
Notice of Intent to Certify Sole Source

To: Interested Parties
From: Craig P. Orgeron, Ph.D.
Date: December 31, 2015
RE: Sole Source Certification Number 3868 for services to upgrade the Mississippi Department of Public Safety Criminal Information Center (CIC) OpenFox Message Switch System Hardware and OpenFox Operating System Platform

Contact Name: Bill Brinkley
Contact Phone Number: 601-432-8149
Contact E-mail Address: Bill.Brinkley@its.ms.gov

Sole Source Certification Award Details

Regarding Information Technology Services (ITS) Sole Source Certification Number 3868 for services to upgrade the existing MDPS Criminal Information Center OpenFox Message Switch System Hardware and OpenFox Operating System Platform, please be advised that ITS intends to award to Computer Projects of Illinois, Inc. (CPI) as the sole source provider to upgrade the Mississippi Department of Public Safety Criminal Information Center (CIC) OpenFox Message Switch System Hardware and OpenFox Operating System Platform through December 31, 2016, at a total not-to-exceed lifecycle cost of \$93,100.00. For an explanation regarding Mississippi state law, policies, and procedures for sole source procurements, refer to Attachment C: Sole Source Procurement Overview.

Sole Source Criteria

1. The product or services being purchased must perform a function for which no other product or source of services exists:

OpenFox Message Switch System is the legacy tool used by the MDPS, CIC. The MDPS, CIC has made a business decision to continue using the OpenFox Message Switch System and desires to implement the system on an updated platform. CPI is the Sole Source provider to upgrade the Mississippi Department of Public Safety Criminal Information Center (CIC) OpenFox Message Switch System Hardware and OpenFox Operating System Platform. The customer's sole source certification request is attached as Exhibit A.

2. The purchaser must be able to show specific business objectives that can be met only through the unique product or services:

OpenFox Message Switch System has been in use at MDPS Criminal Information Center

since 2008. MDPS has made a business decision to continue using OpenFox Message Switch System and interfaces. The customer's sole source certification request is attached as Exhibit A.

3. The product or services must be available only from the manufacturer and not through resellers who could submit competitive pricing for the product or services:

OpenFox Message Switch System and interfaces are only available through the Computer Projects of Illinois, Inc. and Computer Projects of Illinois Inc. has certified that they are the Sole Source to upgrade the Mississippi Department of Public Safety Criminal Information Center (CIC) OpenFox Message Switch System Hardware and OpenFox Operating System Platform. The vendor's Sole Source Certification letter is attached as Exhibit B.

4. If services, explain why the amount to be expended for the services is reasonable.

The expense is deemed reasonable in that CPI will also provide remote hardware staging, software installation at DPS, onsite cutover support, implementing the new LINUX platform, testing, and project management.

5. If services, explain what the agency did to obtain the best possible price for the services.

The agency negotiated with CPI to obtain the best price possible for these upgrades and replacements. MDPS received a quote from CPI as they are the sole source vendor.

Schedule

Task	Date
First Advertisement Date	01/05/16
Second Advertisement Date	01/12/16
Response Deadline From Objectors	01/19/2016 at 3:00 PM Central
Notice of Award/No Award Posted	Not before 01/20/2016

Project Details

The MDPS Criminal Information Center acquired the OpenFox Message Switch System and interfaces as a sole source purchase in April 2008. The MDPS, CIC has made a business decision to continue using the OpenFox Message Switch System and desires to implement the system on an updated platform. MDPS CIC needs to replace the legacy hardware and convert the existing legacy operating system from AIX to Linux. This will provide better stability and reliability as well as lower annual hardware and software maintenance cost.

The project with Computer Projects of Illinois, Inc. includes remote hardware staging, software installation at MDPS, onsite cutover support, implementing the new LINUX platform, testing, and project management. The MDPS Criminal Information Center has been awarded 100% federal

grant funds to rehost the State's message switch to better assure stability and reliability of the State's access to the National Criminal Information Center.

