



**COUNTY OF EL PASO**  
800 E. Overland, Suite 300  
El Paso, Texas 79901  
(915) 546-2048 (915) 546-8180 Fax

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### **Notice to Interested Parties**

Sealed Request for Proposals (RFP) will be received at the County Purchasing Department, 800 E. Overland, RM 300, El Paso, Texas 79901 before 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 3, 2013 to be opened at the County Purchasing Office the same date for Software Upgrade for the El Paso County Courthouse Telephone Switch.

**Proposals must be in a sealed envelope and marked:  
"Proposals to be opened April 3, 2013  
Software Upgrade for the El Paso County  
Courthouse Telephone Switch  
RFP Number 13-016"**

**Any questions or additional information required by interested vendors must be submitted in writing to the attention of the Assistant County Purchasing Agent before Thursday, March 21, 2013, at 12:00 p.m. Questions can be faxed to (915)-546-8180.**

Award will be made based on a review of qualifications, scope of services and price. **COMMISSIONER'S COURT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSALS AND WAIVE TECHNICALITIES.** Only proposals that conform to specifications will be considered. Successful Proposer shall not order items or services until a Purchasing Order is received from the County Purchasing Office. Payment will not be made on items delivered without an Agreement.

If the proposal totals more than \$100,000.00, the proposer shall furnish a certified cashier's check made payable to the County of El Paso or a good and sufficient bid bond in the amount of 5% of the total contract price, executed with a surety company authorized to do business in the State of Texas. The certified cashier's check must be included with the proposal at the time of the opening.

In order to remain active on the El Paso County Vendor list, each Vendor receiving this proposal must respond in some form. Vendors submitting a proposal must meet or exceed all specifications herein. Vendors submitting a no proposal must submit their reason in writing to the El Paso County Purchasing Department.

**JOSE LOPEZ, JR.**  
Assistant Purchasing Agent

# IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR VENDORS

## EL PASO COUNTY CODE OF ETHICS TRAINING REQUIREMENT FOR VENDORS

**Vendors:** Any vendor involved in a single procurement exceeding \$50,000 must complete training on the El Paso County Code of Ethics. **This training must be completed prior to submitting a bid or proposal, responding to a request for qualifications or proposals, or otherwise contracting with the county.** The training must be completed by an officer, principal, or other person with the authority to bind the vendor. The certification of completed training on the Ethics Code issued by the County Human Resources Department is valid for one (1) calendar year from the date of completion. A list of those Vendors with a current certification of completion and the corresponding date of expiration shall be maintained on the El Paso County website under the Purchasing Department's Current List of Training Certified Bidders. This training requirement does not apply to emergency purchases.

### Training

In compliance with Section 161 of the Texas Local Government Code, training on the El Paso County Code of Ethics will be accessible in an online format to Vendors and Lobbyists on an ongoing basis, subject only to limitations due to technical resources. No person or entity required to complete training will have to do so more than once per year.

The required training for Vendors may be accessed and completed at:  
<http://www.epcounty.com/ethicscom/training.htm>

Once you have taken the ethics training course print out the confirmation and attach a copy to your proposal. Keep a copy for future references/proposals.

To view the list of the Vendors, the representatives and the date it expires.

- ❖ Go to <http://www.epcounty.com/ethicscom/training.htm>
- ❖ Select:

#### Vendors Who Have Completed Ethics Training

If you have taken the training and your name has not been added to the list, Please contact Gabby at our Human Resource Department at (915)546-2218 ext. 4069.



**EL PASO COUNTY PURCHASING DEPARTMENT  
EL PASO, TEXAS 79901  
(915) 546-2048  
FAX: (915) 546-8180**

**Memorandum**

**To:** All Vendors  
**From:** Jose Lopez, Jr., Assistant Purchasing Agent  
**Date:** February 6, 2012  
**Subject:** County Purchasing New Vendor/Bid System & Online Vendor Registration

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The Purchasing Department will be implementing its new bid processing vendor notification/registration system on April 1, 2012. The new system will allow vendors to register and maintain their vendor file real time without the intervention of the Purchasing Department. Vendors will maintain their address information and contact information; as well as the commodity information that the vendor wants to be considered for on County bid solicitations. Vendors will be given a choice of receiving hard copy bid notifications, or electronic notifications to the vendors designated email and/or cellular telephone text number. We hope that the changes will help our vendors receive their solicitations in a more effective and efficient manner that will benefit both the County and the vendor with more timely, accurate, competitive bids.

All vendors wishing to receive or continue to receive bid notifications must register by April 1, 2012. The Purchasing Department will be migrating to the new vendor system on April 1, 2012 and all vendors that have not registered in the new system will not receive bid notifications. Thank you for your cooperation. If you have any questions please contact me at (915)546-2068, or Sally Borrego at (915)546-2048.

## PROPOSAL SCHEDULE

To: El Paso County, Texas

I or we agree to furnish the following described equipment, supplies, or services for the prices shown in accordance with specifications listed below or attached. By execution of this proposal, I hereby represent and warrant to El Paso County that I have read and understood the Proposal Documents and the Contract Documents and this proposal is made in accordance with the Proposal Documents.

Please quote prices and discounts on the following items:

F. O. B. El Paso County

<b>Description – RFP # 13-016</b> <b>Software Upgrade for the El Paso County</b> <b>Courthouse Telephone Switch</b> Vendor must meet or exceed specifications
Please do not include tax, as the County is tax-exempt. We will sign tax exemption certificates covering these items. <b>Please submit one (1) original copy and four (4) CD copies in Word/PDF Format of your proposal.</b>

\_\_\_\_\_  
Company

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
Federal Tax Identification No.

