained by WVABCA to the extent required to carry out the duties and responsibilities defined in the solicitation. Maher Duessel agrees to maintain confidentiality and security of the data made available.

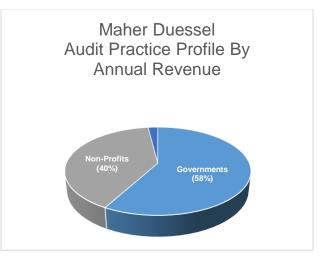
#### D. Firm License Information

We understand that this RFP requires an affirmative statement that indicates the firm and all assigned key professional staff are properly licensed to practice in West Virginia. Maher Duessel is an independent accounting firm and is licensed as a CPA firm in West Virginia. Attached in Appendix A is a copy of our firm's license. Your proposed Engagement Partner, Jeffrey W. Kent, CPA, is a licensed West Virginia CPA. The other key senior level professionals assigned on this engagement are licensed Pennsylvania CPA's, and their Pennsylvania CPA licenses provide the required mobility to perform audit services in the State of West Virginia. However, at the WVABCA's request, we can and are willing to obtain West Virginia CPA licenses for our licensed Pennsylvania CPA personnel upon award of a contract.

#### E. Firm Overview

The founding partners of Maher Duessel had a vision: to focus on providing integrated consulting, auditing and tax services for the unique needs of governmental and non-profit organizations. Since 1989, our commitment to this vision has led Maher Duessel to become one of Pennsylvania's leading certified public accounting firms. Our mission statement, *Pursuing the Profession While Promoting the Public Good*®, reflects our philosophy of providing expert technical services that help our clients create a better community. At over 95 professionals, Maher Duessel is a regional Pennsylvania accounting firm with offices in Pittsburgh, Butler, State College, Harrisburg, Erie and Lancaster. For a firm of our size, our high percentage of partners, managers and supervisors compared to seniors and staff assures that every engagement is staffed with highly experienced professionals who are actively involved in the field.

We provide the quality of a large firm with the personalized service of a small firm. All of our professionals have significant experience serving governments. Maher Duessel is unique among Pennsylvania auditing firms in that virtually every hour of our practice is devoted to serving the governmental and non-profit sectors. Many firms will serve a wide range of clients in the private and public sectors. Professionals in firms that serve both the public and private sectors do possess a broad base of experience. However, in serving a wide client base, professionals are limited in gaining specialized knowledge and insight into the unique environments that governments operate in. In other firms, key decisions and judgments with significant client impact often fall to junior level staff. Maher Duessel embraces leveraging our experienced personnel on every engagement. Our clients benefit from experienced and timely guidance of CPAs who understand their specific The chart below operations and challenges. demonstrates our firm's commitment to serving entities within the governmental sector.



May 23, 2017



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#### F. Government Services

Maher Duessel serves over 250 local governments and performs over 380 governmental audits annually. The following is a breakdown of the client types we serve:

Maher Duessel Governmental Client Breakdown

- State (14)
- Authorities (100)
- Municipalities and Cities (77)
- Counties (33) (County Wide Audits: 10)
- School Districts (11)
- Intermediate Units (3)
- Community Colleges (5)
- Tax Collection Committees (3)
- Other Local Governments (19)

Maher Duessel's expertise allows us to offer a wide range of services focused on governments. Those services include the following:

- Financial Statement Audits
- Audits in Accordance with Government Auditing Standards
- Governmental Accounting Standards Board Statement (GASB) Implementation
- Grant Audits
- Single Audits
- Assistance with Government Finance Officer Association (GFOA) Award Program Reports
- Agreed Upon Procedures Attestation Reports
- Forensic Auditing
- Pension Audits
- Arbitrage Rebate Calculations
- Debt Refunding Verification Reporting
- Borrowing Base and Debt Statement Preparation
- Internal Control Examinations

#### G. Experience with Similar Clients

Maher Duessel serves several state entities including:

- West Virginia Department of Administration
- West Virginia State Election Commission
- Pennsylvania Horsemen's Associations
- Pennsylvania Department of Human Services

- Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency
- Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council
- Pennsylvania Higher Educational Facilities Authority
- State Public School Building Authority (Pennsylvania)
- Pennsylvania Intergovernmental Cooperation Authority
- Port of Pittsburgh Commission
- Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration
- Maryland Public Service Commission
- Maryland State Highway Administration
- Maryland State Department of Education

#### H. CAFR Expertise

Maher Duessel is committed to the GFOA. We provide CAFR (Comprehensive Annual Financial Report) assistance to eleven clients who have obtained the GFOA Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting.

- State of West Virginia
- Municipality of Mt. Lebanon
- Pittsburgh Public Schools
- Mt. Lebanon School District
- Upper Allen Township
- Township of O'Hara
- Bethel Park Municipality
- City of Pittsburgh
- Centre County
- Butler County
- Erie County

Eight members of our firm serve on the GFOA's CAFR Review Committee as a Technical Reviewer, including your proposed Engagement Partner, Jeffrey W. Kent, CPA.

Our firm comprises over 75% of GFOA technical reviewers in the State of Pennsylvania. Our comprehensive experience with the CAFR program's requirements will provide exceptional added value for the WVABCA.



#### I. GASB Expertise

Maher Duessel's expertise in governmental accounting helps us ensure that our clients are always aware of the impact of new GASB statements. We assist our governmental clients throughout the year regarding proper accounting procedures and best practices in addressing GASB requirements. Our partners and managers routinely present seminars to local government officials on GASB implementation. We are well prepared to assist WVABCA in implementing these standards at no additional charge, including the most recent standards (GASB 72-85).

#### 4.1 Mandatory Requirements

#### A. Scope of Work

Maher Duessel will conduct a financial statement audit for WVABCA for the year ending June 30, 2017, with the option to audit the WVABCA for June 30, 2018, 2019, and 2020. We will express an opinion on the fair presentation of the financial statements in conformity with U.S. G.AAP and standards established by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB) of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA).

Additionally, we will provide services for subsequent events testing for the Financial Accounting and Reporting Section (FARS) of the WV Department of Administration Finance Division. We will prepare all supporting schedules required by the Department of Administration for the preparation of the State's CAFR and will file these with the State of West Virginia Department of Administration's Financial Accounting and Reporting Section by September 15, 2017, and each potential renewal or extension year.

Following the completion of the audit, we will issue a report on the fair presentation of the financial statements in conformity with U.S. GAAP and in format

to comply with GASB standards established by the AICPA. In addition, we will provide an "in-relation-to" report on the supporting schedules based on the auditing procedures applied during the audit of the general purpose financial statements.

We will communicate to WVABCA's authorized representative in a letter any reportable conditions found during the audit. We will make an immediate, written report of all irregularities and illegal acts of which we become aware to the WVABCA Commissioner and WVABCA General Counsel. We will be responsible for assisting in the implementation of required supplementary information required by GASB as mandated by the AICPA and utilize GAAS. We will provide advice on accounting matters regarding WVABCA's operations and changes in accounting standards. We will be proactive in advising WVABCA on these matters and will be available to WVABCA on short notice.

Within 60 days of the issuance of the audit we will provide to the WVABCA: our responsibility under GAAS, significant accounting policies, management judgments and accounting estimates, significant audit adjustments, other information in documents containing audited financial statements. disagreements with Management, Management consultation with other accountants, major issues discussed with Management prior to retention, and difficulties encountered in performing the audit.

#### **B. Audit Communication**

Maher Duessel's extensive experience auditing governments allows us to approach our audits in a way that is knowledgeable and efficient. Our audit process is built upon four stages: planning, preliminary fieldwork, final fieldwork, and reporting/conclusion. The expertise and knowledge of our professionals ensures that this audit process is effective. The WVABCA will be provided with a detailed listing of information required for timely and efficient completion



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of the audit. Maher Duessel uses Citrix's ShareFile product, which allows us to share and exchange files with our clients easily and securely. We are able to send a secure link to our clients allowing a large amount of data to be uploaded at once.

