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Please respond to John.Rulison@RavenServices.us

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To: David C. Childs A-76comments/OMB/EOP@EOP

cc:

Subject: Comments om A-76

Raven Services Corporation supports the A-76 revision. Small businesses such as mine will have a greater number of opportunities to perform work in support of the Government. The revision should also help eliminate unfair government competition. In every instance possible the Federal Government should rely on the private sector for goods and services.

One of the primary disincentives under the previous A-76 process has been the extremely long periods of time it takes to conduct an A-76 competition. This problem has been particularly to deal with given the immediate demand for talented employees that has existed in the employment markets during the last 36 months. Individuals are not willing to wait for months, and in some cases years, to find out if they have a new employment opportunity. The revisions state that a "standard competition shall not exceed 12 months." We strongly support this move to make the time frames for conducting public-private competitions more reasonable, and in line with standard procurements.

The Commercial Activities Panel made a recommendation that the A-76 procurements use a FAR based process, based on best value, for certain procurements. Raven strongly supports that recommendation.

We believe the proposed revisions to Circular A-76 will make the process more fair and timely. They will provide an incentive for private sector companies to enthusiastically participate in future A-76 procurements. Regardless of the party selected as the successful offeror in A-76 competitions the Government receives definite benefits in the form of reduced costs and improved organizational flexibility and usually better task response capabilities. We believe the revisions to Circular A-76 will result in major improvements over the past process.

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