



COUNTY OF EL PASO
County Purchasing Department
500 East San Antonio, Suite PU500
El Paso, Texas 79901
(915) 546-2048
(915) 546-8180 Fax

Notice to Interested Parties

Sealed bids will be received at the County Purchasing Department, 500 E. San Antonio, Suite PU500, El Paso, Texas 79901 before 2:00 p.m., **Wednesday, August 27, 2008** to be opened at the County Purchasing Office the same date for **BID Eight (8) Air-Pak, Sixteen (16) Carbon Cylinders and Fifty (50) Gas Masks**. A pre-bid conference will be held on Tuesday, August 12, 2008 at 10:00 a.m. in the Purchasing Conference Room located at 500 East San Antonio, Room 500, El Paso, Texas 79901.

Bids must be in a sealed envelope and marked:

"Bid to be opened August 27, 2008

**BID Eight (8) Air-Pak, Sixteen (16) Carbon Cylinders and Fifty (50) Gas Masks
Bid #08-123"**

Any questions or additional information required by interested vendors must be submitted in writing to the attention of the County Purchasing Agent before Tuesday, August 19, 2008, at 12:00 p.m. Questions can be faxed to (915)-546-8180.

Said contract shall be let to the lowest responsible bidder, and the **COMMISSIONER'S COURT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL BIDS AND WAIVE TECHNICALITIES**. Only bids that conform to specifications will be considered. Faxed bids will not be accepted. Successful bidder shall not order items or services until a Purchase Order is received from the County Purchasing Office. Payment will not be made on items delivered without a Purchase Order. Contract will be awarded by lump sum or line item, whichever is in the best interest of the County.

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

If the bid totals more than \$100,000.00, the bidder shall furnish a certified cashier's check made payable to the order of El Paso County 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 bid bond must be included with the bid at the time of the opening.

PITI VASQUEZ
County Purchasing Agent

BIDDING 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 bid, I hereby represent and warrant to El Paso County that I have read and understood the Bid Documents and the Contract Documents and this bid is made in accordance with the Bid Documents.

Please quote prices and discounts on the following items:

F. O. B. El Paso County

Description – Bid #08-123 BID Eight (8) Air-Pak, Sixteen (16) Carbon Cylinders and Fifty (50) Gas Masks		
Vendor must meet or exceed specifications		
8 Air Paks \$ _____	16 Carbon Cylinders \$ _____	50 Gas Mask \$ _____
(All vendors must enter total here) Total Cost \$ _____		
Please do not include tax, as the County is tax-exempt. We will sign tax exemption certificates covering these items. Please submit one (1) original copy and two (2) copies of your bid.		

Company

Address

Federal Tax Identification No.