We will meet with Management early in the audit process to discuss the audit process, required planning matters, any known changes to accounting or reporting requirements, as well as to answer any questions you may have. We will also meet with Management regularly throughout the audit process to apprise you of our progress and any potential issue that arises.

There will be no surprises in your draft documents as all issues would be discussed with you prior to the receipt of the drafts. We will meet with the Audit Committee at the beginning and at the end of the audit process. We encourage contact throughout the year so that knowledgeable, experienced professionals can lend seasoned judgment to matters of interest to you whenever such matters arise.

We pride ourselves on our responsive service and answer our e-mails and phone calls promptly. We will not burden you with client surveys but rather communicate with you directly during the audit process to ensure you are satisfied. You will have regular contact with the Engagement Partner and Supervisor, providing you ample opportunity to convey your thoughts about our performance.

Our high client retention rates are our best barometer of the quality of our service. Partner and Supervisor level involvement in the audit is a core value of Maher Duessel's service. These team members are actively involved in the field during every phase of the audit. With our clients' trust in our hands, we owe nothing less than the most experienced professionals guiding them every step of the way.

#### **C. Proposed Timeline**

Our proposed timeline for the 2017 audit is outlined below. This timeline can be adjusted depending upon the needs of the WVABCA.



Drafts of the audit reports and our recommendations to Management will be available for review by the Comptroller and Commissioner by September 6, 2017. We will prepare the final financial statements, notes, Management Letter, and all required supplementary schedules and statistical data by October 31, 2017.

#### **D. Peer Review**

Maher Duessel is proud to announce that the firm has once again received the top rating for peer reviews. The most recent peer review was conducted by Goff Backa Alfera & Company, LLC for the year ended May 31, 2016. The peer review, which was completed in September 2016, has received a "pass" opinion. A CPA firm that is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) and conducts audits must be reviewed by another CPA firm every



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three years to ensure that the quality controls of the firm meet the standards of the AICPA. Maher Duessel has passed all quality control reviews for every peer review undergone since inception, which is testimony to our commitment to the highest standards. A copy of our two most recent Peer Reviews are attached in Appendix C.

#### E. Independence

Maher Duessel affirms that we are independent of the WVABCA as defined by GAAS and the U.S. General Accounting Office's Government Auditing Standards. We also are independent of the State of West Virginia and all of its component units, as defined by these same standards.

#### **5.1 Proposed Fees**

We are able to deliver exceptional service by highlyexperienced professionals at a lower cost than many firms because our professionals are dedicated to serving governmental entities. Accordingly, many of the accounting and auditing issues unique to these entities are more efficiently addressed by us than by firms that do not perform these audits year-round. Assuming that the financial records are in good condition (i.e. accounting records are complete; bank reconciliations are done; sufficient support is available to support receipt and disbursement activity as well as all balance sheet accounts; staff is available to answer questions, etc.), and based on our understanding of your requirements, our all-inclusive fees are as follows:

| Year | Financial<br>Statement Audit |
|------|------------------------------|
| 2017 | \$41,000                     |
| 2018 | \$42,500                     |
| 2019 | \$44,000                     |
| 2020 | \$45,500                     |

#### A. Service Beyond the Audit

Our fee structure allows for financial consultation services throughout the course of the year. We encourage inquiries whenever they arise and consider them part of our package rather than as opportunities to collect extra billings. We do not charge separate additional fees for accounting related questions as they arise. However, if the WVABCA requested research or required services clearly outside the scope of the work outlined here we would reach a written agreement with the WVABCA on the additional fee, through an engagement letter addendum, prior to commencing the work. The fees for those additional services would be negotiated with the WVABCA based on the work requested and all efforts would be made to charge for those services at an agreed upon flat fee.

#### 6. Added Value

Maher Duessel has several attributes that will provide exceptional added value for the WVABCA as detailed below:

#### A. AICPA Quality Control Centers

Maher Duessel is a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA's) Governmental



Audit Quality Center (GAQC) and Employee Benefit Plan Audit Quality Center (EBPAQC). Membership in these quality centers requires Maher Duessel to commit to higher standards than non-members and provides the firm with additional resources to facilitate the audit process. The firm was one of the first 50 firms to join the GAQC when it was established in late 2004. The GAQC promotes the importance of quality governmental audits and the value of these audits to government officials and staff.



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As a member of the GAQC, Maher Duessel has access to comprehensive audit resources including GAQC Alerts that contain critical and time sensitive information about governmental audit developments, online publications devoted to best practices and developments in state and local government auditing, Single Audit practice aids, Yellow Book tools, access to webcasts on current issues, and an online forum for member interaction, networking, and sharing of information.

Maher Duessel's membership in the EBPAQC demonstrates our commitment to quality in the performance of ERISA (Employee Retirement Income Security Act) audits. Similar to the benefits from our GAQC membership, Maher Duessel has access to email news alerts, a dedicated and continuously updated Center website, online member discussion forum, and live webinars. In addition, one of our partners, Diane E. Edelstein, CPA, served on the AICPA's Executive Committee for the Governmental Audit Quality Center from 2007-2011 and has served as an instructor on AICPA webcasts.

#### **B.** National and State Appointments

Maher Duessel has had several prestigious national and state appointments of our partners and senior managers over the years to committees of organizations such as the GFOA, AICPA, and PICPA.

With appointments at the highest levels of committees devoted to the integrity and advancement of the accounting profession in the governmental sector, the WVABCA can be assured that we will keep you informed of the latest developments that will impact your financial reporting.

GFOA Special Review Committee for Comprehensive Annual Financial Report – Technical Reviewers\* Jeff Kent Brian McCall Tim Morgus Tracey Rash Ashley Ackerson Samantha Beck Beth Dittmer Dan Caponi

\*Our firm comprises over 75% of GFOA technical reviewers in the State of Pennsylvania.

<u>GFOA Pennsylvania Western Region State Board</u> Jeff Kent, Member Tim Morgus, Treasurer

PICPA Budget and Finance Committee Jeff Kent, Member

<u>PICPA Accounting and Auditing Procedures</u> <u>Committee</u> Lisa Ritter, Former Chair and Current Member

PICPA Local Government Committee and GASB Sub-Committee Brian McCall, Current Member

Pennsylvania GFOA Advocacy Task Force Brian McCall, Current Member

AICPA Auditing Standards Board Lisa Ritter, Past Member

<u>GFOA Pennsylvania State Board</u> Tracey Rash, Treasurer and Pennsylvania Advocacy Task Force Liaison

<u>Governmental Accounting Standards Board Going</u> <u>Concern Disclosures Consultative Group</u> Tracey Rash, Member

<u>GFOA Pennsylvania Central Region Board</u> Ashley Ackerson, Treasurer

<u>GFOA Popular Report Review Committee</u> Dave Duessel, Reviewer Katie Yates, Reviewer

<u>AICPA Peer Review Board Government and</u> <u>Compliance Audits Practice Monitoring Task Force</u> Diane Edelstein, Current Member



May 23, 2017

AICPA Executive Committee Audit Quality Center Diane Edelstein, Past Member (2007-2011)

PICPA Professional Ethics Committee Diane Edelstein, Current Member

PICPA Statewide Education Committee Betsy Krisher, Current Member

PICPA Insurance Trust Committee Robert Belicose, Current Trustee

#### C. Education for Licensure Credits

All Maher Duessel professionals meet or exceed the continuing education requirements stipulated by the AICPA, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) Yellow Book. Furthermore, federal Government Auditing Standards mandate additional educational requirements for CPA firms that conduct governmental audits. All of our professionals meet or exceed these standards as well. All of our professionals participate in regular in-house training and seminars specific to our practice. Our professionals governmental gain additional Continuing Professional Education (CPE) through outside conferences and seminars that focus on governments.