\_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ethics Representative (refer to page 2)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ethics Training Date or Expiration Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
CIQ Document Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Conflict of Interest Questionnaire (CIQ)  
Filed Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
DUNS Number

\_\_\_\_\_  
Representative Name & Title

\_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone Number include area code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Fax Number include area code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address

**\*\*\*THIS MUST BE THE FIRST PAGE ON THE PROPOSAL SUBMITTED\*\*\***

# **Software Upgrade for the El Paso County Courthouse Telephone Switch**

**RFP #13-016**



**Opening Date  
Wednesday, April 3, 2013**

**SECTION 1.**

**INTRODUCTION**

**1.1**

**INTENT**

The purpose of this request is to solicit proposals for the software upgrade of an Avaya Option 81C CS1000M PBX with Call Pilot desktop/fax and voice messaging system. Upgrade of both systems to current releases software and required hardware for software upgrade with a new CDR system with all the associated hardware required for the full operation of the associated telephones on the current system. In addition, replacement of 235 M2009 telephones with model M3904 RIs 3 telephones. If required the selected vendor will furnish required computers for the operator console upgrades.

**1.2**

**RFP SCHEDULE**

The following schedule of activities is planned. Any changes will be communicated to the vendors from the Assistant Purchasing Agent of El Paso County.

1. Release/Advertisement RFP.....March 11, 2014
2. Deadline for Question.....March 21, 2013
3. RFP Opening .....April 3, 2013

**1.3**

**CURRENT PBX ENVIRONMENT**

El Paso County currently has a DC powered Avaya Option 81C CS1000M release 6 w/ battery backup, 5 T1s, four columns with eight IPE modules plus one remote fiber IPE.

El Paso County uses Symphony software for CDR and Telephony Manager reporting and call accounting.

**1.3.1**

**CURRENT CALL PILOT SERVER SETTINGS**

<b>Resource</b>	<b>Description</b>
Server Version	04.04.04
Switch Type	Meridian 1
Platform Type	TRP 1005r
Switch Connectivity	Proprietary CTI
Number of Channels	96
Number of Voice Channels	28
Number of Fax Channels	16
Number of Speech Recognition Channels	0
Number of DSP Ports	12
Number of Mailboxes	1680
Number of Fax Messaging Mailboxes	200
Number of Desktop Messaging Mailboxes	220
Number of Speech Recognition Mailboxes	0
Hours of Storage	2400
Number of Prompt Languages	6
Number of Speech Recognition Languages	3
Number of Networking Sites	500
Number of NMS Locations(including prime location)	500
Number of temporary remote users	5000
Number of TTS users	0
Number of TTS languages	10
Number of TTS channels	20
Voice Service provided by ACCESS	1
Operating system	1

**SECTION 2**

**RFP REQUIREMENTS AND GUIDELINES**

**2.1**

**QUESTIONS AND CLARIFICATION**

All questions and requests for clarifications and/or additional information concerning the RFP must be addressed to, Assistant Purchasing Agent, El Paso County Purchasing Department, 800, East Overland, Room 300, El Paso, Texas, 79901. All questions must be submitted in writing. Deadline for questions is March 21, 2013. No other source or process is authorized for this RFP.

## **2.2**

### **VENDOR QUALIFICATION**

The County will evaluate proposals only from vendors that have proven, successful experience in the assembly, configuration, and installation of the Avaya/Nortel product, related systems components, and services requested in this RFP. The Vendor's response to the RFP must document and qualify this experience. Preferred parameters for this documentation should include:

1. Personnel available
2. Volume of equipment installed per manufacturer/product
3. Certification credentials of individuals scheduled to perform the outlined services
4. Training programs established Authorized Avaya Distributor, Avaya certified service provider, etc. (indicate manufacturers and status as well as requirements to reach and maintain that status )
5. Years of experience with Avaya product line
6. Avaya/Nortel certified support by the vendor for employees and customers to include credentials of personnel that will perform the training.

## **2.3**

### **RESPONSE FORMAT**

Vendor responses to the RFP must follow the forms and format provided in the RFP. Additional information can certainly be provided but not in lieu of the prescribed format. It is intended that the technical and application data be presented separate from the cost data and that the cost data contain no technical data. The Table of Contents for the RFP responses is as follows:

Section A	Cover Letter
Section B	Vendor Demographics
Section C	Vendor Experience
Section D	Vendor References
Section E	Financial Statements
Section F	Overview of Vendor Proposal
Section G	Delivery
Section H	Support and Maintenance
Section I	Warranty
Section J	Documentation
Section K	Required Equipment List-Nortel part numbers,etc.



## **2.4**

### **VENDOR CONTACTS**

Proposals must include contact references of other companies that are currently utilizing the proposed equipment. The contact references are mandatory. The references must clearly establish that the proposed equipment is in production usage. El Paso County is interested in installing a proven system. The contact references must include projects that are similar to the El Paso County's project in terms of scope and complexity.

## **2.5**

### **EVALUATION PROCESS**

All responses received in compliance with the terms and conditions of the El Paso County Purchasing Department will be reviewed and evaluated by Communications Department.

The initial factors in the selection process are listed below:

- (1) Number of like systems installed to include name and phone number of contacts.
- (2) Local manufacturer support structure available, number of years in business and number of local factory trained personnel available.
- (3) Must have Avaya Certification and recognition as an authorized Avaya partner/distributor.
- (4) Responsibility for complete installation and compatibility of systems components to include manufacturers electrical and grounding requirements for systems.
- (5) Technical support available and response schedule for support request.
- (6) Willingness to work with El Paso County technicians
- (7) Warranties offered by vendor
- (8) Purchase price

Recommendations from the Communications Department will be presented to the Commissioners' Court for award.

## **2.6**

### **NON-RESPONSIVE PROPOSALS**

Any proposal that does not directly address the needs of El Paso County as described in the RFP will be considered non-responsive and will not be considered. A proposal that does not prove the vendor's ability to furnish a suitable solution, based on experience and references, as well as response to the networking equipment/hardware requirements in the RFP, will not be considered.