City, State, Zip Code

CIQ Document Number

CIQ Sent Date

Representative Name & Title

Telephone

Fax Number

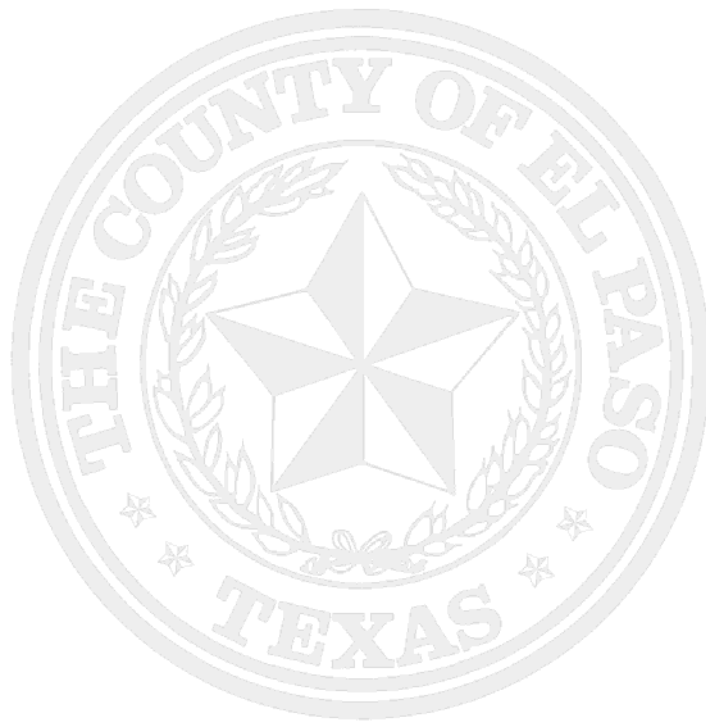
E-mail

Signature

*****THIS MUST BE THE FIRST PAGE ON ALL BIDS*****

**BID Eight (8) Air-Pak, Sixteen (16)
Carbon Cylinders and Fifty
(50)Gas Masks**

Bid #08-123



**Opening Date
Wednesday, August 27, 2008**

EL PASO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE DETENTION FACILITY

**Quantity: 8 AIR-PAKS
16 AIR-PAK CABON CYLINDERS**

SCOTT AIR-PAK FIFTY AND 2.2 SCBA BID SPECIFICATIONS FOR NFPA 1981, 2002 EDITION

General Requirements

One (or more) open circuit, self-contained breathing apparatus consisting of the following major sub-assemblies: 1) cylinder and valve assembly for storing breathing air under pressure; 2) full facepiece assembly; 3) an automatic dual path redundant pressure reducing regulator; 4) a removable, facepiece-mounted, positive pressure breathing regulator with air-saver switch, low-pressure alarm and purge valve; 5) a harness and back frame assembly for supporting the equipment on the body of the wearer; 6) a shoulder strap mounted, remote gauge indicating cylinder pressure; 7) a shoulder strap mounted EOS bell alarm.

The unit shall be covered by a warranty providing protection against defects in materials or workmanship. This warranty shall be for a period of eight years on the SCBA, except for the pressure reducer, which shall be covered for 15 years. The SCBA shall be certified by NIOSH/MSHA as conforming to the Code of Federal Regulations, 42 CFR 84. This apparatus, without modification, shall be NIOSH/MSHA certified. The apparatus shall meet all requirements of NFPA-1981 Standard on Open-Circuit, Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus, 2002 edition.

Cylinder & Valve Assembly Type and Requirements

The cylinder threads shall be straight with an O-ring or quad-ring gasket type seal. The cylinder valve shall be a "fail open" type, constructed of forged aluminum and designed such that no stem packing or packing gland nuts are required. It shall contain an upper and lower seat such that the pressure will seal the stem on the upper seat, thus preventing leakage past the stem. No adjustment shall be necessary during the life of the valve. The cylinder valve outlet shall be a modification of the Compressed Gas Association (CGA) standard threaded connection number 346 for breathing air (Proposed CGA connection No. 347) with a tri-lobe ergonomically designed hand wheel. The valve shall be constructed such that damage will not occur if the coupling is over-torqued by hand. Each cylinder valve shall consist of the following: 1) a hand activated valve mechanism with a spring-loaded, positive action, ratchet type safety lock and lockout release for selecting "lock open service" or "non-lock open service"; 2) an upstream connected frangible disc safety relief device; 3) a dual reading pressure gauge indicating cylinder pressure at all times; 4) an elastomeric bumper; 5) an angled outlet. Each cylinder and valve assembly shall be equipped with a hanger bracket for positive locking attachment of the assembly to the back frame. The SCBA shall maintain all NIOSH and NFPA standards with the following type of cylinders listed as provided by the SCBA manufacturer.

**SCOTT AIR-PAK FIFTY AND 2.2 SCBA
BID SPECIFICATIONS FOR NFPA 1981, 2002 EDITION**

Carbon cylinders

The cylinder shall be manufactured in accordance with DOT specifications and have a working pressure of 2216 psig. The cylinder shall be lightweight, composite type cylinder consisting of an aluminum alloy inner shell, with a total over wrap of carbon fiber, fiberglass and an epoxy resin.

Cylinder Type	Pressure (psig)	Duration (Minutes)	H2O Capacity	Free Gas Capacity
Carbon	2216	30	523 in.sq.	45

Facepiece Assembly

The full facepiece assembly shall fit persons of varying facial shapes and sizes with minimal visual interference. It shall be available in three color-coded sizes and maintain NIOSH/MSHA certification of the apparatus regardless of the size used. The color coded face seal shall be constructed of a blend of natural rubber/EDPM or silicone and be secured to the lens by a U-shaped channel frame that is retained to the lens using five fastener assemblies, four of which also serve as attachments points for the head harness. The lens shall be a single, replaceable, modified cone configuration constructed of a non-shatter type polycarbonate material and be designed to meet the impact and penetration requirements of a face shield as specified in ANSI Z87.1 paragraphs 5.2.8.1 and 5.2.8.2, shall have a silicone based coating to resist abrasion, chemical attack and meet the requirements of NFPA-1981, 2002 edition for lens abrasion. The lens shall have an anti-fog coating to reduce fogging in stand-by mode. The facepiece shall have a large diameter inlet serving as the female half of a quarter (1/4) turn coupling which mates with the positive pressure breathing regulator. Multidirectional voicemitters shall be lens mounted on both sides of the face piece lens and ducted directly to an integral silicone nose cup to enhance voice transmission and minimize fogging of the lens. The voicemitters, ducts and nose cup shall be easily removable without the use of tools. The head harness shall be a four-point suspension made in the fashion of a net hood to minimize interference between securing of the face piece and the wearing of head protection and be constructed of a Kevlar material. Two flame resistant elastic straps, attached to the lens in four locations, shall provide adjustment for proper face sealing.

