



Recommendation for Action

File #: 19-3027, **Agenda Item #:** 64.

9/19/2019

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with Police Executive Research Forum D/B/A PERF, to provide a comprehensive evaluation of reported sexual assaults, in an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.

(Note: This solicitation was reviewed for subcontracting opportunities in accordance with City Code Chapter 2-9C Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program. For the services required for this solicitation, there were no subcontracting opportunities; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established. However, the recommended contractor identified subcontracting opportunities).

Lead Department

Purchasing Office.

Client Department(s)

City Manager's Office.

Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 Operating Budget of the Austin Police Department.

Purchasing Language:

The Purchasing Office issued a Request for Qualification Statements (RFQS) 4400 EAD4002 for these services. The solicitation issued on April 22, 2019 and it closed on May 19, 2019. Of the five offers received, the recommended contractor submitted the best evaluated responsive offer. A complete solicitation package, including a log of offers received, is available for viewing on the City's Financial Services website, Austin Finance Online. Link: [Solicitation Documents](https://www.austintexas.gov/financeonline/account_services/solicitation/solicitation_details.cfm?sid=130291)
<https://www.austintexas.gov/financeonline/account_services/solicitation/solicitation_details.cfm?sid=130291>.

Prior Council Action:

January 31, 2019 - Council approved Resolution No. 20190131-077, item 77, on a 10-0 vote.

For More Information:

Inquiries should be directed to the City Manager's Agenda Office, at 512-974-2991 or AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov <<mailto:AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov>>

NOTE: Respondents to this solicitation, and their representatives, shall continue to direct inquiries to the solicitation's Authorized Contact Person: Erin D'Vincent, at 512-974-3070 or Erin.DVincent@austintexas.gov <<mailto:Erin.DVincent@austintexas.gov>>.

Additional Backup Information:

On January 31, 2019, Council passed Resolution 20190131-077 directing the City Manager to retain a qualified third-party to comprehensively evaluate the Austin Police Department's (APD) processing and investigation of reported sexual assaults and provide a written report detailing its findings and recommendations.

The consultant will undertake a comprehensive evaluation of how sexual assaults that are reported to APD are investigated and processed, including why a significant number of reported cases do not proceed to prosecution within the criminal justice system. The consultant will provide a report with recommended necessary improvements and reforms to improve system responses for survivors of sexual assaults such that justice is best ensured. In addition, through the engagement of these services, the City would benefit from analyzing, determining, and addressing best practices with respect to victim healing and survivor focused approaches and the barriers that might exist to their implementation.

An evaluation team with expertise in this area evaluated the offers and scored the project team of Police Research Forum (“PERF”), and their subcontractors the Women’s Law Project (“WLP”) and the Wellesley Center for Women (“WCW”) as the most qualified to provide these services based on demonstrated experience and qualifications, including:

- Demonstrated knowledge and expertise to provide a comprehensive and multidisciplinary evaluation of processing and investigation of adult sexual assault cases.
- Demonstrated previous successful experience evaluating similarly sized organizations and communities on their handling of reported adult sexual assaults, including specialized experience in reviewing agencies for bias based on gender, race, disability, and/or LGBTQ status.
- Demonstrated commitment to engage with the public, governmental stakeholders, and non-governmental stakeholders in the process of evaluating a governmental agency's response to public health and public safety issues.

The project team is nationally recognized with demonstrated knowledge and expertise in the investigation and prosecution of adult sexual assault in the United States.

An evaluation team with expertise in this area evaluated the offers and scored PERF as the best to provide these services based on personnel and company qualifications and previous work product.