Attendees at a Maher Duessel Seminar

We design up to 32 CPE credits annually for our professionals and clients to address the unique needs of our practice, including a governmental

seminar that we host in December of each year. WVABCA staff will be invited to attend free of charge. Attached in Appendix D is an agenda from our most recent Government Update seminar. In addition to our seminars, our firm has an internal Accounting & Auditing Committee, which helps keep our professionals up to date with new standards and developments as they arise through regular newsletters and e-blasts. We rely heavily on the educational resources that we are able to tap into as members of the AICPA's Quality Centers along with serving on committees of the AICPA, PICPA, GFOA, and local and state organizations. We have intricate knowledge of the regulations and accounting statements relevant to governmental entities. This expertise allows our professionals to frequently teach governmental topics to CPAs on the local, state, and national levels. Please refer to the resumes in Appendix A for specific courses taught recently by the professionals slated to serve you.

#### **D. Industry Insights**

Maher Duessel also provides insights to our clients through an active blog we maintain on our website: <u>http://www.md-cpas.com/blog</u>. Recent relevant blog topics for the WVABCA include GASB 84 Fiduciary Activities, GASB 83 Update, New January 31<sup>st</sup> Filing Deadline for W-2 and 1099-MISC Forms, The IRS Releases Its Tax Exempt & Governmental Entities Fiscal Year 2017 Work Plan, and Changes to the Pennsylvania Bureau of Audits Single Audit Submission Process. We also issue quarterly Government News Digests for our clients which contain relevant articles on accounting/auditing topics impacting governments. Attached in Appendix E is a sample government newsletter.

#### E. Staff Continuity

Maher Duessel has an 87% staff retention rate over the past three years. The average tenure of a senior auditor on a typical engagement is approximately three to four years. This continuity allows our clients to

May 23, 2017





develop excellent working relationships and relieves the disruption of having to retrain new auditors from year to year. In the event that replacement of a team member does become necessary, we can assure you that you would receive a replacement professional with similar governmental audit experience, as all of our professionals are trained and experienced in serving governments. A key factor in promoting employee continuity is the strength of Maher Duessel's core values: exceptional client service and technical expertise, life-long learners, work-life balance, team oriented philosophy, open door policy, and support our clients' missions.





Appendix A: CPA License Documentation



West Virginia Board of Accountancy 405 Capitol Street, Suite 908 Charleston, WV 25301-1744 (304) 558-3557 wvboa@mail.wvnet.edu

May 31, 2016

F0591A MAHER DUESSEL 503 MARTINDALE ST STE 600 PITTSBURGH PA 15212

Your application for an Out-of-State Firm Permit with Authorization to Perform Attest Services has been approved by this Board. Attached please find your registration cards permitting you to practice public accounting as a firm with an authorization to perform attest services for the period beginning July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017.

Please review the following information regarding the issuance and renewal of firm permits:

1. Permits will initially be issued for a period to expire the 30th day of June following the date of issue.

2. All registered firms must notify the Board in writing within 30 days of the occurrence of the following events:

- a. Formation of a new firm
- b. Addition of a partner, member, manager or shareholder
- c. Retirement, withdrawal or death of a partner, member, manager or shareholder
- d. Any change in the name of the firm
- e. Dissolution of the firm

f. Establishment of a new branch office or the closing or change of address of a branch office in this State

g. The occurrence of any event or events which would cause the firm not to be in conformity with the Accountancy Law or Board of Accountancy Rules and Regulations.

3. In the event of any change in legal form of a firm, the new firm shall within thirty (30) days of the change file an application for the issuance of a permit in accordance with the Accountancy Law and Board Rules and Regulations and pay the fee required by these Rules.

If the board can be of additional assistance or if you have any questions, please feel free to contact us.

Respectfully,

Brenda & Tenly Brenda S. Turley

**Executive Director** 

cc: File



State of West Virginia West Virginia Board of Accountancy 405 Capitol Street, Suite 908 Charleston, WV 25301-1744 (304) 558-3557

The entity listed below was issued a FIRM PERMIT. for the period beginning July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017

#### F0591A MAHER DUESSEL 503 MARTINDALE ST STE 600 PITTSBURGH PA 15212

**Executive Director** 





The entity listed below was issued an Authorization to Perform Attest and/or Compilation Services for the period beginning July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017

F0591A MAHER DUESSEL 503 MARTINDALE ST STE 600 PITTSBURGH PA 15212

**Executive Director** 



Your fee has been received for registration of your firm. The firm permit may be detached from the perforation at left and used until the date indicated.

Any errors in the attached information should be reported to the Board office at 304/558-3557

Executive Director

West Virginin Board of Accountancy 405 Capitol Street, Suite 908 Charleston, WV 25301-1744 (304) 558-3557

> Your fee has been received for your firm's Authorization to Perform Attest or Compilation Services in West Virginia. This Authorization may be detached and used until the date indicated.

> > Any errors in the attached information should be reported to the Board office at 304/558-3557

Board Presi

Executive Director



Appendix B: Resumes



#### MaherDuessel Certified Public Accountants

#### Jeffrey W. Kent, CPA Partner



#### Summary

Mr. Kent began his public accounting career in 2002 with Maher Duessel. Mr. Kent became a Partner of the Firm in 2016 and manages several governmental audit engagements including state entities, authorities, municipalities, and county entities. Mr. Kent has a B.S. in Accounting (Magna Cum Laude) from Grove City College.

#### Engagement Role: Engagement Partner

Licensed Pennsylvania CPA

#### **Representative Clients**

- West Virginia Department of Administration
- West Virginia State Election Commission
- Port Authority of Allegheny County
- Municipality of Mt. Lebanon
- Municipality of Penn Hills
- State College Borough
- Allegheny County Sanitary Authority
- Sports and Exhibition Authority of Pittsburgh
- Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh

#### **Professional Activities and Affiliations**

- American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) Member •
- Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants (PICPA) Member
- PICPA Member Services Committee Co-Chair •
- PICPA Pittsburgh Chapter Executive Committee Treasurer •
- Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Member ٠
- GFOA Pennsylvania Western Region State Board Member •
- **GFOA Special Review Committee - Member**
- 2010-2011 40 Under 40: PICPA Members to Watch Class Member
- Auberle Member of Board of Directors and Finance Committee
- Leadership Development Initiative LDI XV Graduate

#### **Training Highlights**

- 2016 and 2015 Maher Duessel Pension Update
- 2016 Maher Duessel Governmental Update
- 2015 GFOA National Conference
- 2015 AICPA Employee Benefit Plan Audit Quality Center Designated Partner Training
- 2015 AICPA Employee Benefit Plan Audit Quality Center 2015 Managers and Supervisors Training

#### **Published Article**

2015 PICPA Ongoing Going Concern Guidance



**Certified Public Accountants** 

#### Lisa A. Ritter, CPA, CFE, CITP Partner



#### Summary

Ms. Ritter began her public accounting career in 1987. Her clients include governmental and nonprofit organizations throughout the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and State of Maryland. The nature of her client base is diverse and includes entities who receive federal and state funding, as well as those who are reliant on dues or contributions for funding streams. Services performed for these clients include consulting, agreed-upon procedures, audit, review, compilation, tax return preparation and fraud investigations. She also specializes in litigation support. Ms. Ritter has a B.S. in Business Administration (with Distinction) from Penn State University and is a Certified Fraud Examiner and Certified Information Technology Professional.



