



# Suspension of Competition Acquisition Request

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

The County Clerk/Registrar of Voters recommends a new Agreement with Dominion Voting Systems, Inc., for continued license, warranty, and support of the existing voting equipment effective May 14, 2024, not to exceed five consecutive years, which includes a three-year base contract and two optional one-year extensions, total not to exceed \$1,206,781.31.
2. Identify the selected vendor and contact person; include the address, phone number and e-mail address for each.

Dominion Voting Systems, Inc.  
Attn: Sheree Noel  
510-610-6634  
sheree.noell@dominionvoting.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.

The cost will be \$1,206,781.31 for a full five-year term.  
Year 1: \$147,803.82  
Year 2: \$254,548.55  
Year 3: \$261,211.51  
Year 4: \$268,074.35  
Year 5: \$275,143.08
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.

Fresno County Elections Dominion voting equipment in 2019 after a comprehensive RFP process. The voting equipment is proprietary and license, warranty, and support can only be provided by Dominion. The system forms the backbone of all voting functions, including ballot creation, in-person voting, vote tabulation, and results reporting.
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.

Dominion Voting Systems equipment comprises the software and hardware the department uses to create ballots, provide in-person voting opportunities, and tabulate and report results. This system consistently meets all expectations of the Elections Office. The Department believes that switching to a new system would be extremely costly and disruptive. The Dominion system includes the applications our department uses to facilitate in-person voting at Vote Centers. A change to this system would require a complete overhaul of vote center processes including related training materials and equipment. This would require the re-training of approximately 300 extra help staff that have developed a working knowledge of the Dominion product. The current systems were purchased with state and federal grant funding. Additional grant funding for a new purchase is not available currently or expected in the near future.
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.

The existing equipment/system is currently five years old and has at least five more years of useful life before replacement should be considered. The current system continues to meet the needs of the County. There have been no problems with this vendor or their product. It would be costly and disruptive to the operation to undergo a RFP or to change systems when the current system has performed well and is likely to continue to meet our needs well into the future.

bhill 11/1/2024 9:50:52 AM

Business Manager

[\[✕ Sign\]](#) Double click!

Requested By:

Title

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

jkus 11/20/2024 3:19:03 PM

[\[✕ Sign\]](#) Double click!

Department Head Signature

rblackburn 11/22/2024 11:40:41 AM

[\[✕ Sign\]](#) Double click!

Purchasing Manager Signature