



SWD Contracting Hero of the Month

Southwestern Division, Interagency and International Services Contracting Hero

By Khristina Sandoval
SWD Contracting Office

Ms. Lisa May is being recognized for her outstanding acquisition support serving as a Contract Specialist, Contracting Officer, and 51C Acquisition Mentor for the Southwestern Division's Interagency and International Services (IIS) Bravo Branch, which supports Architect & Engineering and Construction requirements. Ms. May's contracting expertise has been continually relied upon by the IIS over the past year to provide acquisition support on a myriad of complex contracting issues and mission requirements.



Ms. May's dedicated support of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement partnership led to the successful award of a high-priority, high-visibility, Design-Build (DB) construction project for the El Paso Service Processing Center Dormitory—despite compounded pressures of a condensed schedule resulting from expiring funds. It was Ms. May's ability to lead the Project Delivery Team (PDT), as a dedicated business advisor, throughout critical stages to ensure key milestones and pre-award activities were accomplished that proved invaluable and ensured the successful award ahead of schedule. Her focus on delivering quality acquisition documents reduced procurement to acquisition lead time that enabled the team to focus on industry feedback and delivering ahead of schedule. Ms. May's early planning/strategy initiatives utilized the Total Record of Acquisition Capacity (TRAC) application to reserve capacity against an existing contracting tool that ultimately supported the strict building requirements for the detention center.

While serving as the Senior Contract Specialist, it was her mentorship of an Active-Duty Army 51C assigned to the project combined with her collaboration efforts with the PDT in the development of source selection criteria that ensured the release of the solicitation 28 days ahead of schedule—thereby generating additional time in the schedule to extend the closing date by 8 days to allow offerors additional time to prepare quality proposals. Ms. May's performance serving as a co-chair on the source selection evaluation board (SSEB) and her invaluable support of the Chair in drafting the final report and award documentation further demonstrated her commitment. Ms. May's engagement during all stages of the acquisition encouraged every member of the PDT to work cooperatively and effectively which enhanced collaboration and communication that was highly depended upon to make award on time and on budget. Ms. May's attention to detail also contributed to shortening review times—ultimately serving as an example for the team. Ms. May's determination and demand for excellence during all stages of the acquisition, especially throughout critical evaluation reviews resulted in legal concurrence in a single day and the award of the project ahead of schedule.

Ms. May continues to strive for excellence and recently earned immediate Senior Contracting Official endorsement for the solicitation package she prepared as the lead Contract Specialist for the \$300M DB, Design-Bid-Build, Construction MATOC project for the Customs and Border Patrol Agency. For these reasons, Ms. May is the Southwestern Division Contracting Team's Hero of the Month!