**Engagement Role**: Engagement Quality Control Review Partner; Licensed Pennsylvania and Maryland CPA and CFE.

#### **Representative Clients (State Agencies)**

- Pennsylvania Department of Human Services
- Maryland Public Service Commission
- Pennsylvania Horsemen's Benevolent and Protective Association
- Pennsylvania Harness Horsemen's Association
- Pennsylvania Thoroughbred Horsemen's Association
- Meadows Standardbred Owners Association
- Maryland State Highway Administration
- Maryland State Department of Education

#### **Professional Activities and Affiliations**

- AICPA Advanced Single Audit Certification
- AICPA Certified Information Technology Professional
- AICPA Auditing Standards Board Past Member
- American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) Member
- Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants (PICPA) Member
- Association of Certified Fraud Examiners Member
- Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) Not-for-Profit Resource Group Member
- PICPA Accounting and Auditing Procedures Committee Past Chair and Current Member
- PICPA Not-for-Profit Committee Member
- PICPA Not-for-Profit Tech Issues Sub Committee Member
- Association of Governmental Accountants (AGA) Central PA Chapter Member
- WITF Public Broadcasting Finance and Audit Committee Member
- Pennsylvania Association of Nonprofit Organizations (PANO) Current Board Member Emeritus; Former Public Policy Committee and Board Member

#### **Speaking Engagements**

- September, 2016 Pennsylvania Legal Aid Network Statewide Conference *How to Read Financial Statements*
- July, 2016 PICPA Local Government Conference Grant Track: Department of Human Services Oversight & Monitoring of the Counties: Single Audit Seminar
- December, 2015 PICPA Accounting & Auditing Conference: *Key Issues Confronting the A&A Landscape*

#### **Training Highlights**

- 2016 Maher Duessel Government Update
- 2016 AICPA Computer Assisted Audit Technology
- 2016 AICPA Understanding Cybersecurity
- 2016 ACFE Internal Controls for Data Security

### MaherDuessel Certified Public Accountants

#### Levi D. Zielinski, CPA Supervisor



#### Summary

Mr. Zielinski began his public accounting career in 2011 with Maher Duessel. His clients include a broad range of governmental entities including state agencies, municipalities, local authorities, and county entities.

Engagement Role: Supervisor

Licensed Pennsylvania CPA

#### **Representative Clients**

- West Virginia Department of Administration
- West Virginia State Election Commission
- Canonsburg-Houston Joint Authority
- Monroeville Municipal Authority
- Allegheny County Sanitary Authority (ALCOSAN)
- Redevelopment Authority of the County of Washington
- City of Clairton
- Washington County
- Greene County

#### **Professional Activities and Affiliations**

- American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) Member
- Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants (PICPA) Member

#### Education

- B.S. Accounting
- Grove City College

#### **Training Highlights**

- 2016 AICPA GAAP Update Conference
- 2016 Maher Duessel Government Update
- 2015 Maher Duessel Uniform Guidance for Federal Awards
- 2015 Maher Duessel Financial Reporting Training

Certified Public Accountants



#### Summary

Mr. Hudock began his career with Maher Duessel in 2016. His clients include a broad range of governmental entities including state agencies, local authorities, educational agencies, and county entities. Prior to joining Maher Duessel, Mr. Hudock was an audit associate with another firm and worked as a financial account in the private sector.

#### Engagement Role: In Charge

#### **Representative Clients**

- West Virginia Department of Administration
- City of Pittsburgh
- Redevelopment Authority of the County of Fayette
- Redevelopment Authority of the County of Washington
- Greene County
- Greene County Conservation District
- Allegheny Intermediate Unit
- Steel Valley School District

#### **Professional Activities and Affiliations**

- Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants (PICPA) Member
- Faith Assembly of God Youth Group Leader

#### **Education**

- B.S. Business Administration
- Major in Accounting
- West Virginia University

### **Training Highlights**

- 2016 Maher Duessel New Staff Training
- 2016 Maher Duessel In-Charge Training
- 2016 Maher Duessel Government Update
- 2016 Maher Duessel Administrative Update



Appendix C: Peer Reviews





Certified Public Accountants

SYSTEM REVIEW REPORT

August 29, 2013

To the Partners Maher Duessel, CPAs and the Peer Review Committee of the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants

We have reviewed the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Maher Duessel, CPAs (the firm) in effect for the year ended May 31, 2013. Our peer review was conducted in accordance with the Standards for Performing and Reporting on Peer Reviews established by the Peer Review Board of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. As part of our peer review, we considered reviews by regulatory entities, if applicable, in determining the nature and extent of our procedures. The firm is responsible for designing a system of quality control and complying with it to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the design of the system of quality control and the firm's compliance therewith based on our review. The nature, objectives, scope, limitations of, and the procedures performed in a system review are described in the standards at <u>www.aicpa.org/prsummary</u>.

As required by the standards, engagements selected for review included engagements performed under *Government Auditing Standards* and audits of employee benefit plans.

In our opinion, the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Maher Duessel, CPAs in effect for the year ended May 31, 2013, has been suitably designed and complied with to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. Firms can receive a rating of *pass, pass with deficiency(ies)* or *fail.* Maher Duessel, CPAs has received a peer review rating of *pass.* 

Goff Backa Alfera & Company, LLC

GOFF BACKA ALFERA & COMPANY, LLC PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

Member: American and Pennsylvania Institutes of Certified Public Accountants

Center for Public Company Audit Firms • Employee Benefit Plan Audit Quality Center • Governmental Audit Quality Center • Private Companies Practice Section



3325 Saw Mill Run Blvd. Pittsburgh, PA 15227-2736 412/885-5045 Fax 412/885-4870 www.gbaco.com

Certified Public Accountants

SYSTEM REVIEW REPORT

September 9, 2016

To the Partners Maher Duessel, CPAs and the Peer Review Committee of the Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants

We have reviewed the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Maher Duessel, CPAs (the firm) in effect for the year ended May 31, 2016. Our peer review was conducted in accordance with the Standards for Performing and Reporting on Peer Reviews established by the Peer Review Board of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants. As part of our peer review, we considered reviews by regulatory entities, if applicable, in determining the nature and extent of our procedures. The firm is responsible for designing a system of quality control and complying with it to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on the design of the system of quality control and the firm's compliance therewith based on our review. The nature, objectives, scope, limitations of, and the procedures performed in a system review are described in the standards at <u>www.aicpa.org/prsummary</u>.

As required by the standards, engagements selected for review included engagements performed under *Government Auditing Standards* and audits of employee benefit plans.

In our opinion, the system of quality control for the accounting and auditing practice of Maher Duessel, CPAs in effect for the year ended May 31, 2016, has been suitably designed and complied with to provide the firm with reasonable assurance of performing and reporting in conformity with applicable professional standards in all material respects. Firms can receive a rating of *pass, pass with deficiency(ies)* or *fail.* Maher Duessel, CPAS has received a peer review rating of *pass.* 

13 Bacha alfan? Company, Lic

GOFF BACKA ALFERA & COMPANY, LLC PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA

Member: American and Pennsylvania Institutes of Certified Public Accountants

Center for Public Company Audit Firms • Employee Benefit Plan Audit Quality Center • Governmental Audit Quality Center • Private Companies Practice Section



Appendix D: 2016 Maher Duessel Government Update Seminar Agenda





# MaherDuessel Certified Public Accountants

# 2016 Government Seminar Agenda

### Thursday, December 15, 2016

Regional Learning Alliance, Cranberry Township, PA Dixon University Center, Harrisburg, PA

