

## County of El Paso Purchasing Department 800 E. Overland Room 300 El Paso, Texas 79901 (915) 546-2048 / Fax: (915) 546-8180 www.epcounty.com

## **ADDENDUM 1**

To: All Interested Bidders

From: Lucy Balderama, Inventory Bid Technician

Date: May 7, 2012

Subject: RFP #12-036, Drug Screening Supplies, and Drug Testing Services

for the WTCSCD

## This addendum has been issued to notify the vendors of the following questions submitted.

- 1. Please clarify the cannabinoids? Are they requesting THC only or THC + synthetic (also known as spice & k2) THC?
  - It is usually THC only. We would like to test for THC + synthetics; however, I do not believe the technology is available to test for synthetics with a UA strip. We currently send UA's for laboratory testing of synthetics at the current rate of \$29.99 per test. So, to try and answer your question, the THC on the strip is THC only. We would like the vendor to have the capability of testing for synthetics using Gas Chromatography/Mass Spectrometry (GC/MS).
- 2. We were looking on the list of mentioned drugs to be tested and they list BENZOPLAZEPINE? Can you please clarify? Do they mean BENZODIAZEPINES? Yes
- 3. Who is the incumbent provider for these devices? Who is the incumbent provider for the lab services?

Phamatech

4. Can a vendor bid on only the devices portion of the bid? Or must a vendor bid on both the lab and the devices portions?

They must bid on both.

5. As we understand it, other County departments currently use similar on-site drug testing devices not manufactured in the United States. This seems to indicate that it is not a state or county-wide

requirement to have exclusively US-made product. Can you please explain why this is required for this bid? Our department prefers to use American made products.

Will the County consider using non-US-made products for this bid as well? No.

6. To our knowledge, there is only one on-site device vendor who has a cup with an indicator showing when test results are ready and expired. This presents a monopolistic bid situation where only that vendor--or distributors purchasing from that vendor--may meet your specifications. Will the County instead consider products where results are available for a certain time range, without built-in timer indicators?

Product must meet or exceed the specifications being requested.

7. For specimen storage, will the County accept temperature-controlled storage as opposed to frozen storage?

No, we want frozen storage.

- 8. Will the County accept CLIA lab certification--which is a federal certification by the Department of Health & Human Services--as an alternative to SAMHSA? If not, please explain why. If it is federal certification by Department of Health & Human Services.
- 9. What is the current pricing that WTCSD is paying for screening? \$2.75 per test kit.
- 10. What is the current pricing that WTCSD is paying for confirmations? \$10.00 for each drug tested.
- 11. Will you only accept the Phamatech Quickscreen or a card with both of those indicators will be accepted?

Product must meet or exceed the specifications being requested.

12. How much was the cost for the cups and dips for the last bid and what were the panels involved in each test?

Each test kit was \$2.75 and they were 6 panel.

- 13. Our lab partner is not a SAMHSA lab, but it is CAP FDT will this be ok? If it has federal certification by Department of Health & Human Services.
- 14. Which company offers a dip card that has an indicator that show when test results are expired? Quickscreen
- 15. Page 6 indicates the following:

"Dip card has an indicator that shows when test results are ready

"Dip card has an indicator that shows when test results are expired"

This feature is specific to only 1 manufacturer and thus restricts open competition. Is the County willing to look at other devices that do not have this feature but meet all other listed specifications?

No.

16. What are the cutoffs for each drug listed on pg 6? If we can provide Cocaine at a 150ng cutoff (vs 300ng) and Methamphetamine at a 500ng cutoff (vs 1000ng), to mirror the new DOT regulations, is this something the County would like?

Yes as long as the test is a reliable test.

- 17. What are the cutoff levels for each of the 6 drugs listed, whether in a dip card or tested in the lab? We would need to contact the current vendor for these and this would violate the bidding process.
- 18. What prices does the county currently pay for the 6 drug dip card? Does this price include collection cup, custody and control form and S&H?

\$2.75 per drug kit and custody and control form. Shipping and handling is part of the contract for when a sample is sent in for confirmation, the charge for confirmations is \$10.00 for each drug tested.

- 19. What does the County currently pay for the GC/MS Confirmation on suspect positives? \$10.00 per drug tested.
- 20. Does the County do any Lab based screens and GC currently? If yes, what is the cost per specimen?

I do not know if the County does this. Our department does not.