Submission Instructions and Format of Response from Objecting Parties

Interested parties who have reason to believe that services to upgrade the Mississippi Department of Public Safety Criminal Information Center (CIC) OpenFox Message Switch System Hardware and OpenFox Operating System Platform should not be certified as a sole source should provide information in the following format for the state to use in determining whether or not to proceed with awarding the Sole Source contract with Computer Projects of Illinois, Inc.

1.1 Interested Party Information

1.1.1 Contact Name, Phone Number and email address

1.1.2 Company Website URL, if applicable

1.2 Objection to Sole Source Certification

1.2.1 Interested parties must present specific objections to the Sole Source certification using the criteria listed above.

1.2.2 A statement regarding the Interested Party's capabilities as related to this Sole Source Certification Request.

1.3 Comments will be accepted at any time prior to Thursday, January 19, 2016, at 3:00 p.m. (Central Time) to Bill Brinkley at Bill.Brinkley@its.ms.gov or at the Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services, 3771 Eastwood Drive, Jackson, Mississippi 39211. Responses may be delivered by hand, via regular mail, overnight delivery, e-mail, or by fax. Fax number is (601)713-6380. ITS WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DELAYS IN THE DELIVERY OF RESPONSES. It is solely the responsibility of the Interested Parties that responses reach ITS on time. Interested Parties may contact Bill Brinkley to verify the receipt of their Responses. Responses received after the deadline will be rejected.

1.4 Interested Party responses should include the following information:

<p style="text-align: center;">SUBMITTED IN RESPONSE TO Sole Source Certification No. 3868-42406 Accepted until January 19, 2016 @ 3:00 p.m., ATTENTION: Bill Brinkley</p>
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If you have any questions concerning the information above or if we can be of further assistance, please contact Bill Brinkley at 601-432-8149 or via email at Bill.Brinkley@its.ms.gov

Attachment A: Customer Sole Source Certification Request
Attachment B: Vendor Correspondence
Attachment C: Sole Source Procurement Overview