| TIME<br>SLOT | CPE<br>HOURS | CPE<br>TYPE                  | ΤΟΡΙϹ   | SPEAKER   |
|--------------|--------------|------------------------------|---|---|
| 8:00-8:25    | 0            |                              | REGISTRATION AND BREAKFAST  |   |
| 8:25-8:30    | 0            |                              | WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS   |   |
| 8:30-9:20    | 1.0          | <b>A&amp;A</b><br>(YB) (GAS) | GASB UPDATE/RISK ALERT<br>This session will open the seminar by discussing key changes and<br>events that impact our government clients and alert us to risks for<br>audits of our governmental clients.                              | Michelle Bryan,<br>Maher Duessel  |
| 9:20-10:10   | 1.0          | A&A<br>(GAS)                 | <b>ECONOMIC OUTLOOK</b><br>This session will provide an update on the economy and its impact to<br>our government clients.  | Linda Duessel,<br>Federated   |
| 10:10-10:30  | 0            |                              | 20-MINUTE BREAK   |   |
| 10:30-11:20  | 1.0          | Other                        | <b>REGULATORY CHANGES</b><br>By now, the new overtime rules have taken effect. So, what's next?<br>This session will explore the continued changes that organizations<br>must consider to ensure compliance with various regulations. | Dane Topich,<br>Paycor and<br>Renee Mielnicki,<br>East Coast Risk<br>Management |
| 11:20-12:30  | 0            |                              | LUNCH   |   |
| 12:30-1:20   | 1.0          | A&A<br>(GAS)                 | <b>MUNICIPAL FILINGS</b><br>Due to recent changes, municipal filings have undergone more<br>scrutiny. This session will update you on the MCDC settlement and<br>other important municipal filing information.                        | Tim Frenz,<br>Janney<br>Montgomery<br>Scott                                     |
| 1:20-2:10    | 1.0          | <b>A&amp;A</b><br>(YB) (GAS) | <b>PROCUREMENT UNDER UNIFORM GUIDANCE</b><br>This session will review the new procurement rules that took effect<br>with the issuance of the Uniform Guidance.  | Peggy Jo<br>Campbell and<br>Larissa<br>Van Putten,<br>Maher Duessel             |
| 2:10-2:30    | 0            |                              | 20-MINUTE BREAK   |   |
| 2:30-3:20    | 1.0          | Тах                          | <b>PERSONAL TAX UPDATE</b><br>This session will provide insights to the upcoming 2017 personal tax<br>laws and provide some last-minute tips for 2016 taxes, as well as<br>explore common questions regarding deferred compensation.  | Rob Frenz,<br>Chemel Kornick<br>& Mooney  |
| 3:20-4:10    | 1.0          | <b>A&amp;A</b><br>(YB) (GAS) | AUDIT AND ACCOUNTING STANDARDS REVISITED<br>This session will reinforce existing audit and accounting standards<br>applicable to our government clients in an interactive way.  | Megan<br>Gebrosky and<br>Kristen Moss,<br>Maher Duessel                         |
| 4:10-5:00    | 1.0          | <b>A&amp;A</b><br>(YB) (GAS) | OPEBS – GASB STATEMENTS NO. 74/75<br>This session will explore the GASB's new standards that will<br>transform OPEBs on the financial statements in the same manner as<br>was recently done for pensions.                             | Tim Morgus and<br>Amy Lewis,<br><i>Maher Duessel</i>                            |
|              | 8.0          | TOTAL                        |   |   |

CONSISTS OF 6.0 A&A, 1.0 TAX, 1.0 OTHER, 4.0 YELLOW BOOK, 6.0 GAS



Appendix E: Sample Maher Duessel Government Newsletter





### Maher Duessel, CPAs

### **Government News Nuggets**

Pursuing the Profession While Promoting the Public Good®

#### Winter 2017 Article Spotlight

The Uniform Guidance has new procurement policies and procedures. Read Peggy Jo Campbell's article on page 4 to learn more about what your organization should expect.



In This Issue:

Winter 2017 Edition

Dangerous W-2 Scam Now Impacting The Public Sector By Brian Grublis Page 2

**Bidding Thresholds Increase** Page 3

Fraud Overview and Prevention Page 3

**New Hires** Page 3

**Procurement Under The Uniform Guidance** By Peggy Jo Campbell Page 4

Upcoming Speaking Engagements Page 6

Single Audit: Get off to a Good Start with an Error Free SEFA By Diane Edelstein Page 7

**New Promotions** Page 8

**Special Recognition** Page 8

Have questions/ideas/feedback?

Contact the Editor: Rachelle Ogun Marketing Coordinator rogun@md-cpas.com 412.535.5550

#### Maher Duessel Expands to Erie and State College!

We are pleased to announce that we have opened two new office locations to better serve our clients in the Erie and Centre County regions and surrounding areas. Our Erie office (pictured right in the Renaissance Building) is located at 1001 State Street, Suite 1400, Erie, PA 16501, 814.480.5777.



Our State College office is located at 237 South Allen Street, Suite 337, State College, PA 16801, 412.471.5500.

Maher Duessel now has a total of 5 office locations (other locations are Pittsburgh, Harrisburg, and Butler), and we serve governmental and non-profit entities across the entire Commonwealth.

MaherDuessel Certified Public Accountants

#### Maher Duessel, CPAs

Pursuing the Profession While Promoting the Public Good®

#### Government News Nuggets Winter 2017

Dangerous W-2 Scam Now Impacting The Public Sector By Brian Grublis, MCSE, MCTS

IT Director/Security Official bgrublis@md-cpas.com

#### Dangerous W-2 Scam Now Impacting The Public Sector: IRS Issues W-2 Security Alert

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) has issued a recent alert that the Form W-2 e-mail phishing scam has expanded from the corporate world and into the public sector. As a governmental agency, you should be aware that this scam can result in the large-scale theft of confidential information. This information can then be used by cybercriminals for various crimes including the filing of fraudulent tax returns.

#### How Does The Scam Work?

Cyber-criminals will disguise e-mails to make them appear to be from an internal executive within your organization. The e-mail will be sent to an employee in the payroll, human resources, and finance departments and will request a list of all employees and their Forms W-2. In the latest twist to this scam, the 'executive' e-mail will ask that a wire transfer also be made to a certain account. The wire transfer scam is being combined with the W-2 scam email, and some organizations have lost both employees' W-2s and thousands of dollars due to these fraudulent wire transfers.

# What To Do If Your Organization Has Been Targeted?

•If you receive a W-2 scam email forward it immediately to your IT department and to

<u>phishing@irs.gov</u> and place "W-2 Scam" in the subject line.

Also, you should also notify the State by sending an alert to <u>StateAlert@taxadmin.org</u>.

• If you receive the W-2 scam email or if you believe that sensitive data has been stolen, file a complaint with the <u>Internet Crime</u> <u>Complaint Center</u>.

•Promptly notify the employees whose Forms W-2 have been stolen.

•Employees should then review the recommended actions by the Federal Trade Commission at <u>www.identitytheft.gov</u> or the <u>IRS.</u>

•Employees will need to also file a Form 14039, Identify Theft Affidavit, if their tax return is rejected because of a duplicate social security number or if they are instructed to so by the IRS.

#### Best Practices When Handling E-Mail

•If you receive an internal e-mail that appears to be suspicious (i.e. asking for protected data), pick up the phone and call the sender or ask them directly in person to verify the legitimacy of the email.

•Other signs that an e-mail may be suspicious include the use of all capital letters, spelling errors, typos, and grammatical errors. Try to avoid opening these emails in the first place.

• If you do open the email, do not proceed to

Dangerous W-2 Scam Now Impacting The Public Sector By Brian Grublis, MCSE, MCTS IT Director/Security Official bgrublis@md-cpas.com



click on any links, open any attachments, or download any files. If you open an attachment or download a file, contact your IT department immediately.

•If you do click on a questionable link inadvertently and are prompted to log-in with your user credentials, register your credentials, or provide confidential information do not proceed to do so. Notify your IT department instead.

•If you do end up logging your credentials on a questionable web-site or disclosing confidential information, change your password immediately and let your IT department know what has happened right away.

#### **Bidding Thresholds Increase**

The Pennsylvania Department of Labor and Industry has published the authority and municipal bidding thresholds for 2017. Effective January 1, 2017 the bidding thresholds for most municipalities and authorities are as follows:

1. Purchases and contracts below \$10,700 require no formal bidding or written/telephone quotes.

2. Purchases and contracts between \$10,700 and \$19,700 require three written/telephone quotes.

3. Purchases and contracts over \$19,700 require formal bidding.

Note that there are exceptions to these requirements for bidding as outlined in the regulations, including those for professional services. Read more on the regulations at <a href="http://www.pabulletin.com/secure/data/vol46/46-50/2154.html">http://www.pabulletin.com/secure/data/vol46/46-50/2154.html</a>

#### Fraud Overview and Prevention

The Local Government Academy is offering a free online course at:

http:// localgovernmentacademy.org/ fraud-overview-andprevention/

This course on fraud is presented by our Partner, Tim Morgus. Fraud is



an intentional act involving deception to obtain an unjust or illegal advantage. Local governments experiencing fraud face loss of assets, fiscal position and public trust. External audits do not protect against fraud. As such, local government officials need to know how to spot and combat fraud.

#### Maher Duessel New 2017 Hires

•Andrew Lacek joined the Harrisburg office as **Experienced Staff in** November.

•Kathy Kreinbucher joined the Butler office as an **Administrative Professional** in December.

