

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action (Purchasing)

Austin City Council - Commissioners Court Meeting		Item ID:	36318	Agenda Number	69.
Meeting Date:		September 25, 2014			
Department:		Purchasing			
Subject					
Authorize award and execution of a requirements supply contract through the Texas Local Government Purchasing Cooperative with ALL BUSINESS MACHINES, INC. for a Gas Chromatograph/Mass Spectrometer for the Austin Police Department in an amount not to exceed \$86,957.					
Amount and Source of Funding					
Funding in the amount of \$86,957 is available in the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 State Contraband Asset Forfeiture Budget of the Austin Police Department.					
Fiscal Note					
There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.					
Purchasing Language:		Cooperative purchase.			
Prior Council Action:					
For More Information:		Erin D'Vincent, Senior Buyer Specialist, 512-972-4017			
Boards and Commission Action:					
Related Items:					
MBE / WBE:		This contract will be awarded in compliance with City Code Chapter 2-9D (Minority-Owned and Women-Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program). No subcontracting opportunities were identified; therefore, no goals were established for this solicitation.			
Additional Backup Information					

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This contract is for the purchase of a Gas Chromatograph/Mass Spectrometer (GC/MS) for the Forensics Unit of the Austin Police Department (APD). The GC/MS system is the main instrument used by the APD laboratory for the identification of narcotic substances and is globally accepted as a means to conclusively identify narcotic substances. The GC portion of this instrument is capable of separating the narcotic substance from cutting agents to provide a molecular identification of the substance based on the fragment pattern generated by the mass spectrometer (MS).

Other regional laboratories which use this same instrument include the Travis County Medical Examiner's Lab, the Texas Department of Public Safety Crime Laboratories, and the Drug Enforcement Agency Laboratories. A vast majority of literature published regarding narcotic analysis includes or is based on data from this instrument. Each

APD chemist has been trained and competency tested on the use of this instrument. This allows them to testify as an expert witness in court.

The data required for court presentation cannot be manipulated or altered by any third party software. This will ensure that the process will remain intact. The data handling software provided for these instruments is under copyright and patent laws. Purchase of non-compatible equipment would require the laboratory to generate new methods and custom reports.