



El Paso County Purchasing Department
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ADDENDUM 2

To: All Interested Proposers

From: Claudia Sepulveda, Bid Clerk/Buyer

Date: March 15, 2006

Subject: RFI #06-011 Tissue Bank Services for the Medical Examiners Office

The Purchasing Department received questions relating to the above referenced proposal. The Medical Examiner's Office has responded to the following questions:

1. In reviewing the published 2004 El Paso County Medical Examiner Statistics, the medical examiner's office investigated 2651 cases. Of those only 528 were autopsy cases. Were the remaining 2123 cases brought to the medical examiners office? Are you considering these deaths as potential donors? Will the contracted tissue recovery agency have access to these bodies if they are not brought into the medical examiner's office?

Essentially all 2651 cases are under our review, but generally there are about 900 of these, which are hospice-like cases in which it is more challenging to obtain consent for donation.

2. How many tissue (musculoskeletal, cardiovascular and skin) donors were recovered from the medical examiner's office during each year of 2004 and 2005?

Donors for year 2004 = 58

Donors for year 2005 = 47

3. Is the contracted tissue bank permitted to 1) maintain an office inside the medical examiner's office and/or 2) store tissue recovery supplies?

Part 1 = office space is a real possibility but would have certain

conditions

Part 2 = there is storage space for supplies in the recovery suite itself

4. Is there unlimited access to the recovery suite at all times for the tissue recovery team?

There would be a "controlled" access to the suite

5. Will you allow a coordinator from the tissue bank to review the "green sheets" several times per day?

They could have access to an intake log, but as far as looking at confidential work product we would have to disallow that for obvious reasons.

6. Will you permit a coordinator from the tissue bank to perform limited external examinations on potential donors?

"External Examinations" are done by medical examiners or by investigators who have been given such authority by a physician; manipulation of the body without the supervision or authorization of a physician is not permissible and is against office policy.

7. You are requesting a monthly lease amount to be no less than \$15,000. What amenities does this include?

There are no amenities per se

8. If a potential donor is a hospital death, does medical examiner have jurisdiction for release of the body for donation prevail or does the hospital's contracted tissue bank have the right to approach the family for donation?

Only cases that fall under our jurisdiction will be referred to the awarded tissue bank, you would have to contact the hospitals.

9. Do you routinely allow pre-autopsy tissue recovery on consented cases?

It would be a "controlled" access to the suite

10. Is there a dedicated tissue recovery space on-site at the Medical Examiner's office? If so, what type of air filtration to maintain air quality does it offer?

Air filtration consists of whatever the retrieval team supplies

11. Will you consider a fee per donor case in lieu of a monthly stipend?

No

12. Will the ME's office permit the contracted tissue bank to perform tissue recoveries in the ME's office on consented, non-ME case donors in order to facilitate tissue recovery?

Yes

13. What will be the length of the agreement between the contractor and the ME office?

We favor at least a two year contract

14. What will be the renewal conditions of the agreement?

Subject to the conditions of the contract