**2.7**

**INSTALLATION SCHEDULE**

A detailed schedule and scope of work detailing method of cutover and implementation of proposed system must be submitted.

**2.8**

**CONTRACT/AGREEMENT**

Vendors are required to submit two originals of the vendor's contract, terms, and conditions for this project. These agreements must be included in the RFP response package. It is anticipated, and the County reserves the right to do so, that the final contract will be negotiated with the selected vendor(s).

**2.9**

**SUBMITTAL INFORMATION**

All materials submitted in response to this RFP will become the property of El Paso County. Results will be kept confidential until the selection process has been completed.

Vendors are responsible for all costs incurred in preparing and submitting the vendor's response to the RFP.

**2.10**

**COST/PRICE CERTIFICATION**

All costs and prices proposed in the response to this RFP must be valid for a minimum of 120 days. Pricing is to include all shipping, handling, and other related costs. El Paso County is not responsible for any vendor errors, omissions, or miscalculations.

**2.11**

**RFP PERFORMANCE BONDS**

5% Performance surety bond will be required. The County may require that the award be insured by surety(s) authorized to do business in the State of Texas.

At the County's option, in addition to or in lieu of, the County may withhold a portion of the payment for the equipment until the County accepts the equipment/hardware as fully operational.

**2.12**

**ACCEPTANCE AND USE OF PROPOSALS**

1. El Paso County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all proposals. The award will be "lump sums" (all or nothing).

The County reserves the right to use any or all nonproprietary ideas, concepts, or configurations presented in responses.

### **SECTION 3**

### **HARDWARE**

#### **3.1**

#### **OVERVIEW of REQUESTED HARDWARE**

#### **3.2**

#### **HARDWARE WARRANTY**

Standard hardware warranty will apply.

#### **3.3**

#### **HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE**

The proposal must contain quotes for a maintenance contract that includes preventative maintenance, including costs, beginning on the day of installation and extending for three full years plus a quote for SRS if available. In addition coverage shall include on-site, next business day. All charges must be clearly stated.

#### **3.4**

#### **HARDWARE RETURN POLICY**

This is covered by the warranty and maintenance agreements as stated above.

#### **3.5**

#### **HARDWARE SUPPORT**

Submit proposal for 5 days a week by 12 hours per day.

#### **3.6**

#### **DOCUMENTATION**

The documentation must be comprehensive. The vendor shall provide one paper copy of the documentation and user guide(s) for the proposed solution.

#### **3.7**

#### **DELIVERY and INSTALLATION**

Vendor must be able to provide for delivery of the proposed system within 30 to 60 days after their selection as finalist. Selected vendor must assure that the PBX room meets manufacturer's electrical, grounding and environmental specifications.

**SECTION 4**

**TRAINING**

**4.1**

**TRAINING PLAN**

Vendor will provide new release and CDR training for three County employees and provide credentials for personnel that will conduct the training.

**4.2**

**TRAINING MATERIALS**

All manufacturers provided training manuals and associated material will be provided by selected vendor.

**SECTION 5**

**COST SCHEDULES**

**5.1**

**TOTAL COSTS**

The vendor must provide detailed Unit Costs and Total costs of the proposed equipment. All documentation, networking equipment/hardware, software, travel, training, labor, installation, maintenance, and shipping must be priced separately. These costs will be summarized and presented on one page.

**5.2**

**THIRD PARTY COSTS**

The costs for third party items, such as new or additional networking equipment/hardware, personal computers and or software or maintenance, should be included in the proposal.

Response Format for  
County of El Paso, Texas  
Request for Proposal

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SECTION A  
COVER LETTER

The proposal must be accompanied by a cover letter, signed by an individual authorized to bind the proposing entity.

## SECTION B

### VENDOR DEMOGRAPHICS

The vendor shall submit the following information:

Official name and address. Indicate what type of entity, e.g. corporation, company, etc.

Complete name, address, telephone number and fax number of person to receive correspondence and who is authorized to make decisions of represent the vendor. Please state his or here capacity within the company.

Total Number of years vendor has been in business and, if applicable, number of years under the present business name.

Number of years experience the vendor has had in providing equivalent products and services.

A description of the vendor's operation, facilities, business, objectives, number of employees (both nationally and locally), and previous experience and qualifications relating to the products and services requested.

## SECTION C

### VENDOR EXPERIENCE

In this section the Vendor will provide an experience narrative. Include a description of experience the vendor has had installing the proposed equipment in the operating environment proposed.

As mentioned in Section 2.2, page 5 of this RFP, The County will evaluate proposals only from vendors that have proven successful experience in the assembly, configuration, and installation of the products and services requested in this RFP. The Vendor's response to the RFP must document and qualify this experience. Preferred parameters for this documentation should include:

1. Proof of current authorized Avaya Telecom partner/distributor status, Avaya certified service center, etc. (indicate manufacturers and status as well as requirements to reach and maintain that status)
2. Years of experience with Avaya product line
3. Avaya certified support personnel available
4. Volume of equipment installed per manufacturer/product
5. Certification credentials of individuals scheduled to perform the outlined services
6. Training programs established by the vendor for employees and customers to include credentials of personnel that will perform the training.