•Ryan Bozman and John Stoner joined the

- Harrisburg office as Audit Interns in January.Christa Lerch joined the Pittsburgh office
- as **Staff** in January.
- •Jason Swartley joined the Harrisburg office as **Staff** in January.
- •Brenda Hicks joined the Harrisburg office as
- Administrative Professional in January.Jahniah McAllister joined the Pittsburgh
- •Gina Wirfel, CPA joined the Harrisburg office
- as Experienced Staff in February.



Maher Duessel, CPAs Pursuing the Profession While Promoting the Public Good®

Winter 2017 Government News Nuggets Procurement Under The Uniform Guidance By Peggy Jo Campbell, CPA, Senior Manager pcambell@md-cpas.com

### Procurement Under The Uniform Guidance

In December 2013, the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued comprehensive grant reform rules titled "Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards." (Uniform Guidance). Under the Uniform Guidance, procurement is one of the areas that had significant changes. Note that there was a grace period which delayed the applicability of the Procurement Standard for two full fiscal years, but beginning with fiscal years that commence on January 1, 2017, this Standard is now applicable.

#### Procurement Types

There are three main procurement types:

- •Micro Purchases—Purchase threshold of \$3,000
- •Simplified Acquisition or Small Purchase Procedure—small purchases of less than \$150,000
- •Above Simplified Acquisition Threshold purchases greater than \$150,000

#### What is Required for Micro Purchases?

No bid or quote process is required.
Micro-purchases should be equitably distributed among qualified suppliers.

•No cost or price analysis is required.

# What is Required for Small Purchase Procedures?

•Price or rate quotations must be obtained from an adequate number of qualified sources.

•Your organization's internal written policy must define the number and methods of obtaining quotes.

# What is Required for Above Simplified Acquisition Threshold Purchases?

•Sealed bids are the preferred method for procuring construction services. The *Uniform Guidance* requires that sealed bids contain project specifications or a purchase description, that a minimum of 2 bidders are solicited, that the solicitation be bid at a fixed price, and the solicitation and bid opening be made public.

•The other option for procurement for nonconstruction items/services is competitive proposals. In this case, a request for proposal is required along with an adequate number of bidders, and a written method of evaluation, considering price and other advantageous factors.

•A cost or price analysis must be performed.

# Procurement Under The Uniform Guidance

By Peggy Jo Campbell, CPA, Senior Manager <u>pcambell@md-cpas.com</u>



### There are scenarios where

non-competitive proposals can be sought when acquisition costs are above or below simplified acquisition thresholds. These scenarios include:

•The item and service is only available from one single source.

•A public exigency or emergency won't permit a delay resulting from competitive solicitation.

•The federal awarding agency or past through entity has expressly authorized noncompetitive proposals.

•After solicitation of several sources, competition is determined to be inadequate.

The following general standards must be adhered to for all purchase types:

- •The purchase complies with written procurement policies and procedures.
- Procurement must be necessary.

• Procurement can't present a conflict of interest.

• Procurement must be subject to full and open competition.

• Proper documentation of purchase.

### **Procurement Records**

To be in compliance with the *Uniform Guidance*, your organization must adhere to the following requirements for your procurement records.

•You must use your own documented procurement procedures.

•You must maintain oversight over contractors.

•You have documented written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and

governing employees who select, award, or administer contracts.

You maintain written standards of conduct covering organizational conflicts of interest (i.e. parent, affiliate, or subsidiary organizations).
You must maintain records that provide the history of the procurement (rationale for purchase, selection of contract type, contractor selection, and the basis for contract type).

### Contract Cost and Price

What does the *Uniform Guidance* require regarding contract cost and price?

- •You must make an independent estimate before receiving bids or proposals.
- •You must negotiate profit as a separate element of the price for each contract for which there is no price competition, and in all cases where a cost analysis is performed.

•To establish a fair and reasonable profit, the following should be taken into account:

1.Complexity of work performed

- 2. Risk borne by contractor
- 3. Contractor's investment
- 4. Amount of subcontracting

5. Industry profit rates in the surrounding geographical area for similar work

•Costs/prices based on estimated costs for contracts are allowable if the costs incurred or cost estimates would be allowable under Subpart E – Cost Principles for the entity.

•Cost plus a percentage of cost and percentage of construction cost methods must not be used.

## When Are Time and Material Type Contracts Allowed and What is Required?

Time and material type contracts are permissible when your organization has determined that no other contract is suitable. A time and material type contract is defined as a contract whose cost to the nonfederal entity is the sum of the actual cost of materials and direct labor hours charged at a fixed hourly rate (wages, general and administrative expenses, and profit). A time and material type contract is generally an openended contract price, where the contract sets a ceiling price that the contractor exceeds at its own risk.

### Procurement Under The Uniform Guidance

By Peggy Jo Campbell, CPA, Senior Manager <u>pcambell@md-cpas.com</u>



For this type of contract, you must assert a high degree of oversight to ensure the contractor is using efficient methods and effective cost controls.

# What Provisions Must be in Your Acquisition Contract?

- •Equal Employment Opportunity
- Davis-Bacon Act
- •Contract work hours and safety standards act
- •Right to inventions made under a contract or agreement
- •Clean Air Act
- Debarment and suspension (refer to <u>www.sam.gov</u>, a website database of people or entities that are suspended or debarred from performing federally funded work)
   Byrd Anti-Lobbying Amendment

For contracts greater than \$150,000, the contract provisions must address administrative, contractual, or legal 3 remedies where contractors violate or breach contract terms.

For contracts greater than \$10,000, the contract provisions must address termination for cause.

How Can Your Organization Comply With the Updated Procurement Requirements?

•Ensure all the "musts" in the *Uniform Guidance* are followed.

- •Update your procurement policies
  - 1. Implementation of purchase check lists and forms

2. Determine what the "adequate number of source" definition is for your organization

3. Use small business enterprises and minority, women, and veteran owned businesses when feasible.

4.Ensure that policies are written, documented, and communicated.

5. Monitor new policies.

6. Assess internal controls along with policies.

•Update your standard contract wording (refer to Appendix 2 of the *Uniform Guidance*).

•Identify conflicts of interest among employees with contract or procurement responsibilities.

•Devote resources to the training and hiring of employees who are procurement specialists.

•Utilize pre-qualified bidder lists.

The preceding article was adapted from our December, 2016 Government Update Continuing Professional Education Seminar. If you missed our seminar and would like electronic copies of the handouts please contact <u>rogun@md-cpas.com</u>.

### Maher Duessel Upcoming Speaking Engagements

March 10, 2017 **2017 Yellow Book Workshop** The Georgia Society of CPA's Diane E. Edelstein, CPA, Partner

April 23, 2017 *Foundations of Governmental Accounting* GFOA-PA Annual Conference Penn Stater Conference Center Hotel Tracey L. Rash, CPA, CGFM, Partner



Maher Duessel, CPAs Pursuing the Profession While Promoting the Public Good®

> Winter 2017 Government News Nuggets

Single Audit: Get Off to a Good Start with an Error Free SEFA

By Diane E. Edelstein, CPA Partner, <u>dedelstein@md-cpas.com</u>

### Single Audit: Get Off to a Good Start with an Error Free SEFA

SEFA Errors and the Single Audit

The Uniform Guidance (2 CFR Chapter 1, Chapter II, Part 200, et al. Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards) is the standard that both Auditors and Auditees must follow when a Single Audit is performed.

If your organization must have a Single Audit, the first step is to develop the Schedule of Expenditures of Federal Awards (SEFA), which is your responsibility. In certain cases, Maher Duessel can be hired to help with the non-audit services of drafting the SEFA. There have been numerous errors noted by Peer Reviewers and Inspector General auditors connected to the SEFA.

Many of these errors are based on new requirements for the SEFA that the *Uniform Guidance* put into place. If these errors can be identified sooner or prevented in the first place, the Single Audit reporting will proceed more smoothly. A clean error free SEFA will help to ensure that the Single Audit is in compliance with the *Uniform Guidance*.

