



County of El Paso Purchasing Department
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ADDENDUM 1

To: All Interested Bidders

From: Lucy Balderama, Inventory Bid Technician

Date: May 21, 2012

Subject: Bid #12-038 Toxicology Services for the Medical Examiner's Office.

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

1. The bid requests common drugs of abuse analysis that includes a common acidic and basic screen. Is it acceptable to respond with two levels of postmortem panels – a basic drug of abuse panel and a larger expanded panel – that includes both common drugs of abuse and common acidic and basic drugs?

Yes

2. Different laboratories will have different scope of testing panels and different reporting limits. Will it be acceptable to submit our laboratories reporting limits to support our quality of services?

Yes

3. How will the testing scope and reporting limits of the analysis be evaluated when comparing vendors?

Accuracy and range of reporting limits

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Our laboratory typically charges a “flat fee” for each of our post mortem panels on each specimen type. This flat fee includes the screening of the individual specimen for a defined scope of toxins and quantitative confirmations for a flat fee. This flat fee per

specimen is charged, regardless of the amount of samples submitted. Will this structure be acceptable to fulfill the structure of this bid?

Yes

5. What is the term of this contract?

Three years with the option to renew for an additional two year increments. The ability to terminate by either party with a 60 day notice.

6. What is the typical sample types submitted on each case?

Blood and urine

7. Will samples be submitted for storage only that does not have testing requested? If yes, what is the frequency and volume of these occurrences?

Zero

8. It is an emerging need in the Forensic Pathology Industry that there is a testing need for designer drugs and synthetic cannabinoids (i.e. "Spice," "K-2," "Bath Salts"). Should the testing scope of these compounds be listed by the vendor as part of the bid?

Yes

9. Will the County of El Paso utilize any Crime Lab services provided by the contractor as part of the contract to include identification of unknown solids and liquids, or Forensic DNA Analysis?

No