SECTION D  
VENDOR CONTACTS

The vendor will provide a list of all company contacts of comparable scope and complexity to that proposed by El Paso County and that have equipment similarly configured, and in operation, for at least one year. The vendor shall include the following information for each contact:

1. Name of organization
2. Networking hardware/software
3. Size and scope of project
4. Installation date
5. Contact name, title, address, and telephone number

## SECTION E

### FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Each proposal must include a complete audited set of financial statements or suitable other documents for the last three (3) years. All required financial statements shall be prepared in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

## SECTION F

### OVERVIEW OF VENDOR PROPOSAL

In this section the vendor must provide a narrative of what is being proposed. The narrative will include the following items:

1. The vendor will describe how the system configuration proposed best meet the County's needs and why the vendor recommends the County adopt this hardware configuration.
2. Provide a complete description of the warranties, support, on-going maintenance, and training services provided.
3. Provide complete information on the physical and environmental requirements of installation and operation.
4. Describe documentation and training, if applicable.

## SECTION G

### DELIVERY

In this section, the vendor shall propose a preliminary delivery schedule of the proposed equipment including major milestones showing the time required to complete all phases of the cutover. The delivery plan shall detail any vendor preferences for phasing.

## SECTION H

### SUPPORT AND MAINTENANCE

In this section the vendor shall provide information on type of vendor support for ongoing maintenance to include schedules for request of support and maintenance.

## SECTION I

### WARRANTY

In this section the vendor will provide a copy and description of the warranties associated with the proposed networking equipment/hardware and software.

SECTION J  
DOCUMENTATION

The vendor shall provide one paper copy and one copy on diskette/CD of the written documentation and user guides for the proposed equipment.

## SECTION K

### REQUIRED EQUIPMENT LIST

Vendor shall provide a detailed list all required equipment to include code numbers, description, quantity, and cost for proposed installation.



## **COUNTY OF EL PASO, TEXAS**

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### **CERTIFICATIONS REGARDING LOBBYING, DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS; DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE REQUIREMENTS; FEDERAL DEBT STATUS, AND NONDISCRIMINATION STATUS AND IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS\***

Instructions for the certifications:

#### General Requirements

The County of El Paso, Texas is required to obtain from all applicants of federal funds or pass-through certifications regarding federal debt status, debarment and suspension, and a drug free workplace. Institutional applicants are required to certify that they will comply with the nondiscrimination statutes and implementing regulations.

Applicants should refer to the regulations cited below to determine the certifications to which they are required to attest. Signature of the form provides for compliance with certification requirements under 21 CFR part 1405, "New Restrictions on Lobbying," 21 CFR part 1414, Government wide Debarment and Suspension (Non procurement), Certification Regarding Federal Debt Status (OMB Circular A-129), and Certification Regarding the Nondiscrimination Statutes and Implementing Regulations. The certifications shall be treated as a material representation of fact upon which reliance will be placed when the County of El Paso determines to award the covered cooperative agreement

#### 1. LOBBYING

As required by Section 1352, Title 31 of the U.S. Code, and implemented in 21 CFR part 1405, for persons entering into a cooperative agreement over \$100,000, as defined at 21 CFR Part 1405, the applicant certifies that;

(a) No federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the undersigned, to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any agency, a member of Congress, and officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the making of any Federal grant, the entering into continuation, renewal, amendment, or modification of any Federal grant or cooperative agreement,

(b) If any funds other than Federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with this Federal Grant or cooperative agreement, the undersigned shall complete and submit Standard Form - LLL, "Disclosure of Lobbying Activities," in accordance with its instructions;

(c) The undersigned shall require that the language of this certification be included in the award document for all sub-awards at all tiers (including sub-grants, contracts under grants and cooperative agreements, and subcontracts) and that all sub-recipients shall certify and disclose accordingly.

#### 1. DEBARMENT, SUSPENSION, AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS

As required by Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension and implemented at 21 CFR Part 1404, for prospective participants in primary covered transactions

A. The applicant certifies that it and its principals:

(a) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, sentenced to a denial of Federal benefits by a State or Federal court, or voluntarily excluded from covered transactions by any Federal department or agency;

(b) Have not within a three-year period preceding this application been convicted of or and a civil judgment rendered against them for commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain or performing a public (Federal, State, or local) transaction or contract under a public transaction violation of Federal or State antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;

(c) Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity (Federal, State, or local) terminated for cause or default; and

B. Where the applicant is unable to certify to any of the statements in this certification, he or she shall attach an explanation to the application.

## 2. DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE

As required by the Drug Free Workplace Act of 1988, and implemented at 21 CFR Part 1404 Subpart F.

A. The applicant certifies that it will or will continue to provide a drug free workplace by:

(a). Publishing a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the applicant's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violations of such prohibition;

(b) Establishing an on-going drug free awareness program to inform employees about:

- (1) The dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;
- (2) The applicant's policy of maintaining a drug free workplace;
- (3) Any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and
- (4) The penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violation occurring in the workplace;

(c) Making it a requirement that each employee to be engaged in the performance of the grant be given a copy of the statement required by paragraph

(d) Notifying the employee in the statement required by paragraph (a) that, as a condition of employment under the grant, the employee must

- (1) Abide by the terms of the statement; and
- (2) Notify the employer in writing of his or her conviction for a violation of a criminal drug statute occurring in the workplace no later than five calendar days after such conviction.

(e) Notifying the agency, in writing, within 10 calendar days after receiving notice under subparagraph (d)(2) from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such convictions. Employers of convicted employees must provide notice including position title, to: The County of El Paso, Texas, 500 East San Antonio Street, Suite 406, El Paso, Texas 79901. Notice shall include the identification number of each affected grant

(f) Taking one of the following actions within 30 calendar days of receiving notice under subparagraph (d)(2), with respect to any employee who is so convicted:

- (1) Taking appropriate personnel action against such an employee, up to and including termination, consistent with the requirements of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended; or
- (2) Requiring such employee to participate satisfactorily in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a Federal State, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency

(g) Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug free workplace through implementation of paragraphs (a), (b), (c), (d), (e), and (f).

### 3. CERTIFICATION REGARDING FEDERAL DEBT STATUS (OMB Circular A-129)

The Applicant certifies to the best of its knowledge and belief, that it is not delinquent in the repayment of any federal debt.