21. How many pick up locations are there?

10

- 22. What is the brand name of the test devices currently being purchased by the County? Quickscreen
- 23. Does the County want GC/MS confirmation pricing per specimen so that 1 price covers anywhere from 1-6 drug positive per donor?

  That is preferable.
- 24. If the assumption in #8 above is correct, how many multiple drug positive drug tests were there in the past fiscal year?

  1,788
- 25. Are we to ship the estimated 25,000 test devices in 1 shipment? 2 shipments? If more, how many?

No. We place various orders throughout the year.

- 26. How many ship-to locations are there for the test devices?
- 27. Please provide the screening levels for each drug you are requesting for the On-Site Drug Screen Kit, 6 panels?

We would need to contact the current vendor for these and this would violate the bidding process.

- 28. Please provide the lab based screening levels and GC/MS confirmation levels. Are these the same levels as the 6 drugs On-Site Drug Screen Kit? (specified by the West Texas Community Supervision and Corrections Department or other County Department)
  - We would need to contact the current vendor for these and this would violate the bidding process.
- 29. Who is your current provider?

## Phamatech

- 30. What is the current price for your On-Site Drug Screening Kits? \$2.75 per test kit.
  - Positives sent to the lab for confirmation? \$10.00 per drug tested
  - Lab based drug screening? n/a
  - Collection services for lab based drug screening? This amount is included in the \$10.00 per drug tested.
  - Confirmations only under this contract/RFP? Yes
- 31. On page 4 under pricing, please verify the quantity purchased for On-Site Drug Screen Kits. On page 6 indicates estimated number of On-Site kits to be 25,000 in a 12 month period. Please clarify if 25,000 instant kits are purchased? Approximately 25,000 kits are purchased at various times per year.
- 32. Page 7 indicates 25,000 urine specimens will be submitted for screening and 7,000 will require confirmation. Please verify if 25,000 lab based tests would come to the lab or if this 25,000 is the quantity of kits purchased and you would be sending in approximately 7,000 confirmation tests? Only positive UA screens where the defendant is contesting the results will be sent to the lab for confirmation.
- 33. (Page 8) It mentions Expert Witness Testimony available by affidavit, telephone or in court. How often is Expert Witness Testimony requested or performed under the current contract(s)? I do not have an exact number; the testimony will be required when requested by the court.
- 34. May the vendor provide the additional fees and costs for Expert Witness testimony on the pricing page?

  No.
- 35. (Page 8) It requests specimen pick-up service 3 times per week at multiple locations or the use of pre-paid mailers. Could you provide a list of these multiple locations with addresses and zip codes?

Yes see attached.

- 36. Will all questions from vendors and answers be provided to all vendors interested in bidding? All registered vendors will receive addendums via fax. It is also available on our website for all vendors at www.epcounty.com click Bids & More.
- 37. Is WTCSCD willing to accept an alternate Point of Collection Testing Solution (POCT) as suggested by Bidders and according to industry standards?
  No.
- 38. What is your positivity rate?

  Last fiscal year we administered 36,528 drug tests, 1788 of those were positive, and 404 were sent to the lab for confirmation.
- 39. (On page 6) Is it the County's intent to perform collections, or is the County using another vendor to perform collections? Is the collection portion separate from the pick up and laboratory services? How is the collection and lab analysis done today?

  The department will collect the urine sample. The pick up and laboratory services are separate from the collection. Today the officer will collect the urine sample and test it with the

quickscreen kit, if it is positive and the defendant disputes the screening it will be sent to the lab for confirmation.

- 40. Does the County require six (6) or seven (7) drugs on the requested screen? The department requires 6.
- 41. Is it the County's required that drug screens include Benzodiazcpine or can the County further describe Benzplazepine?

  The correct drug is BENZODIAZEPINES.
- 42. (On page 7) What technology solution is the County referring to an existing or internal web/technology solution? Does the county desire that the successful bidder implement a web/technology solution? What information/expectations does the County require from the web/technology solution?
  - The department requires that the lab be able to send urine sample results via email.
- 43. Can the County provide a list of locations where pickup is desired? Are these correctional facilities? What method of pick up or shipping is the County currently using?

  Yes. List is available as Attachment 1 on our website at <a href="https://www.epcounty.com">www.epcounty.com</a> click on Bids & More.
- 44. I did not see any mention of the need to supply samples once we submit the initial RFP. Can you please verify?

  Please provide samples.