

**Stevie F. Rushing**

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March 18, 2024

**Via Electronic Mail and Certified Mail:**

Teresa Drexler

Optum State Government Solutions, Inc.  
11000 Optum Circle, MN101-W013  
Eden Prairie, MN 55344

teresa.drexler@optum.com

Kim White

MS Dept. of Information Technology Services  
3771 Eastwood Drive  
Jackson, MS 39211-6381

Kim.White@its.ms.gov

Re: Notice of and Reasons for Filing Petition for Protective Order

All:

I represent CSRA State and Local Solutions, LLC, a General Dynamics Information Technology company, (“GDIT”). On March 11, 2024, GDIT received written notice that Teresa Drexler, on behalf of Optum State Government Solutions, Inc. (“Optum”), submitted a public records request to the Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services (“ITS”) seeking the following: “Copies of Technical & Cost Proposals, including pricing, submitted by each bidder re RFP 4243; & Each Evaluation Committee team members qualitative notes & quantitative scoring each bidder’s proposal.”

GDIT hereby gives notice that it intends to seek a protective order from the Chancery Court of Hinds County, Mississippi, First Judicial District, that precludes its trade secrets and confidential and proprietary information from being publicly disclosed in response to Optum’s pending records request. *See* Miss. Code § 25-61-9(7).<sup>1</sup>

GDIT desires a protective order because the records requests, if fully responded to, would require the production of its trade secrets and proprietary and confidential commercial and financial information—including, but not limited to, the following:

- name and background information about key personnel;
- unique identifying information;
- identification of existing and former customers;

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<sup>1</sup> GDIT provides this pre-petition notice out of an abundance of caution. In doing so, GDIT does not concede that the subject Request for Proposals or the responses to the same constitute a “procurement contract” for purposes of the Mississippi Public Records Act.

- confidential and proprietary financial information, including costs, expenses, and proposed pricing;
- confidential information regarding proprietary designs and processes; and
- confidential and proprietary plans and strategies, and the unique trade secrets, services, and attributes that make possible those plans and strategies.

This information is exempt from the Mississippi Public Records Act's presumption of accessibility. *See* Miss. Code §§ 25-61-9(1), 79-23-1. To protect this information from public disclosure, GDIT intends to file a petition for a protective order in the Chancery Court of Hinds County, Mississippi, First Judicial District, on or before April 1, 2024, as required by Mississippi Code § 25-61-9(1). GDIT intends to proceed with this plan unless it learns that Optum has withdrawn or modified its records request.

I request ITS immediately publish this notice on the Mississippi procurement portal in accordance with Mississippi Code § 25-61-9(7). Further, I request that any questions regarding this notice or the forthcoming petition be directed to me.

Best regards,

/s/ Stevie F. Rushing  
Stevie F. Rushing (MS Bar #105534)  
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