



GOVERNMENT OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS OF THE UNITED STATES
Department of Property and Procurement

8201 Sub Base, 3rd Floor, St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands 00802
3274 Estate Richmond, Christiansted, U.S. Virgin Islands 00820

St. Thomas:
Main Office: (340) 774-0828
Fax: (340) 777-9587

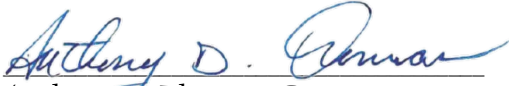
St. Croix:
Main Office: (340) 773-1561
www.dpp.vi.gov



MEMORANDUM No. 007-2021

To: All Agency/Department Heads

Cc: All OPCMR Members

From: 
Anthony D. Thomas, Commissioner

Date: January 12, 2021

Re: Resources to Implement Bill No. 33-0269

Thank you for your participation in today's meeting and for your shared commitment in transitioning and improving our processes for procuring goods and services. Enclosed are seven (7) Fact Sheets and seven (7) Cheat Sheets which outline the various changes to the Procurement Statute which will serve as reference documents as we all transition to this new Mode of Operation. We urge you to read the enclosed documents and to contact us with any questions.

We are all excited about the various changes including the following:

1. For your ease of operation, the micro-purchase threshold has essentially doubled. Therefore, you will be able to procure goods and services valued under \$10,000 using a single quotation (it also does not matter whether the purchase will be on-island or off-island);
2. We know a number of you have eagerly awaited the ability to receive delegated procurement authority, to acquire goods and services valued up to \$50,000.00 independent of DPP. The statute provides DPP with the authority to delegate said responsibility. However, some fundamental matters must occur before DPP begins delegating procurement authority:
 - a. DPP must promulgate rules and regulations to implement this delegation program;
 - b. Agencies must embrace the framework of the Office of Contract Management and Reporting ("OPCMR") and establish central procurement offices within their departments and staff their departments with the requisite skilled personnel.
 - c. Agencies must re-certify for delegated procurement authority every two (2) years.
 - d. DPP will be working feverishly to launch the delegation program by June 2021.

3. For our many small businesses, we have eased the path for participation in the procurement process by raising the contracting threshold which requires bonding from \$50,000.00 to \$150,000.00. Therefore, bid bonds and payment and performance bonds are no longer required on contracts valued up to \$150,000.00 This brings the Territory in line with Federal requirements;
4. We have entered the 21st Century and can utilize various online and electronic publications in soliciting goods and services rather than being restricted to traditional newspapers based on an outdated definition. This will provide for areas of cost-saving as well as provide a wider audience for our solicitations thus exposing you to greater competition;
5. We have added additional solicitation methods to Section 236, to include Requests for Qualifications, to better align the Territory with procurement industry standards, to name a few; and
6. We have also added additional requirements for bidders utilizing their preferred bidder's status. Bidders are now required to provide proof of such status and are required to re-certify every two (2) years. This process will ascertain that bidders remain in good standing as well as, provide the delivery of goods and services in accordance with the requirements set forth in the Government's contracts and professional standards.

The Department remains excited about these changes and what it means for the future of our Territory and the OPCMR. We look forward to your continued engagements and our continued partnerships.

Should you have any questions, please contact Lisa M. Alejandro, Assistant Commissioner via email at lisa.alejandro@dpp.vi.gov.

