



Recommendation for Action

File #: 23-2292, **Agenda Item #:** 52.

7/20/2023

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract for cameras and accessories for crime scenes with B & H Foto & Electronics Corp. d/b/a B&H Photo-Video-Pro Audio for a term of six months in an amount not to exceed \$78,930.

[Note: This procurement was reviewed for subcontracting opportunities in accordance with City Code Chapter 2-9D (Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). For the goods required for this procurement, there were no subcontracting opportunities; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established].

Lead Department

Financial Services Department.

Client Department(s)

Forensic Science Department.

Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Operating Budget of the Forensic Science Department.

Purchasing Language:

Multiple cooperative purchase programs were reviewed for these goods. The Financial Services Department has determined this contractor best meets the needs of the Forensic Science Department to provide the goods required for the City.

For More Information:

Direct questions regarding this Recommendation for Council Action to the Financial Services Department - Central Procurement at: FSDCentralProcurementRCAs@austintexas.gov or [512-974-2500](mailto:FSDCentralProcurementRCAs@austintexas.gov).

Additional Backup Information:

The contract will provide for the purchase of 31 digital cameras and related accessories for the Forensic Science Department to replace aged equipment in need of repair. Crime Scene, Firearms, and Toolmarks units use cameras to photograph evidence and document the condition of a crime scene during an investigation. The camera is lightweight and captures images in an FX mode, which offers higher sensitivity in low-light crime scene and investigative situations.

This contract is a new contract. Spot purchases were made in the past to obtain these goods. The recommended contractor has previously provided similar equipment to the City. Requested authorization is based upon historical spend and departmental estimates of future needs.

The Texas Association of School Boards, Inc. (Buyboard) is a cooperative purchasing association recognized under Texas procurement statutes. Cooperative associations, themselves or using a lead government,

competitively solicit and award contracts that are eligible for use by other qualified state and local governments. Due to their substantial volumes, larger than any one government could achieve independently, cooperative contracts routinely include superior terms, conditions, and pricing. Use of cooperative contracts also results in lower administrative costs and time savings.

If this contract is not secured, the Forensic Science Department will continue to use deteriorating equipment, which becomes less reliable over time. Using outdated equipment can result in increased maintenance costs, substandard scene documentation, or loss of photographic evidence.