



Suspension of Competition Acquisition Request

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1. Fully describe the product(s) and/or service(s) being requested.
The continuation of Federal legislative advocacy services from Carpi & Clay, Inc. to address ongoing vital issues to Fresno County for which continuity of service would be in the best interest of the County.
2. Identify the selected vendor and contact person; include the address, phone number and e-mail address for each.
Carpi & Clay, Inc. 601 New Jersey Ave. Suite 300, Washington, DC 20001
Contact Person: Kenneth Carpi; (202) 822-8300; kcarpi@carpiclay.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.
\$84,000 for the initial one-year term; \$84,000 for the one optional 12-month extension; total not to exceed \$168,000.
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.
Carpi & Clay, Inc. has served as the lobbyists representing the County of Fresno in Washington, DC for 5 years. A request for proposal was issued in 2018 with award to Carpi & Clay, Inc. The firm represents Fresno County on numerous issues including ongoing issues for which continuity of service would be in the best interest of the County. These issues include, but are not limited to, Farm Bill Reauthorization, Medicaid Inmate Exclusion Policy Act, the Save our Sequoias Act, Endangered Species Act regulations and Federal Funding/Grants.
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 \$5,000 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.
Carpi & Clay, Inc. has served as the day-to-day contacts for 5 years and have become very familiar with Fresno County and the various issues to the County. They have demonstrated the ability to effectively work with the County's Federal Delegation and the County's Federal Platform. Continuity of service is of the utmost importance as we move into a Presidential election year as well as election years for the entire house and 1/3 of the Senate. Continued representation will ensure that the County's Federal Legislative needs are addressed through this increased federal activity in the next year and beyond. Carpi & Clay, Inc., with the work already done in securing Federal Funding for various projects throughout the County, is well positioned to support the County's federal priorities with new members of our Congressional delegation in addition to established communications with our current Senators and Representatives.
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.
Carpi & Clay, Inc. have served as the lobbyists representing the County of Fresno in Washington, DC for 5 years and have established relationships with Fresno County's Federal delegation and have educated the members on Fresno County issues/priorities.

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Requested By:

Principal Admin. Analyst [Sign] Double click!

Title

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

Department Head Signature

[Sign] Double click!

Gary Cornuelle

Digitally signed by Gary Cornuelle
Date: 2023.10.02 11:56:30 -07'00'

[✉ Sign] Double click!

Purchasing Manager Signature