

## UNITED STATES GENERAL ACCOUNTING OFFICE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20548

18475

OFFICE OF GENERAL COUNSEL

B-203517

June 12, 1981

Marcum & Kliegman Certified Public Accountants 20 Miller Place Syosset, New York 11791

Attention: Edwin J. Kliegman

Gentlemen:

We acknowledge receipt of your complaint regarding a provision of Solicitation No. RFP DTCG 39-81-R-00257, issued by the Coast Guard.

Protests which are based on alleged improprieties in a solicitation which are apparent prior to the time of bid opening or the initial closing date for the receipt of proposals must be filed prior to bid opening or the closing date if they are to be considered on the merits. 4 C.F.R. § 20.2(b)(1) (1980). The closing date here was April 7, 1981. Since the matter you have complained about was apparent prior to that time, the protest filed on June 1, 1981 is untimely and will not be considered.

We regret we cannot be of assistance at this time.

Sincerely yours,

Harry R. Van Cleve

Harry R. Van Cleve Acting General Counsel

Protest of Goast Guard Solicitation ].