

# DIVISION OF GENERAL SERVICES

# THE PROCUREMENT REPORT



Volume I, Issue I

September 2013

## Upcoming Training

10/14, Juneau:

- ◆ Small Procurements
- ◆ ITBs

10/23, Anchorage:

- ◆ Small Procurements
- ◆ Ethics

Register online at

[TrainAlaska](#)

## CPO Corner

When Senate Bill 12 (SB12) took effect in June, the small procurement threshold was increased from \$50,000 to \$100,000.

While this did not affect the small procurement competition levels set out in regulations, it *did* increase the threshold for agencies to approve single source and limited competition RAPs within their own authority to \$100,000.

This is because these limitations are set out in the blanket [delegation of authority](#) and are tied specifically to the statutory authority.

Changes to regulations are in process that would modify the small procurement thresholds set there. Stay tuned!

## Welcome

Welcome to the first issue of The Procurement Report, a monthly newsletter from the Purchasing Section of the Division of General Services. The main goal of this newsletter is to keep procurement staff in all agencies up-to-date on important statewide changes to contracts and policy, but it will also include other procurement-related information we hope you will find useful. If you have any comments, questions, or suggestions on other content you'd like to see, please feel free to contact us at [doa.dgs.newsletter@alaska.gov](mailto:doa.dgs.newsletter@alaska.gov).

## Updates

- ⇒ DGS Procurement training is picking back up, but we are taking a different approach to scheduling: rather than booking classes in 6-month blocks, we are scheduling them 30-45 days out. We will still be offering the full range of classes, you just won't need to worry about adjusting your calendar as classes booked far in advance are rescheduled.
- ⇒ The [preferences guide](#) has been revised to include changes made in SB12 and can be found on the [Purchasing Documents & Forms](#) page.
- ⇒ The procurement regulations update draft phase has been finalized and we are aiming to begin the public notice process soon, with changes effective by the end of the year.
- ⇒ Ross Alexander started working as a Contracting Officer I with DGS in August. He recently moved to Juneau from South Dakota, where he managed federal contracts for a large roofing company.
- ⇒ Linda Polk begins working as a Contracting Officer III on September 23rd. She is coming to DGS from the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education.
- ⇒ DGS signed WSCA/NASPO PA's with OfficeMax for [Office Supplies/Toner](#) and Snap On Industrial for [Small Hand & Power Tools and Accessories](#).
- ⇒ Solicitations for ATVs/snowmachines and plumbing services are on the horizon.

## Question of the Month

***Can I hire a speaker to conduct a training under the guest speaker exemption granted in AS 36.30.850(b)(21)?***

In short, no. Although the exemption mentions "guest speakers or performers for an educational or cultural activity," the guidance provided under PIM #54 notes that there is a distinction between speaking and conducting a training. An individual chosen to speak at an event may fall under this exemption, but not if that individual is also going to be facilitating meetings or teaching a specific skill. However, this may vary on a case-by-case basis.

We always recommend double-checking with DGS before awarding a contract under one of the exemptions listed in AS 36.30.850(b).