

ATTACHMENT 1
ADMINISTRATIVE RULES GOVERNING RFQS
(IT GOODS)

1. COMMUNICATIONS WITH JBE REGARDING THE RFQ

Except as specifically addressed elsewhere in the RFQ, Bidders must send any communications regarding the RFQ to jill.barrios@ventura.courts.ca.gov (the "Solicitations Mailbox"). Bidders must include the RFQ Number in subject line of any communication.

2. QUESTIONS REGARDING THE RFQ

- A. If a Bidder's question relates to a proprietary aspect of its bid and the question would expose proprietary information if disclosed to competitors, the Bidder may submit the question via email to the Solicitations Mailbox, conspicuously marking it as "CONFIDENTIAL." With the question, the Bidder must submit a statement explaining why the question is sensitive. If the JBE concurs that the disclosure of the question or answer would expose proprietary information, the question will be answered, and both the question and answer will be kept in confidence. If the JBE does not concur regarding the proprietary nature of the question, the question will not be answered in this manner and the Bidder will be notified.
- B. Bidders interested in responding to the RFQ may submit questions via email to the Solicitations Mailbox on procedural matters related to the RFQ or requests for clarification or modification of the RFQ no later than the deadline for questions listed in the timeline of the RFQ. If the Bidder is requesting a change, the request must set forth the recommended change and the Bidder's reasons for proposing the change. Questions or requests submitted after the deadline for questions will not be answered. Without disclosing the source of the question or request, a copy of the questions and the JBE's responses will be made available.

3. ERRORS IN THE RFQ

- A. If, before the bid due date and time listed in the timeline of the RFQ, a Bidder discovers any ambiguity, conflict, discrepancy, omission, or error in the RFQ, the Bidder must immediately notify the JBE via email to the Solicitations Mailbox and request modification or clarification of the RFQ. Without disclosing the source of the request, the JBE may modify the RFQ before the bid due date and time by releasing an addendum to the solicitation.
- B. If a Bidder fails to notify the JBE of an error in the RFQ known to Bidder, or an error that reasonably should have been known to Bidder, before the bid due date and time listed in the timeline of the RFQ, Bidder shall bid at its own risk. Furthermore, if Bidder is awarded the contract, Bidder shall not be entitled to additional compensation or time by reason of the error or its later correction.

- C. If a Bidder has submitted a bid and discovers an error in the RFQ after the bid due date and time listed in the timeline of the RFQ but before the award of the contract, the Bidder may be allowed to withdraw its bid if the Bidder can demonstrate to the JBE's satisfaction: (i) an error exists in the RFQ, (ii) the error materially affected the Bidder's bid, and (iii) the Bidder did not discover the error prior to submission of its bid.

4. ADDENDA

- A. The JBE may modify the RFQ before the bid due date and time listed in the timeline of the RFQ by issuing an addendum to the court's website at <http://www.ventura.courts.ca.gov/#>. It is each Bidder's responsibility to inform itself of any addendum prior to its submission of a bid.
- B. If any Bidder determines that an addendum unnecessarily restricts its ability to bid, the Bidder shall immediately notify the JBE via email to the Solicitations Mailbox no later than one day following issuance of the addendum.

5. WITHDRAWAL AND RESUBMISSION/MODIFICATION OF BIDS

A Bidder may withdraw its bid at any time before the deadline for submitting bids by notifying the JBE in writing of its withdrawal. The notice must be signed by the Bidder. The Bidder may thereafter submit a new or modified bid, provided that it is received at the JBE no later than the bid due date and time listed in the timeline of the RFQ. Modifications offered in any other manner, oral or written, will not be considered. Bids cannot be changed or withdrawn after the bid due date and time listed in the timeline of the RFQ.

6. ERRORS IN THE BID

If errors are found in a bid, the JBE may reject the bid; however, the JBE may, at its sole option, correct arithmetic or transposition errors or both on the basis that the lowest level of detail will prevail in any discrepancy. If these corrections result in significant changes in the amount of money to be paid to the Bidder (if selected for the award of the contract), the Bidder will be informed of the errors and corrections thereof and will be given the option to abide by the corrected amount or withdraw the bid.

7. RIGHT TO REJECT BIDS

- A. Before the bid due date and time listed in the timeline of the RFQ, the JBE may cancel the RFQ for any or no reason. After the bid due date and time listed in the timeline of the RFQ, the JBE may reject all bids and cancel the RFQ if the JBE determines that: (i) the bids received do not reflect effective competition; (ii) the cost is not reasonable; (iii) the cost exceeds the amount expected; or (iv) awarding the contract is not in the best interest of the JBE.
- B. The JBE may or may not waive an immaterial deviation or defect in a bid. The JBE's waiver of an immaterial deviation or defect shall in no way modify the

RFQ or excuse a Bidder from full compliance with RFQ specifications. Until a contract resulting from this RFQ is signed, the JBE reserves the right to accept or reject any or all of the items in the bid, to award the contract in whole or in part and/or negotiate any or all items with individual Bidders if it is deemed in the JBE's best interest. A notice of intent to award does not constitute a contract, and confers no right of contract on any Bidder.