cc: ITS Project File Number 42406

Attachment A: Customer Sole Source Certification Request



3771 Eastwood Drive
 Jackson, Mississippi 39211
 Phone 601-432-8000 Fax 601-713-6380

Sole Source Certification Request

Project Title: State MSG Switch Rehosting NCHIP 2015			Stimulus (ARRA) Funds?	
Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Customer Contact Information				
Agency/Public University: Criminal Information Center Address: 3891 Highway 468 West Pearl, MS 39208			Contact Person: DeWann Clark Phone: 601-933-2676 Fax: Email Address: dclark@dps.ms.gov	
MAGIC Customer Number (only required from state agencies): 7000000197 (DPS-Division of Safety Patrol)			Division/Dept: Handmail: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
Project Summary Narrative Description of Project (include details of original acquisition if applicable): MDPS / CIC has been awarded federal grant funds to rehost the State's message switch to better assure the stability and reliability of the State's access to NCIC.				
ITS Acquisition Approval (CP-1) should be effective through this date (Please allow time for all vendor invoices to be paid): 09/30/2017				
Cost Estimates Fiscal Year	Initial Costs	Ongoing Costs	Time Constraints Item Needed by: Funds Expire:	Anticipated Lifecycle of Products/System (i.e. estimated years of effective use): 2 years
2016	\$88,150.00		Discuss Funding (e.g. how much of needed funding is definite; total project budget; any matching or other non state funds) This project is 100% funded by a federal grant award; NCHIP 2015; award # 2015-RU-BX-K018	
Total	\$88,150.00			
Acquisition Details				
Items Requested	Quantity	Description		Building Location(s)
Computer Projects of Illinois	1	State Message Switch vendor CIC		
Describe platform & infrastructure (connectivity; software/hardware platforms; utilization of State Data Center resources: mainframe, eGovernment portal, payment engine, document management, hosting). For equipment or hosting outside the State Data Center, attach justification:				
Progress to Date: What has been done related to this project, including any communication with ITS staff (data/voice/procurement/other)? CIC has received quotes from the existing vendor.				
Sole Source Certification Note: Certification must be renewed for each revision or continuation of previous Sole Source Approvals.				
Specific business requirements to be met by the requested products or services: CIC needs to replace the legacy hardware and convert the existing legacy operating system from AIX to Linux. This is being performed to lower annual hardware/software maintenance costs and to maximize the operation of the current central message switch.				
Explain why these products or services are the only ones that can meet your needs (include unique features/special functionality): Computer Projects of Illinois (CPI) is the current vendor for the State's message switch. MDPS is currently under a sole source contract with CPI regarding any maintenance/repairs/etc. associated with the switch.				
Explain why the source is the only entity that can provide the products or services (Include other products/vendors researched or evaluated): Computer Projects of Illinois (CPI) is the current vendor for the State's message switch. MDPS is currently under a sole source contract with CPI regarding any maintenance/repairs/etc. associated with the switch.				
Explain why the amount to be expended for the services is reasonable: The expense is deemed reasonable in that CPI will also provide remote hardware staging, software installation at DPS, onsite cutover support, implementing the new LINUX platform, testing, and project management for the project.				
Explain what your agency did to obtain the best possible price for the services: The agency negotiated with CPI to obtain the best price possible for these upgrades and replacements. The agency received a quote from CPI as they are the sole source vendor.				
Vendor's Certification of Sole Source attached: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No			Vendor's proposal submitted: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	
MAGIC Vendor Code(s) Vendor must be in MAGIC before a CP-1 can be issued.				
Place Order To Vendor Name: Computer Projects of IL Inc Vendor Address: 475 Quadrangle Dr, Suite A Bolingbrook, IL 60440		Remit To Vendor Name: : Computer Projects of IL Inc Vendor Address: 475 Quadrangle Dr, Suite A Bolingbrook, IL 60440		

By my signature, I certify that, to the best of my professional knowledge: the requested product or services are a sole source as outlined in the ITS Procurement Handbook, Rule 207.2:013-030 Procurement Types: Sole Source, and as outlined in Mississippi Code annotated Section 31-7-13. In addition, I acknowledge that there is a charge for ITS procurement services associated with this request which will be billed to the requestor by ITS and that my agency/public university is responsible for these charges/costs.

Clay Johnston
 Name (Agency Head or Public University CIO)/Title

Clay Johnston 12-18-15
 Signature Date



Computer Projects of Illinois, Inc.
475 Quadrangle Drive, Bolingbrook, IL 60440
Telephone: (630) 754-8820 FAX: (630) 754-8835

September 23, 2015

Dr. Craig P. Orgeron
Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services (ITS)
3771 Eastwood Dr.
Jackson, MS 39211

Dr. Orgeron:

The purpose of this letter is to advise you that Computer Projects of Illinois, Inc. (CPI) is the sole owner of the software and marketing rights to the OpenFox® (herein after referred to as OpenFox) Message Switching suite of products deployed for use by the Mississippi Department of Public Safety (DPS) and therefore is the sole source for maintenance, new software development and enhancements including new interfaces and user-authentication.

The OpenFox suite of productions includes:

- OpenFox Message Switching System and all modules and customizations
- OpenFox Hot Files System and all modules and customizations
- OpenFox Validations System and all modules and customizations
- OpenFox Audit Application System and all modules and customizations
- OpenFox Archive and Retrieval System and all modules and customizations
- OpenFox Configurator System and all modules and customizations
- OpenFox Operator Aid System and all modules and customizations
- OpenFox Desktop System and all modules and customizations
- OpenFox Messenger System and all modules and customizations
- OpenFox Forms Configurator System and all modules and customizations
- OpenFox Interceptor System and all modules and customizations
- OpenFox Archive and Retrieval (java) client System and all modules and customizations
- OpenFox Computerized Criminal History (CCH) System and all modules and customizations

If you have any questions regarding this letter please feel free to call us at 630-754-8820 Ext. 117.

