



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

November 5, 1973

Mr. Harold Weisberg
Route 8
Frederick, Maryland 21701

Dear Mr. Weisberg:

This is in response to your letter of October 15, 1973, concerning HEW contracts with Robert R. Mullen & Company. To provide you with the information you desire, I need clarification of several matters presented in your letter.

Your letter states in part "If in some cases the contracts are in the names of officials or employees of this company, I would also like access to these contracts." Should this be construed to mean that you are interested in contracts entered into with specific individuals who are or have been associated with the Mullen Company as well as contracts with the Mullen Company itself? If so, please identify these individuals and the applicable time-frame(s) involved.

You have asked whether summaries of contracts exist in tabular form. Please specify what type of information you desire to see in summary form. Are you concerned with the scopes of work of the contracts; synopses of reports required to be furnished under the contracts; or data concerning contractor performance such as timeliness of performance or quality of the end-product delivered?

You have also expressed interest as to "whether or not there was competitive bidding for the contract." As used in your letter, would the phrase "competitive bidding" encompass negotiation?

Your responses to the above questions will enable us to provide you more precisely with the information you desire.

Sincerely yours,

Russell M. Roberts
Director of Public Services
Department Information Center Officer