Errors associated with the SEFA can lead to an audit having to be reissued.

Common SEFA Errors

• Incorrect amounts, estimated amounts, or incomplete reporting on the SEFA can lead to inaccuracies in Major Program Determination. These inaccuracies can lead to Maher Duessel having to go back and audit another major program because the A/B threshold has changed, or a final adjustment has increased the program total to turn a B program into an A program.

•The SEFA must have cluster names and cluster totals. There are numerous clusters noted in the Compliance Supplement. There are cases where failure to identify a cluster can lead to a missed major program.

•In some cases, if the SEFA had only one program or the program was very small, the cluster name and total is missing.

•Failure to include on the face of the SEFA the amount passed onto sub-recipients. (Under the A-133 requirements, this was permitted to be a footnote.)

•Failure to include in the footnote to the SEFA whether or not the non-federal entity elected to use the 10% deminimis cost rate.

•Failure to include the ending balance of a loan in the footnote (The *Uniform Guidance* has clarified that the beginning balance goes on the SEFA.)

•Failure to place non-cash awards on the face of the SEFA. (Under the A-133 guidance, these could be included in the footnote presentation.)

### Single Audit: Get Off to a Good Start with an Error Free SEFA



By Diane E. Edelstein, CPA Partner, <u>dedelstein@md-cpas.com</u>

How Maher Duessel is Helping to Ensure Compliance

At Maher Duessel we have enhanced our review process to identify missing or inaccurate clusters. We will continue our robust internal review to ensure the required elements of the SEFA are presented. We also require our auditors, before issuing a report final, to redo their Major Program Determination using the numbers in the final SEFA to ensure proper selection of the major program.

### **New Maher Duessel Promotions in 2017**

Lindsay Saenz, CPA, has been promoted from Senior to Supervisor.
Jessica Strigle, CPA, has been promoted from Senior to Supervisor.
Ryan Nedley has been promoted from Experienced Staff to Senior.
Christina Kotun has been promoted from Experienced Staff to Senior.
TJ Gustafson has been promoted from Experienced Staff to Senior.
Justin Arnt has been promoted from Experienced Staff to Senior.

### And Special Recognition To...

•Partners David Duessel, CPA, CGFM; Diane Edelstein, CPA; Jeff Kent, CPA; Betsy Krisher, CPA, CGFM, Brian McCall, CPA, CGFM; Lisa Ritter, CPA, CFE; and Tracey Rash, CPA, CGFM have all received the **AICPA's Advanced Single Audit certification** 

•Partner Tracey Rash has been appointed **Treasurer** of the **Government Finance Officers Association State Board**.

•Manager, Janet Feick, CPA has received the AICPA's Advanced Defined Contribution Plans Audit Certificate.

•Senior Ryan Nedley and Experienced Staff Sara Reed have become **licensed Pennsylvania CPAs**.

## MaherDuessel Certified Public Accountants

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# Government News Nuggets 2017 Winter Edition



Pittsburgh Office

Erie Office

D.L. Clark Building 503 Martindale Street Suite 600 Pittsburgh, PA 15212 412.471.5500

1001 State Street Suite 1400 Erie, PA 16501 814.480.5777

### Harrisburg Office

3003 North Front Street Suite 101 Harrisburg, PA 17110 717.232.1230

Butler Office

112 Hollywood Drive Suite 204 Butler, PA 16001 724.285.6800

### State College Office

237 South Allen Street Suite 337 State College, PA 16801 412.471.5500



Appendix F: Exhibit A Pricing Form



### EXHIBIT A : PRICING PAGE AUDIT SERVICES FLAT FEE PRICING

| Description   |                     | Extended Cost     |
|---|---------------------|-------------------|
| Total all-inclusive maximum price for audit services as described in this solicitation. | 2017                | \$41,000          |
| Fotal all-inclusive maximum price for audit services as described in this solicitation. | 2018                | \$42,500          |
| Total all-inclusive maximum price for audit services as described in this solicitation. | 2019                | \$44,000          |
| Fotal all-inclusive maximum price for audit services as described in this solicitation. | 2020                | \$45,500          |
|   | TOTAL BID<br>AMOUNT | <b>\$</b> 173,000 |



Appendix G: Exhibit B Vendor Preference Certificate





### State of West Virginia

## VENDOR PREFERENCE CERTIFICATE

Certification and application is hereby made for Preference in accordance with *West Virginia Code*, §5A-3-37. (Does not apply to construction contracts). *West Virginia Code*, §5A-3-37, provides an opportunity for qualifying vendors to request (at the time of bid) preference for their residency status. Such preference is an evaluation method only and will be applied only to the cost bid in accordance with the *West Virginia Code*. This certificate for application is to be used to request such preference. The Purchasing Division will make the determination of the Vendor Preference, if applicable.

|           | Application is made for 2.5% vendor preference for the reason checked:<br>Bidder is an individual resident vendor and has resided continuously in West Virginia for four (4) years immediately preced-<br>ing the date of this certification; or,<br>Bidder is a partnership, association or corporation resident vendor and has maintained its headquarters or principal place of<br>business continuously in West Virginia for four (4) years immediately preceding the date of this certification;   |
|-----------|---|
|           | Bidder is a resident vendor partnership, association, or corporation with at least eighty percent of ownership interest of bidder held by another entity that meets the applicable four year residency requirement; or,   |
|           | Bidder is a nonresident vendor which has an affiliate or subsidiary which employs a minimum of one hundred state residents and which has maintained its headquarters or principal place of business within West Virginia continuously for the four (4) years immediately preceding the date of this certification; <b>or</b> ,  |
| <b>2.</b> | Application is made for 2.5% vendor preference for the reason checked:<br>Bidder is a resident vendor who certifies that, during the life of the contract, on average at least 75% of the employees<br>working on the project being bid are residents of West Virginia who have resided in the state continuously for the two years<br>immediately preceding submission of this bid; or,  |
| 3.        | Application is made for 2.5% vendor preference for the reason checked:<br>Bidder is a nonresident vendor that employs a minimum of one hundred state residents, or a nonresident vendor which<br>has an affiliate or subsidiary which maintains its headquarters or principal place of business within West Virginia and<br>employs a minimum of one hundred state residents, and for purposes of producing or distributing the commodities or<br>completing the project which is the subject of the bidder's bid and continuously over the entire term of the project, on<br>average at least seventy-five percent of the bidder's employees or the bidder's affiliate's or subsidiary's employees are<br>residents of West Virginia who have resided in the state continuously for the two immediately preceding years and the<br>vendor's bid; or, |
| 4.        | Application is made for 5% vendor preference for the reason checked:<br>Bidder meets either the requirement of both subdivisions (1) and (2) or subdivision (1) and (3) as stated above; or,  |
| 5         | Application is made for 3.5% vendor preference who is a veteran for the reason checked:<br>Bidder is an individual resident vendor who is a veteran of the United States armed forces, the reserves or the National Guard<br>and has resided in West Virginia continuously for the four years immediately preceding the date on which the bid is<br>submitted; or,  |
| 6.        | Application is made for 3.5% vendor preference who is a veteran for the reason checked:<br>Bidder is a resident vendor who is a veteran of the United States armed forces, the reserves or the National Guard, if, for<br>purposes of producing or distributing the commodities or completing the project which is the subject of the vendor's bid and<br>continuously over the entire term of the project, on average at least seventy-five percent of the vendor's employees are<br>residents of West Virginia who have resided in the state continuously for the two immediately preceding years.  |
| 7.<br>X   | Application is made for preference as a non-resident small, women- and minority-owned business, in accor-<br>dance with West Virginia Code §5A-3-59 and West Virginia Code of State Rules.<br>Bidder has been or expects to be approved prior to contract award by the Purchasing Division as a certified small, women-<br>and minority-owned business.   |
| or (b) as | nderstands if the Secretary of Revenue determines that a Bidder receiving preference has failed to continue to meet the<br>nents for such preference, the Secretary may order the Director of Purchasing to: (a) rescind the contract or purchase order;<br>sess a penalty against such Bidder in an amount not to exceed 5% of the bid amount and that such penalty will be paid to<br>racting agency or deducted from any unpaid balance on the contract or purchase order.   |
| the requi | nission of this certificate, Bidder agrees to disclose any reasonably requested information to the Purchasing Division and<br>as the Department of Revenue to disclose to the Director of Purchasing appropriate information verifying that Bidder has paid<br>ired business taxes, provided that such information does not contain the amounts of taxes paid nor any other information<br>by the Tax Commissioner to be confidential.  |
| anu nai   | nereby certifies that this certificate is true and accurate in all respects; and that if a contract is issued to Bidder<br>hything contained within this certificate changes during the term of the contract, Bidder will notify the Purchas-<br>sion in writing immediately.   |

| Bidder: Maher Duessel | Signed:        |
|-----------------------|----------------|
| Date: May 23, 2017    | Title: Partner |

\*Check any combination of preference consideration(s) indicated above, which you are entitled to receive.



