



Suspension of Competition Acquisition Request

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1. Fully describe the product(s) and/or service(s) being requested.

SERI is a full function DNA testing company. They perform a wide variety of DNA and serological testing for use in the Justice system. This includes DNA search capabilities along with genomic, mitochondrial, and Y-STR DNA testing. This company is used for DNA testing associated with criminal cases for the Fresno County Sheriff's Office. They are used for grant and overflow casework within the Sheriff's Office Forensic Laboratory.

2. Identify the selected vendor and contact person; include the address, phone number and e-mail address for each.

Ledia McVeigh
Serological Research
3053 research Drive
Richmond, CA 94806
1-510-223-7374
LediaM@serological.com

3. What is the total cost of the acquisition? If an agreement, state the total cost of the initial term and the amounts for potential renewal terms.

Max amount of \$200,000 per year of the contract

4. Identify the unique qualities and/or capabilities of the service(s) and/or product(s) that qualify this as a Suspension of Competition acquisition.

This is a service that is being provided, not equipment that is being purchased. They are compatible with our DNA systems as they use the same DNA platform as the Sheriff's Office DNA lab; we have inspected their facility and Quality Assurance audits have found them acceptable to handle Sheriff's Office casework. At this time SERI will be moving to the Globalfiler DNA system by Jan 2017 which will match what we are doing within our lab. This will be required for any vendor that we use. We have a long track record with SERI as they are the leading private lab in the state for DNA analysis.

5. Identify from Administrative Policy #34 what circumstances constitute a Suspension of Competition.

- ☐ In an emergency when goods or services are immediately necessary for the preservation of the public health, welfare, or safety, or for the protection of County property.
- ☐ When the contract is with a federal, state, or local governmental agency.
- ☐ When the department head, with the concurrence of the Purchasing Agent, finds that the cost of preparing and administering a competitive bidding process in a particular case will equal or exceed the estimated contract amount or \$1,000 whichever is more.
- ☐ When a contract provides only for payment of per diem and travel expenses and there is to be no payment for services rendered.
- ☐ When obtaining the services of expert witnesses for litigation or special counsel to assist the County.
- ☒ When in unusual or extraordinary circumstances, the Board of Supervisors or the Purchasing Agent/Purchasing Manager determines that the best interests of the County would be served by not securing competitive bids or issuing a request for proposal.

6. Explain why the unique qualities and/or capabilities described above are essential to your department.

This company mainly handles our out-sourced DNA casework that is associated with the Federal DNA grants accepted and approved by the Board of Supervisors(BOS) for the last several years (2014, 2015) and currently awaiting the award for 2016. The grants that have been approved by the BOS and the grant committee state that this company will be used in association with the DNA testing within these grants. They are a fully accredited Laboratory which is required by the grant and by our accreditation standard. It is also vital that we have a facility in California, as occasionally we must hand deliver evidence to them for testing and they are located in Richmond, CA which is a short drive from Fresno. We are currently using their services and have had a relationship with them for many years that has been very successful. SERI has always strived to provide us the best service often at no extra cost. The FBI is requiring us to move to a new DNA system called Globalfiler by Jan 2017, SERI has committed to bring this system on-line as well to continue our partnership. Specifically, they are the oldest vendor in California that provides this service and they are one of the labs that were approved by the NIJ grant committee to perform DNA casework associated with Sheriff's Office cases.

7. Provide a comprehensive explanation of the research done to verify that the recommended vendor is the only vendor with the unique qualities and/or capabilities stated above. Include a list of all other vendors contacted, what they were asked, and their responses.


CACLD meeting and conferences, internet, most DNA companies only provide consulting services not full analysis that is needed for this contract and service. They are the oldest fully accredited DNA Laboratory in California meeting the grant requirements and our own accreditation standard, which includes moving to the Globalfiler systems required by the FBI in Jan 2017.

michael.koop 9/1/2016 1:31:23 PM

Requested By:

Director of Forensic
Services


Title

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I approve this request to suspend competition for the service(s) and/or product(s) identified herein.


thomas.trester 9/1/2016 2:35:10 PM

Department Head Signature

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Purchasing Manager Signature

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