

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action (Purchasing)

Austin City Council	Item ID:	10733	Agenda Number	47.
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Meeting Date:	November 10, 2011
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Department:	Purchasing
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Subject

Authorize award and execution of a contract with WATERS TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION, Milford, MA for the purchase of an Ultra Performance Liquid Chromatograph-Mass Spectrometer Instrument for the Austin Police Department in an amount not to exceed \$185,000.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding is available in the 2009 Byrne Justice Assistance Recovery Grant.

Fiscal Note

There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	Sole Source.
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Prior Council Action:	
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For More Information:	Colleen Athey, Buyer II, 972-4012
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Boards and Commission Action:	
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MBE / WBE:	This contract will be awarded in compliance with Chapter 2-9D of the City Code (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this solicitation.
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Related Items:	
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Additional Backup Information

This contract is for the one-time purchase of an Ultra Performance Liquid Chromatograph-Mass Spectrometer (UPLC-MS). This instrument is used by the Austin Police Department's (APD) forensic chemistry section for chemical analysis in the identification of unknown substances.

The primary function of the forensic chemistry section is to analyze unknown substances for the presence of illicit drugs or controlled substances. Currently, the forensic chemistry section utilizes a Gas Chromatograph/Mass Spectrometry (GCMS) and Fourier Transmission Infrared Resolution (FTIR) Spectrophotometry to conclusively report unknown street samples suspected of being a controlled substance, prescription drug, or new designer drug.

The UPLC-MS will better prepare the APD forensic chemistry section for other emerging drug analysis trends. The UPLC-MS separates the drug into a liquid state, at a low temperature, under high pressure, and identifies controlled substances. This instrument will also allow the forensic chemistry section to analyze a greater number of samples in a shorter amount of time.

Waters Technologies Corporation is the sole manufacturer and distributor of the Waters UPLC-MS. This is the only unit available in the U.S. that is capable of providing a photomultiplier with the ability to hold up to four solvents.