Appendix H: Certification and Signature Page





**DESIGNATED CONTACT:** Vendor appoints the individual identified in this Section as the Contract Administrator and the initial point of contact for matters relating to this Contract.

| (Name, Title)<br>Jeffrey W. Kent, CPA, Partner   |       |
|--|-------|
| (Printed Name and Title)<br>Maher Duessel, D.L. Clark Building, 503 Martindale Street, Suite 600, Pittsburgh, PA | 15212 |
| (Address)<br>412.535.5539/412.471.5508   |       |
| (Phone Number) / (Fax Number)<br>jkent@md-cpas.com   |       |
| (email address)  |       |

**CERTIFICATION AND SIGNATURE:** By signing below, or submitting documentation through wvOASIS, I certify that I have reviewed this Solicitation in its entirety; that I understand the requirements, terms and conditions, and other information contained herein; that this bid, offer or proposal constitutes an offer to the State that cannot be unilaterally withdrawn; that the product or service proposed meets the mandatory requirements contained in the Solicitation for that product or service, unless otherwise stated herein; that the Vendor accepts the terms and conditions contained in the Solicitation, unless otherwise stated herein; that I am submitting this bid, offer or proposal for review and consideration; that I am authorized by the vendor to execute and submit this bid, offer, or proposal, or any documents related thereto on vendor's behalf; that I am authorized to bind the vendor in a contractual relationship; and that to the best of my knowledge, the vendor has properly registered with any State agency that may require registration.

| Maher Duessel            |                                       |  |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| (Company)                |                                       |  |
| Jurint                   | Jeffrey W. Kent, CPA, Partner         |  |
| (Authorized Signa        | ture) (Representative Name, Title)    |  |
| Jeffrey W. Kent, CPA, Pa | artner                                |  |
| (Printed Name and        | 1 Title of Authorized Representative) |  |
| May 23, 2017             |                                       |  |
| (Date)                   |                                       |  |
| 412.535.5539/412.471.5   | 508                                   |  |
| (Phone Number) (         | Fax Number)                           |  |



Appendix I: Purchasing Affidavit



### STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA Purchasing Division PURCHASING AFFIDAVIT

**MANDATE:** Under W. Va. Code §5A-3-10a, no contract or renewal of any contract may be awarded by the state or any of its political subdivisions to any vendor or prospective vendor when the vendor or prospective vendor or a related party to the vendor or prospective vendor is a debtor and: (1) the debt owed is an amount greater than one thousand dollars in the aggregate; or (2) the debtor is in employer default.

**EXCEPTION:** The prohibition listed above does not apply where a vendor has contested any tax administered pursuant to chapter eleven of the W. Va. Code, workers' compensation premium, permit fee or environmental fee or assessment and the matter has not become final or where the vendor has entered into a payment plan or agreement and the vendor is not in default of any of the provisions of such plan or agreement.

### **DEFINITIONS:**

"Debt" means any assessment, premium, penalty, fine, tax or other amount of money owed to the state or any of its political subdivisions because of a judgment, fine, permit violation, license assessment, defaulted workers' compensation premium, penalty or other assessment presently delinquent or due and required to be paid to the state or any of its political subdivisions, including any interest or additional penalties accrued thereon.

"Employer default" means having an outstanding balance or liability to the old fund or to the uninsured employers' fund or being in policy default, as defined in W. Va. Code § 23-2c-2, failure to maintain mandatory workers' compensation coverage, or failure to fully meet its obligations as a workers' compensation self-insured employer. An employer is not in employer default if it has entered into a repayment agreement with the Insurance Commissioner and remains in compliance with the obligations under the repayment agreement.

"Related party" means a party, whether an individual, corporation, partnership, association, limited liability company or any other form or business association or other entity whatsoever, related to any vendor by blood, marriage, ownership or contract through which the party has a relationship of ownership or other interest with the vendor so that the party will actually or by effect receive or control a portion of the benefit, profit or other consideration from performance of a vendor contract with the party receiving an amount that meets or exceed five percent of the total contract amount.

AFFIRMATION: By signing this form, the vendor's authorized signer affirms and acknowledges under penalty of law for false swearing (*W. Va. Code* §61-5-3) that neither vendor nor any related party owe a debt as defined above and that neither vendor nor any related party are in employer default as defined above, unless the debt or employer default is permitted under the exception above.

#### WITNESS THE FOLLOWING SIGNATURE:

| Vendor's Name: Maher Duessel  |   |
|---|---|
| Authorized Signature:   | Date: May 23, 2017                        |
| State of <u><i>Persusuflicencia</i></u><br>County of <u>Alleghency</u> , to-wit:  |   |
| County of <u>alleghering</u> , to-wit:  |   |
| Taken, subscribed, and sworn to before me this  |   |
| My Commission expires// -   | 1 20/8.                                   |
| AFFIX SEAL HERE   | NOTARY PUBLIC plannette M. Walshab        |
| COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA<br>NOTARIAL SEAL<br>Mannette M. Walshak, Notary Public<br>City of Pittsburgh, Allegheny County<br>My Commission Expires Nov. 1, 2018<br>MEMBER, PENNSYLVANIA ABSOCIATION OF NOTARIES | Purchasing Affidavit (Revised 08/01/2015) |



Appendix J: Proposal Form



### REQUEST FOR QUOTATION WEST VIRGINIA ALCOHOL BEVERAGE CONTROL ADMINISTRATION ANNUAL AUDITING SERVICES

10.2.2 Cancellation of one or more release orders issued under this Contract.

**10.2.3** Any other remedies available in law or equity.

### 11. MISCELLANEOUS:

11.1 Contract Manager: During its performance of this Contract, Vendor must designate and maintain a primary contract manager responsible for overseeing Vendor responsibilities under this Contract. The Contract manager must be available during normal business hours to address any customer service or other issues related to this Contract. Vendor should list its Contract manager and his or her contact information below.

| <b>Contract Manager:</b>         | Jeffrey W. Kent, CPA |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Telephone Number:                | 412.535.5539         |
| <b>Fax Number:</b> <u>412.47</u> | 1.5508               |
| Email Address: jker              | nt@md-cpas.com       |

### 12. BY SUBMISSION OF THIS COST BID THE VENDOR CERTIFIES AND AGREES TO THE FOLLOWING:

- 12.1 That the Vendor understands the WVABCA's need to obtain highly skilled audit and accomplished accounting services and advice needed to ensure accomplishment of the reliance placed on these by State of West Virginia Legislature & Governors' Office, the public.
- 12.2 That the Vendor has certified public accountants assigned to the WVABCA work who understand the code related to the sale of alcoholic liquors. The Vendor is responsible for understanding the West Virginia statutes, legislative rules, and internal policies which control and define the accounting for WVABCA. The WVABCA requires that all partners, audit managers, and senior accountants assigned to the WVABCA work be certified public accountants with a license to practice in West Virginia, and who have a minimum of five (5) years of auditing experience, and five (5) years governmental auditing of state level agencies.
- **12.3** That the Vendor will make itself available to the WVABCA on short notice to give advice to the WVABCA on changes in accounting practices, changes in the law, and