FISHER & ASSOCIATES 1 Suite 101 De La Corte Building 167 East Marine Corp. Drive Hagåtña, Guam 96910 Telephone: (671) 472-1131 3 Facsimile: (671) 472-2886 4 5 BEFORE THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY 6 **GOVERNMENT OF GUAM** 7 IN THE APPEAL OF: CASE NO: OPA-PA 13-009 8 9 JMI EDISON, 10 Appellant. 11 12 13 **GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL AUTHORITY** 14 **AGENCY REPORT** 15 16 17 18 RECEIVED OFFICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY 19 PROCUREMENT APPEALS 8/15/2013 20 TIME: 3:10 DAM 19PM BY: 21 FILE NO OPA-PA: 13-009 22 23 FISHER & ASSOCIATES 24 25 26 **Counsel for GMHA**

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VIII. If the award was made after receipt of the protest, the report will include the determination required under 2 GAR §9101(e)IX. A statement indicating whether the matter is the subject of a court proceeding.

A Copy of the Protest

Please see Agency Procurement Record filed August 8, 2013, at Tab I(a)

A Copy of the Bid or Offer submitted by the Appellant; A Copy of the Bid or Offer that has been awarded

Please see this Agency Supplemental Procurement Record filed August 15, 2013.

III.

A Copy of the Solicitation

Please see Agency Procurement Record filed August 8, 2013, at Tab F.

IV.

A Copy of the Abstract of Bids or Offers

Please see Agency Procurement Record filed August 8, 2013, at Tab G.

Any Other Documents which are Relevant to the Protest

Attached herewith, and see Agency Procurement Record filed August 8, 2013 and Agency Supplemental Procurement Record filed August 15, 2013.



Guam Memorial Hospital Authority Aturidat Espitat Mimuriat Guahan

850 Gov. Carlos G. Camacho Road Oka, Tamuning, Guam 96913-3128 Tel: (671) 647-2555 thru 9 Fax: (671) 649-3640



Vendor:

MEDPHARM CORPORATION

P.O. BOX 11864

TAMUNING

GU 96931

Ph 671-632-6000 Fax 671-632-9000

Ship To: GUAM

GUAM MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

850 GOV CARLOS G. CAMACHO ROAD

TAMUNING, GUAM 96913

PURCHASE ORDER Number: 20132831-000

Purchase Order Date: 6/04/2013

Vendor Number: 7753

Page 1 OF 1

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documents and packages must bear the purchase order number shown above. SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR PURCHASE ORDER TERMS AND CONDITIONS. Grand Total									380,925.00	

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT SIGNATURE AND DATE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT COPY

Joseph P. Verga HOSPITAL ADMINISTRATOR / CEO

The Decision from which the Appeal is Taken

Please see Agency Procurement Record filed August 8, 2013, at Tab I(a).

VII.

A Statement Answering the Allegation of the Appeal

Attached herewith.

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BEFORE THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY
GOVERNMENT OF GUAM

IN THE APPEAL OF:

JMI EDISON.

Appellant.

CASE NO: OPA-PA 13-009

AGENCY STATEMENT

COMES NOW the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority ("GMHA"), by and through counsel of record Fisher & Associates, and submits its Agency Statement in response to Appellant JMI Edison's procurement appeal filed August 1, 2013. This Statement is submitted pursuant to 2 Guam Admin. R. & Regs. 12105(g).

STATEMENT OF FACT

On September 21, 2012, the GMHA issued an invitation for interested parties to submit bids for portable kidney machines with reverse osmosis water purification machines. See Agency Procurement Record at Tab F. Three offerors, JMI Edison, MedPharm, and JC Marketing, submitted bids that were opened on October 19, 2012. See Agency Procurement Record at Tab F. Representatives from the offering companies were present at bid opening. See Agency Procurement Record at Tab A at Bid Opening Sign in Sheet, and Tab C – Sound Recording of Bid Opening¹.

On October 31, 2012, MedPharm timely submitted a bid protest alleging noncompliance by JMI Edison and JC Marketing. See Agency Procurement Record at Tab I(b). In its protest, MedPharm

¹ Counsel for Appellant is creating a copy of the sound recording provided to it by the GMHA in response to Appellant's FOIA request. The GMHA will remit a copy of the sound recording to the Office of the Public Auditor upon receipt.

Therefore, JMI's perceived deficiencies were known or should have been known to JMI at bid opening on October 19, 2012.

JMI Edison cites to *Tumon Corporation v. GMHA*, CV 1420-01 as supporting its contention that it did not become an "aggrieved" party until the GMHA selected an offeror for contract award. However, that analysis is misguided. In the *Tumon* case, Plaintiff protested the GMHA's decision to reject all bids and re-solicit the bid after Plaintiff received a notice of intent to award the contract. Plaintiff sought judicial review and an order that the GMHA award the contract to Plaintiff. The Superior Court of Guam examined the issue of whether a winning bidder could be an "aggrieved" party under 5 GCA § 5425(a) or (g). The Court did not, as JMI Edison suggests, define an aggrieved bidder as a losing bidder; it determined that because Tumon Corporation received a notice of intent to award the contract, it could not be considered aggrieved. The distinction is significant.

Moreover, 5 GCA § 5425(a) clearly states that the right to protest lies with "fajny actual or prospective bidder, offeror, or contractor who may be aggrieved in connection with the method of source selection, solicitation or award of a contract." Id. (Emphasis added). The statue does not require that an actual or prospective bidder be aggrieved in order to have a right to protest. Indeed, bid protests can be, and are, filed before the award of a contract and at other times during the procurement process.

In this case, MedPharm submitted its timely protest after bid opening on October 31, 2012, alleging similar deficiencies to those that JMI Edison did not raise until June 21, 2013. Therefore, JMI Edison cannot contend that their protest – filed almost 8 months after bid opening - was timely.

Accepting for purposes of this appeal that the deficiencies alleged by JMI Edison exist, they are best characterized as items of nonconformance and not nonresponse. MedPharam's bid conformed in all material respects to the invitation for bid; that is it offered to supply a portable

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kidney machine with reverse osmosis water purification machine in conformity with all material terms and conditions of the solicitation. Therefore Appellant JMI Edison's protest is both untimely and without merit.

FISHER & ASSOCIATES

Minakshi V. Hemlani, Esq. Counsel for GMHA

VIII.

A Determination Required under 2 GAR §9101(e)

Not applicable.

A Statement Indicating whether the Matter is the Subject of a Court Proceeding

Attached herewith.

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BEFORE THE OFFICE OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTABILITY **GOVERNMENT OF GUAM**

IN THE APPEAL OF:

JMI EDISON,

Appellant.

CASE NO: OPA-PA 13-009

AGENCY DECLARATION **RE COURT ACTION**

PURSUANT to 5 GCA Chapter 5, unless the court requests, expects, or otherwise expresses interest in a decision by the Public Auditor, the Office of the Public Auditor will not take action on any appeal where action concerning the protest or appeal has commenced in any court.

The undersigned party does hereby confirm that to the best of his or her knowledge, no case or action concerning the subject of this Appeal has been commenced in court. All parties are required to and the undersigned party agrees to notify the Office of the Public Auditor within 24 hours if court action commences regarding this Appeal or the underlying procurement action.

Submitted this 15th day of August, 2013.

By:

Joseph P. Verga, MS, FACHE Hospital Administrator/CEO