### 4. CERTIFICATION REGARDING THE NONDISCRIMINATION STATUTES AND IMPLEMENTING REGULATIONS

The applicant certifies that it will comply with the following nondiscrimination statutes and their implementing regulations: (a) title VI of the Civil right Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000D et seq.) which provides that no person in the United States shall, on the ground of race, color, or national origin, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity for which the applicant received federal financial assistance; (b) Section 504 of the rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. 794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicap in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance; (c) title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972m as amended (20 U.S.C. 1811 et seq.) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex in education programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance; and (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and amended (42 U.S.C. 6101 ec seq.) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age in programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance, except that actions which reasonably take age into account as a factor necessary for the normal operation or achievement of any statutory objective of the project or activity shall not violate this statute.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I hereby certify that the applicant will comply with the above certifications.

---

Business Name

---

Date

---

Name of Authorized Representative

---

Signature of Authorized Representative

\*All four (4) pages of this document must be included in all responses.

# **COUNTY OF EL PASO PURCHASING DEPARTMENT**

MDR Building, 800 E. Overland  
ROOM 300, EL PASO, TEXAS 79901  
(915) 546-2048, FAX: (915) 546-8180

JOSE LOPEZ, JR. ASST. PURCHASING AGENT  
LUCY BALDERAMA, INVENTORY BID TECHNICIAN  
ARACELI HERNANDEZ, INVENTORY BID TECHNICIAN  
ELVIA CONTRERAS, FORMAL BID BUYER

## **PROPOSAL CONDITIONS**

This is the only approved instruction for use on your invitation to proposal. Items below apply to and become a part of the terms and conditions of the proposal.

1. BY SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL, EACH BIDDER AGREES TO WAIVE ANY AND ALL CLAIMS IT HAS OR MAY HAVE AGAINST THE COUNTY OF EL PASO, AND ITS OFFICERS, AGENTS AND EMPLOYEES, ARISING OUT OF OR IN CONNECTION WITH: THE DOCUMENTS, PROCEDURES, ADMINISTRATION, EVALUATION, OR RECOMMENDATION OF ANY PROPOSAL; THE WAIVER BY EL PASO COUNTY OF ANY REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS OR THE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS; THE ACCEPTANCE OR REJECTION OF ANY PROPOSAL; AND THE AWARD OF THE CONTRACT.
2. Proposal must be in the Purchasing Department **BEFORE** the hour and date specified. Faxed proposals will not be accepted.
3. Late proposals properly identified will be returned to proposer unopened. Late proposals will not be considered under any circumstances.
4. All proposals are for new equipment or merchandise unless otherwise specified (merchandise only).
5. Quotes F.O.B. destination. If otherwise, show exact cost to deliver (merchandise only).
6. Proposal unit price on quantity specified-extend and show total. In case of error in extension, unit prices shall govern. RFP subject to unlimited price increases will not be considered.
7. Proposals must give full firm name and address of offeror. Failure to manually sign the proposal will disqualify it. Person signing should show title or authority to bind his firm in a contract.
8. No substitutions or cancellations permitted without written approval of County Purchasing Agent for merchandise.
9. The County reserves the right to accept or reject all or any part of the proposal, waive minor technicalities and award the proposal to the lowest responsible proposer. The County of El Paso reserves the right to award by item or by total proposal. Prices should be itemized.
10. RFP \$100,000.00 and over, the proposer shall furnish a certified cashier's check made payable to the County of El Paso or a good and sufficient bid bond in the amount of 5%

of the total contract prices and execute with a surety company authorized to do business in the State of Texas. The bid bond must be included with the proposal at the time of the opening.

11. This is a quotation inquiry only and implies no obligation of the part of the County of El Paso.
12. The County of El Paso reserves the right to reject any proposal due to failure of performance on deliveries. The County Purchasing Agent will justify this.
13. Brand names are for descriptive purposes only, not restrictive (merchandise only).
14. The County of El Paso is an Equal Opportunity Employer.
15. Any proposal sent via express mail or overnight delivery service must have the RFP number and title clearly marked on the outside of the express mail or overnight delivery service envelope or package. Failure to clearly identify your proposal may be cause for disqualification.
16. PURSUANT TO TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 2253.021, A PRIME CONTRACTOR WHO IS AWARDED A PUBLIC WORKS CONSTRUCTION CONTRACT SHALL, PRIOR TO BEGINNING THE WORK, EXECUTE TO THE COUNTY:
  - 1) A PERFORMANCE BOND, IN THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE CONTRACT, IF THE CONTRACT IS IN EXCESS OF \$100,000; AND
  - 2) A PAYMENT BOND, IN THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE CONTRACT, IF THE CONTRACT IS IN EXCESS OF \$25,000.
17. PURSUANT TO TEXAS LOCAL GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 262.032(b), ANY SUCCESSFUL BIDDER WHO IS AWARDED ANY CONTRACT IN EXCESS OF \$50,000 MAY BE REQUIRED TO EXECUTE A PERFORMANCE BOND TO THE COUNTY. SAID BOND SHALL BE IN THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE CONTRACT AND MUST BE FURNISHED WITHIN 30 DAYS AFTER THE DATE A PURCHASE ORDER IS ISSUED OR THE CONTRACT IS SIGNED AND PRIOR TO COMMENCEMENT OF THE ACTUAL WORK. ANY PERFORMANCE BOND REQUIRED PURSUANT TO THIS SECTION SHALL BE NOTED IN THE ATTACHED DETAILED BID SPECIFICATIONS OR SCOPE OF WORK. THIS SECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO A PERFORMANCE BOND REQUIRED BY CHAPTER 2253, TEXAS GOVERNMENT CODE.
18. "Beginning January 1, 2006, in order to implement HB 914 (adding new Local Government Code Chapter 176), ALL VENDORS MUST SUBMIT A CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE (Form CIQ) disclosing its affiliations and business relationships with the County's Officers (County Judge and Commissioners Court) as well as the County employees and contractors who make recommendations for the expenditure of County funds. The names of the County Officers and of the County employees and contractors making recommendations to the County Officers on this contract are listed in the Specifications.