- C. The JBE reserves the right to issue similar RFQs in the future. The RFQ is in no way an agreement, obligation, or contract and in no way is the JBE or the State of California responsible for the cost of preparing the bid.
- D. Bidders are specifically directed **NOT** to affirmatively contact any JBE personnel or consultants for meetings, conferences, or discussions that are related to the RFQ at any time between release of the RFQ and any award and execution of a contract. Unauthorized contact with any JBE personnel or consultants may be cause for rejection of the Bidder's bid.

8. EVALUATION PROCESS

- A. An evaluation team will review all bids that are received by the appropriate deadline to determine the extent to which they comply with RFQ requirements.
- B. An RFQ for procurement of hardware independent of a system integration project will be evaluated and awarded to the **Responsible Bidder** that submits the **lowest Responsive Bid** after application of any preference, incentives, or discounts, if applicable.
- C. Bids that contain false or misleading statements may be rejected if in the JBE's opinion the information was intended to mislead the evaluation team regarding a requirement of the RFQ.
- D. All figures entered on the cost information must be clearly legible.
- E. During the evaluation process, the JBE may require a Bidder's representative to answer questions with regard to the Bidder's bid. Failure of a Bidder to demonstrate that the claims made in its bid are in fact true may be sufficient cause for deeming a bid non-responsive.
- F. In the event of a tie, the contract will be awarded to the winner of a single coin toss. The coin toss will be witnessed by two JBE employees. The JBE will provide notice of the date and time of the coin toss to the affected Bidders, who may attend the coin toss at their own expense.

9. DISPOSITION OF MATERIALS

All materials submitted in response to the RFQ will become the property of the JBE and will be returned only at the JBE's option and at the expense of the Bidder submitting the bid.

10. PAYMENT

- A. Payment terms will be specified in any contract that may ensue as a result of the RFQ. Payment should not be processed or released by a JBE to a Vendor for IT Goods unless the JBE possesses all of the following:
- a. A properly authorized contract;
 - b. Documentation verifying that the goods were satisfactorily received;
 - c. An accurate, properly submitted Vendor invoice.
- B. **THE JBE DOES NOT MAKE ADVANCE PAYMENT.** Payment is normally made based upon delivery of goods and/or performance of obligations under the contract between the JBE and the selected Bidder. The JBE may withhold ten percent of each invoice until receipt and acceptance of the final deliverable. The amount of the withhold may depend upon the length of the project and the payment schedule provided in the contract between the JBE and the selected Bidder.

AWARD AND EXECUTION OF CONTRACT

- A. Notice of intent to award the RFQ shall be posted on the JBE website: <http://www.ventura.courts.ca.gov/#> or in a public place consistent with the RFQ, for five working days before the Contract is awarded.
- B. Award of contract, if made, will be in accordance with the RFQ to a responsible Bidder submitting a bid compliant with all the requirements of the RFQ and any addenda thereto (including any administrative or technical requirements), except for such immaterial defects as may be waived by the JBE.
- C. A Bidder submitting a bid must be prepared to use a standard JBE contract form rather than its own contract form.
- D. Upon award of the contract, the contract shall be signed by the Bidder in two original contract counterparts and returned, along with the required attachments, to the JBE no later than ten (10) business days of receipt of contract form or prior to the end of June if award is at fiscal year-end. Contracts are not effective until executed by both parties and approved by the appropriate JBE officials. Any work performed before receipt of a fully-executed contract shall be at Bidder's own risk.

11. FAILURE TO EXECUTE THE CONTRACT

The period for execution set forth in Section 11 ("Award and Execution of Contract") may only be changed by mutual agreement of the parties. Failure to execute the contract within the time frame identified above constitutes sufficient cause for voiding the award. Failure to comply with other requirements within the set time constitutes failure to

execute the contract. If the successful Bidder refuses or fails to execute the contract, the JBE may award the contract to the next qualified Bidder.

12. NEWS RELEASES

News releases or other publicity pertaining to the award of a contract may not be issued without prior written approval of the Court's Assistant Executive Officer.

13. ANTI-TRUST CLAIMS

- A. In submitting a bid to the JBE, the Bidder offers and agrees that if the bid is accepted, Bidder will assign to the JBE all rights, title, and interest in and to all causes of action it may have under Section 4 of the Clayton Act (15 U.S.C. Sec. 15) or under the Cartwright Act Chapter 2, commencing with Section 16700, of Part 2 of Division 7 of the Business and Professions Code), arising from purchases of goods, materials, or services by the Bidder for sale to the JBE pursuant to the bid. Such assignment shall be made and become effective at the time the JBE tenders final payment to the Bidder. (See Government Code section 4552.)
- B. If the JBE receives, either through judgment or settlement, a monetary recovery for a cause of action assigned under this section, the Bidder shall be entitled to receive reimbursement for actual legal costs incurred and may, upon demand, recover from the JBE any portion of the recovery, including treble damages, attributable to overcharges that were paid.
- C. Upon demand in writing by the Bidder, the JBE shall, within one year from such demand, reassign the cause of action assigned under this section if the Bidder has been or may have been injured by the violation of law for which the cause of action arose and (a) the JBE has not been injured thereby, or (b) the JBE declines to file a court action for the cause of action. (See Government Code section 4554.)

14. AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

The JBE complies with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and similar California statutes. Requests for accommodation of disabilities by Bidders should be directed to Sylvia Mora, Court HR Associate for procurement matters.