Sincerely,
Kevin Sawatzky
Kevin Sawatzky,
Vice President
Computer projects of Illinois, Inc.
475 Quadrangle Drive; Suite A
Bolingbrook, IL 60440
ksawatzky@openfox.com

Attachment C: Sole Source Procurement Overview

The acquisition of information technology for all state agencies and institutions of higher learning (IHLs) is within the scope of the ITS law, found in Mississippi Code Section 25-53-1, et seq., and the policies and procedures established in accordance with this statute, found in the ITS Procurement Handbook posted on the ITS website (www.its.ms.gov).

ITS enabling legislation requires that information technology hardware, software and services be acquired in a manner that insures the maximum of competition among all manufacturers and suppliers of such equipment and services. Accordingly, ITS promotes full and open competition through the issuance of open specifications and the objective evaluation of Interested Party proposals to determine the lowest and best offering to meet an agency's or public university's business requirements. True competition protects the integrity and credibility of purchasing in the public sector and is essential in providing best value and adequate contractual protection for the purchasing entity. In certain limited situations, information technology acquisitions may be sole-sourced.

ITS utilizes the provisions of Public Purchasing Law for Sole Source and Emergency procurements of information technology. Mississippi Public Purchasing Law (Mississippi Code Section 31-7-13) specifies that noncompetitive items available from one source only be exempted from bid requirements (sole-sourced). ITS statute, in Section 25-53-5 (p), permits ITS to utilize provisions in Public Purchasing Law or regulations, when applicable.

Per Public Purchasing law, acquisitions must meet the following criteria to be authorized as sole source:

1. The product or services being purchased must perform a function for which no other product or source of services exists,
2. The purchaser must be able to show specific business objectives that can be met only through the unique product or services, AND
3. The product or services must be available only from the manufacturer and NOT through resellers who could submit competitive pricing for the product or services. The vendor's correspondence regarding this criterion for this project is included as Attachment B.

By policy as documented in the ITS Procurement Handbook, acquisitions of IT services must include the following information to be authorized as sole source:

1. An explanation about why the amount to be expended is reasonable, and
2. An explanation regarding the efforts by the purchaser to obtain the best possible price.

For state agencies, approval of all technology purchases with a lifecycle cost of \$5,000 or less, including sole source purchases, has been delegated to the agency. The ITS Procurement Limits Policies for Agencies (a section in the ITS Procurement Handbook) require a minimum of two competitive written bids or proposals for technology purchases with a lifecycle cost over \$5,000 but not over \$50,000 (not over \$25,000 for projects funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act). Since, for single source items, the procuring agency will be unable to obtain two written bids, ITS must certify all sole source acquisitions of information technology with a lifecycle cost greater than \$5,000.

Institutions of Higher Learning (IHLs) or public universities have been delegated the authority to certify sole source procurements up to \$250,000 lifecycle cost under the ITS Procurement Limits Policies for IHLs (a section in the ITS Procurement Handbook). For the certification of sole source procurements delegated to the CIOs at public universities, the public university must follow ITS' Sole Source Procedure, including advertisement of the intent to award as sole source. Institutions certifying a sole source purchase must ensure the criteria listed above are met and documented in

Attachment C: Sole Source Procurement Overview

writing by the institution and the Interested Party prior to certifying a product or service as sole source. Sole source documentation must be reviewed and approved by the IHL's CIO for any sole-source certification above \$5,000. All sole source documentation should be retained in the public university's procurement file. Sole source requests above \$250,000 lifecycle cost require ITS approval.

Other than the delegations outlined above, all sole source technology procurements must be certified by ITS. The customer's Sole Source Certification Request for this project is included as Attachment A.

ITS thoroughly reviews Sole Source Certification Requests, determining if competing products and/or services exist. If so, ITS conducts a competitive procurement. If ITS' review confirms the sole source, then a Sole Source advertisement is issued, giving other Interested Parties an opportunity to identify competing products and/or services. Based upon the results of the Sole Source advertisement, ITS will either certify the request as a sole source or conduct a competitive procurement.