THE CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE MUST BE FILED WITH THE COUNTY CLERK AND A COPY OR PROOF OF FILING MUST BE ATTACHED TO THE PROPOSERS RESPONSE SUBMITTED TO THE PURCHASING DEPARTMENT. **IF FORM IS NOT COMPLETED AND FILED WITH THE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE, PROPOSAL WILL BE CONSIDERED NON-RESPONSIVE.**

Proposers should be aware that this proposal condition is not intended to cover or to advise you about all situations in which Local Government Code Chapter 176 would require you to file a Form CIQ. You should consult your private attorney with regard to the application of this law and your compliance requirements. Failure to comply is punishable as a Class C misdemeanor.

**NOTICE:**

ALL COMMUNICATIONS BY A VENDOR TO THE COUNTY, ITS OFFICIALS, AND DEPARTMENT HEADS REGARDING THIS PROCUREMENT SHALL BE DONE THROUGH THE EL PASO COUNTY PURCHASING DEPARTMENT. **THE EL PASO COUNTY CODE OF ETHICS PROHIBITS ALL PRIVATE COMMUNICATION BETWEEN VENDORS AND CERTAIN COUNTY OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES AS DESCRIBED BELOW:**

No vendor, its representative, agent, or employee shall engage in private communication with a member of the El Paso County Commissioners Court or county department heads regarding any procurement of goods or services by the County from the date that the bid, RFP, or RFQ is released. No private communication regarding the purchase shall be permitted until the procurement process is complete and a purchase order is granted or a contract is entered into. Members of the commissioners court are required to make a reasonable effort to inform themselves regarding potential procurements and have a duty to inquire of vendors, their representatives or employees, the nature of any private communication being sought prior to engaging in any communication. "Private Communication" means communication with any vendor outside of a posted meeting of the governing body, a regular meeting of a standing or appointed committee, or a negotiation with a vendor which has been specifically authorized by the governing body.



# Health Insurance Benefits Provided By Bidder

## Consideration of Health Insurance Benefits\*

1. Do you or your subcontractor(s) currently offer health insurance benefits to your employees?

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If so, please describe those health insurance benefits that you or your subcontractor(s) currently provide/offer to your employees.

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2. What percentage, if any, of your of your subcontractor's employees are currently enrolled in the health insurance benefits program?

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**El Paso County may consider provision of health insurance benefits as part of the overall "best value" determination.** Failure to provide health insurance benefits will not disqualify you from participating in this bid selection process.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Business Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
\* Name of Authorized Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Authorized Representative

\_\_\_\_\_  
\* This page must be included in all responses.



**COUNTY OF EL PASO**  
County Purchasing Department  
800 E. Overland, RM 300  
El Paso, Texas 79901  
(915) 546-2048  
(915) 546-8180 Fax

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RE: RFP #13-016, Software Upgrade for the El Paso County Courthouse Telephone Switch

Dear Vendor:

As of January 1, 2006, the Texas Local Government Code Chapter 176 requires all vendors and potential vendors who contract or seek to contract for the sale or purchase of property, goods, or services with any local government entity to complete and submit a Conflicts of Interest Questionnaire. A copy of the requirements regarding vendors is attached. Also attached is a copy of the Questionnaire which needs to be filed and was prepared and approved for statewide use by the Texas Ethics Commission.

In filing out the Questionnaire, the following are the County Officers that will award the bid and the employees which will make a recommendation to the Commissioners Court:

County Officers: County Judge Veronica Escobar  
Commissioner Carlos Leon  
Commissioner Sergio Lewis  
Commissioner Vicente Perez  
Commissioner Dan Haggerty

County Employees: Jose Lopez, Jr., Assistant Purchasing Agent  
Peter Gutierrez, Buyer II  
Elvia Contreras, Formal Bid Buyer  
Araceli Hernandez, Inventory Bid Technician  
Lucy Balderama, Inventory Bid Technician  
Edward Dion, County Auditor  
Wallace Hardgrove, Budget & Financial Manager  
Lee Shapleigh, Assistant County Attorney  
Josie Brostrom, Assistant County Attorney  
Michael Martinez, Contract Admin. Manager  
Claudia Duran, Assist. Contract Manager

Please note that the state law requires that the Questionnaire be filed with the **COUNTY CLERK** no later than **the 7<sup>th</sup> business day after submitting an application, response to an RFP, RFQ or bid** or any other writing related to a potential agreement with the County. Failure to file the questionnaire within the time provided by the statute is a Class C misdemeanor

## COUNTY OF EL PASO PURCHASING DEPARTMENT

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JOSE LOPEZ, JR. ASST. PURCHASING AGENT  
ELVIA CONTRERAS, FORMAL BID BUYER  
LUCY BALDERAMA, INVENTORY BID TECHNICIAN  
ARACELI HERNANDEZ, INVENTORY BID TECHNICIAN

MDR BUILDING, 800 E. OVERLAND  
ROOM 300, EL PASO TEXAS 79901  
(915)546-2048, FAX (915)546-8180

### **Instructions: Conflict of Interest Form (CIQ)**

- ***Please complete CIQ Form whether or not a conflict exists.***
- **Box #1 All Vendors** Must Print Clearly their names and company name.
- **Box #2** If the vendor has already filed a CIQ for the current year and is updating (filing a new one) due to changes on proposal, please check box. If this is the first time within the current year that the vendor is submitting a CIQ, then do not check this box.
- **Box #3** If you are filing a disclosure of conflict of interest, meaning that you do have a relationship with someone listed on the page prior to the CIQ form on your BID, RFP, RFQ, or RFI, then you must print the name of the person whom you have a business relationship with.
- If you answer **yes** to any of the following: **Item A, B, C** you have a conflict and must disclose on this form.
- **Item D** List the type of relationship and what department in the local government the person you have listed in **Box #3**.
- **Box #4** Please have the person that is named on **Box# 1**, sign and date in this box. We request a contact number in case there are any questions or form is missing information. This is a courtesy to you.
- It is the vendor's responsibility to submit the CIQ document number provided by the County Clerk's to the Purchasing Department.
- Please note that the state law requires that the Questionnaire be filed with the COUNTY CLERK no later than the 7th business day after submitting an application, response to an RFP, RFQ, RFI or bid or any other writing related to a potential agreement with the County. Failure to file the questionnaire within the time provided by the statute is a Class C misdemeanor and will disqualify your proposal offer.
- File a completed Conflict of Interest Questionnaire (Form CIQ) with the El Paso County Clerk in person or by mail to 500 E. San Antonio, Suite 105, El Paso, TX 79901 or by fax to 915-543-3816 the attention of the County Clerks office.
- If filing by fax use your fax confirmation (date/time) for your records. To obtain a copy/CIQ document number go to our website at [www.epcounty.com](http://www.epcounty.com), click on public records, click on to [Official Public Records](#) - Deeds of Trust, Liens and other public documents (County Clerk), type in the name of your company, on Style: scroll to CIQ-Conflict INT. QUESTIONNAIRE, and click on Search. It will be available on the web-site approximately 7 to 15 business days. Please fax a copy of your fax confirmation (date/time) to The Purchasing Department at (915) 546-8180. If you have not yet placed it in your Bid, RFP, RFQ, RFI. **If form is not completed and filed with the County Clerk's office, proposal will be considered non-responsive.**
- If you have any questions, please call Araceli Hernandez or Lucy Balderama at 915-546-2048

# CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE

## FORM CIQ

For vendor or other person doing business with local governmental entity

**This questionnaire reflects changes made to the law by H.B. 1491, 80th Leg., Regular Session.**

This questionnaire is being filed in accordance with Chapter 176, Local Government Code by a person who has a business relationship as defined by Section 176.001(1-a) with a local governmental entity and the person meets requirements under Section 176.006(a).

By law this questionnaire must be filed with the records administrator of the local governmental entity not later than the 7th business day after the date the person becomes aware of facts that require the statement to be filed. See Section 176.006, Local Government Code.

A person commits an offense if the person knowingly violates Section 176.006, Local Government Code. An offense under this section is a Class C misdemeanor.

### OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received

RFP # 13-016

**1 Name of person who has a business relationship with local governmental entity.**

**2**

**Check this box if you are filing an update to a previously filed questionnaire.**

(The law requires that you file an updated completed questionnaire with the appropriate filing authority not later than the 7th business day after the date the originally filed questionnaire becomes incomplete or inaccurate.)

**3**

**Name of local government officer with whom filer has employment or business relationship.**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Officer

This section (item 3 including subparts A, B, C & D) must be completed for each officer with whom the filer has an employment or other business relationship as defined by Section 176.001(1-a), Local Government Code. Attach additional pages to this Form CIQ as necessary.

A. Is the local government officer named in this section receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from the filer of the questionnaire?

Yes       No

B. Is the filer of the questionnaire receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from or at the direction of the local government officer named in this section AND the taxable income is not received from the local governmental entity?

Yes       No

C. Is the filer of this questionnaire employed by a corporation or other business entity with respect to which the local government officer serves as an officer or director, or holds an ownership of 10 percent or more?

Yes       No

D. Describe each employment or business relationship with the local government officer named in this section.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of person doing business with the governmental entity

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Adopted 06/29/2007

## Tex. Local Gov't Code § 176.006

### Sec. 176.006. DISCLOSURE REQUIREMENTS FOR VENDORS AND OTHER PERSONS; QUESTIONNAIRE.

(a) A person described by Section 176.002(a) shall file a completed conflict of interest questionnaire if the person has a business relationship with a local governmental entity and:

(1) has an employment or other business relationship with an officer of that local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A); or

(2) has given an officer of that local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, one or more gifts with the aggregate value specified by Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding any gift described by Section 176.003(a-1).

(a-1) The completed conflict of interest questionnaire must be filed with the appropriate records administrator not later than the seventh business day after the later of:

(1) the date that the person:

(A) begins discussions or negotiations to enter into a contract with the local governmental entity; or

(B) submits to the local governmental entity an application, response to a request for proposals or bids, correspondence, or another writing related to a potential contract with the local governmental entity; or

(2) the date the person becomes aware:

(A) of an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer, or a family member of the officer, described by Subsection (a); or

(B) that the person has given one or more gifts described by Subsection (a).

(b) The commission shall adopt a conflict of interest questionnaire for use under this section that requires disclosure of a person's business relationships with a local governmental entity.

(c) The questionnaire adopted under Subsection (b) must require, for the local governmental entity with respect to which the questionnaire is filed, that the person filing the questionnaire:

(1) describe each employment or business relationship the person has with each local government officer of the local governmental entity;

(2) identify each employment or business relationship described by Subdivision (1) with respect to which the local government officer receives, or is likely to receive, taxable income, other than investment income, from the person filing the questionnaire;

(3) identify each employment or business relationship described by Subdivision (1) with respect to which the person filing the questionnaire receives, or is likely to receive, taxable income, other than investment income, that:

(A) is received from, or at the direction of, a local government officer of the local governmental entity; and

(B) is not received from the local governmental entity; and

(4) describe each employment or business relationship with a corporation or other business entity with respect to which a local government officer of the local governmental entity:

(A) serves as an officer or director; or

(B) holds an ownership interest of 10 percent or more.

(d) A person described by Subsection (a) shall file an updated completed questionnaire with the appropriate records administrator not later than the seventh business day after the date of an event that would make a statement in the questionnaire incomplete or inaccurate.

(e) Repealed by Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. 87, Sec. 15.005, eff. September 1, 2009.

(f) A person commits an offense if the person knowingly violates this section. An offense under this subsection is a Class C misdemeanor.

(g) It is an exception to the application of Subsection (f) that the person filed the required questionnaire not later than the seventh business day after the date the person received notice from the local governmental entity of the alleged violation.

(h) A local governmental entity does not have a duty to ensure that a person described by Section 176.002 files a conflict of interest questionnaire.

(i) The validity of a contract between a person described by Section 176.002 and a local governmental entity is not affected solely because the person fails to comply with this section.

Added by Acts 2005, 79th Leg., Ch. [1014](#), Sec. 1, eff. June 18, 2005.

Amended by:

*Acts 2007, 80th Leg., R.S., Ch. [226](#), Sec. 6, eff. May 25, 2007.*

*Acts 2007, 80th Leg., R.S., Ch. [226](#), Sec. 9, eff. May 25, 2007.*

*Acts 2009, 81st Leg., R.S., Ch. [87](#), Sec. 15.005, eff. September 1, 2009.*

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**Tex. Local Gov't Code § 176.001**

Sec. 176.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Agent" means a third party who undertakes to transact some business or manage some affair for another person by the authority or on account of the other person.

(1-a) "Business relationship" means a connection between two or more parties based on commercial activity of one of the parties. The term does not include a connection based on:

(A) a transaction that is subject to rate or fee regulation by a federal, state, or local governmental entity or an agency of a federal, state, or local governmental entity;

(B) a transaction conducted at a price and subject to terms available to the public; or

(C) a purchase or lease of goods or services from a person that is chartered by a state or federal agency and that is subject to regular examination by, and reporting to, that agency.

(1-b) "Charter school" means an open-enrollment charter school operating under Subchapter D, Chapter 12, Education Code.

(1-c) "Commission" means the Texas Ethics Commission.

(1-d) "Contract" means a written agreement for the sale or purchase of real property, goods, or services.

(2) "Family member" means a person related to another person within the first degree by consanguinity or affinity, as described by Subchapter B, Chapter 573, Government Code, except that the term does not include a person who is considered to be related to another person by affinity only as described by Section 573.024(b), Government Code.

(2-a) "Goods" means personal property.

(2-b) "Investment income" means dividends, capital gains, or interest income generated from:

(A) a personal or business:

(i) checking or savings account;

(ii) share draft or share account; or

(iii) other similar account;

(B) a personal or business investment; or

(C) a personal or business loan.

(3) "Local governmental entity" means a county, municipality, school district, charter school, junior college district, or other political subdivision of this state or a local government corporation, board, commission, district, or authority to which a member is appointed by the commissioners court of a county, the mayor of a municipality, or the governing

body of a municipality. The term does not include an association, corporation, or organization of governmental entities organized to provide to its members education, assistance, products, or services or to represent its members before the legislative, administrative, or judicial branches of the state or federal government.

(4) "Local government officer" means:

(A) a member of the governing body of a local governmental entity;

(B) a director, superintendent, administrator, president, or other person designated as the executive officer of the local governmental entity; or

(C) an employee of a local governmental entity with respect to whom the local governmental entity has, in accordance with Section 176.005, extended the requirements of Sections 176.003 and 176.004.

(5) "Records administrator" means the director, county clerk, municipal secretary, superintendent, or other person responsible for maintaining the records of the local governmental entity or another person designated by the local governmental entity to maintain statements and questionnaires filed under this chapter and perform related functions.

(6) "Services" means skilled or unskilled labor or professional services, as defined by Section 2254.002, Government Code.

Added by Acts 2005, 79th Leg., Ch. [1014](#), Sec. 1, eff. June 18, 2005.

Amended by:

Acts 2007, 80th Leg., R.S., Ch. [226](#), Sec. 1, eff. May 25, 2007

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**COUNTY OF EL PASO, TEXAS  
Check List**

**Software Upgrade for the El Paso County  
Courthouse Telephone Switch  
RFP #13-016**

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**THIS CHECKLIST IS PROVIDED FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE**

\_\_\_\_\_ Responses should be delivered to the County Purchasing Department by 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, April 3, 2013. Did you visit our website ([www.epcounty.com](http://www.epcounty.com)) for any addendums?

\_\_\_\_\_ Did you sign the Proposal Schedule?

\_\_\_\_\_ Did you sign the “Certifications Regarding Lobbying, Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements; Federal Debt Status, and Nondiscrimination Status And Implementing Regulations” document?

\_\_\_\_\_ Did you sign the “Consideration of Insurance Benefits” form?

\_\_\_\_\_ Did you file a copy of the completed Conflict of Interest Questionnaire (Form CIQ) with the El Paso County Clerk (in person or by mail to 500 E. San Antonio, Suite 105, El Paso, TX 79901 or by fax to 915-543-3816 attention Joann) and write the confirmation number given as proof of filing on your proposal schedule? Please include the completed and signed form with your response whether a relationship exists or not. **If form is not completed and filed with the County Clerk’s office, proposal will be considered non-responsive.**

\_\_\_\_\_ If your proposal totals more than \$100,000.00 did you include a bid bond?

\_\_\_\_\_ Did you complete the mandatory ethics-training course and include a confirmation print as indicated in page 2?

\_\_\_\_\_ Did you provide one original and four (4) CD copies in Word/PDF Format of your response?