**SCOTT AIR-PAK FIFTY AND 2.2 SCBA
BID SPECIFICATIONS FOR NFPA 1981, 2002 EDITION**

Pressure Reducer

The pressure-reducing regulator shall be mounted on the back frame and be coupled to the cylinder valve through a short length of internally armored high pressure hose with a hand coupling for engagement and sealing within the cylinder valve outlet. In lieu of a manual by-pass, the pressure-reducing regulator shall include a back-up pressure-reducing valve connected in parallel with the primary pressure reducing valve and an automatic transfer valve for redundant control. The back-up pressure reducing valve shall also be the means of activating the low pressure alarm devices in the facepiece-mounted breathing regulator. This warning shall denote a switch from the primary reducing valve to the back-up reducing valve whether from a malfunction of the primary reducing valve or from low cylinder supply pressure. A press-to-test valve shall be included to allow bench testing of the back-up reducing valve. The pressure reducing regulator shall have extended temperature range dynamic O-ring seals composed of fluorosilicone elastomer. The outlet manifold of the pressure reducing regulator shall have incorporated a reseatable over pressurization relief valve which shall prevent the attached low pressure hose and facepiece-mounted breathing regulator from being subjected to high pressure.

Facepiece-Mounted Positive Pressure Regulator

The facepiece-mounted positive pressure-breathing regulator shall supply and maintain air to the facepiece to satisfy the needs of the user at a pressure greater than atmospheric by no more than 1.5 inches of water pressure. The breathing regulator shall maintain this positive pressure during flows of up to 500 standard liters per minute. The regulator shall also meet or exceed a dynamic flow requirement of remaining positive while supplying a minute volume of 160 liters. The breathing regulator shall have attached a low pressure hose which shall be threaded through the left shoulder strap to couple to the pressure reducing regulator mounted on the back frame. The low-pressure hose shall be equipped with swivel attachments at both ends. The breathing regulator outlet port shall be configured as the male half of a quarter (1/4) turn coupling which mates with the facepiece and shall be equipped with a doughnutshaped gasket which provides the seal against the mating surface of the facepiece. The regulator cover shall be fabricated of a flame resistant, high impact plastic. The breathing regulator shall also have an integral low-pressure alarm device that shall combine an audible alarm with simultaneous vibration of the facepiece. This alarm device shall indicate either low cylinder pressure or primary first stage regulator failure. The breathing regulator shall have a demand valve to deliver air to the user, activated by a diaphragm responsive to respiration. The demand valve shall use an extended temperature range dynamic O-ring seal composed of a fluorosilicone elastomer. This diaphragm shall include the system exhalation valve and shall be constructed from a high strength silicone elastomer.

**SCOTT AIR-PAK FIFTY AND 2.2 SCBA
BID SPECIFICATIONS FOR NFPA 1981, 2002 EDITION**

A purge valve shall be situated at the inlet of the breathing regulator and shall be capable of delivering airflow of between 125 and 175 standard liters per minute. The breathing regulator shall be arranged to direct the incoming air over the inner surface of the facepiece for defogging purposes. The components of the breathing regulator shall be constructed of materials that are not vulnerable to corrosion. The flame resistant cover shall contain an air saver switch and pressure demand bias mechanism. It shall reactivate and supply air only in the positive pressure mode when the wearer affects a face seal and inhales. This device shall not affect the breathing flow through the system while in operation.

End of Service Indicator (EOS) and Heads-up Display (HUD)

The SCBA shall have two end-of-service (EOS) indicators. The primary EOS shall be the integral low-pressure alarm device that shall combine an audible alarm with simultaneous vibration of the facepiece. The primary EOS shall be located in the Facepiece-Mounted Positive Pressure Regulator. The Bell Alarm shall serve as the secondary EOS indicator. It shall be mounted on the left shoulder strap. This alarm device shall indicate either low cylinder pressure or primary first stage regulator failure.

Harness and Back frame Assembly One-Piece Aluminum Version

A lightweight, lumbar support style back frame and harness assembly shall be used to carry the cylinder and valve assembly and the pressure reducing regulator assembly. The back frame shall be a solid, one-piece anodized aluminum frame that is contoured to follow the shape of the user's back. The back frame shall include a mounting for the pressure reducer. This mounting shall contain a slide-type bracket permitting positioning of the pressure reducer to accommodate connection to either an angled or straight-type cylinder valve. The back frame shall include an over-the-center, adjustable tri-slide fixture, a Kevlar strap and a double-locking latch assembly to secure 30 minute cylinders. The harness assembly shall consist of a one size black Kevlar strap with a yellow stripe. This harness shall include box-stitched construction with no screws or bolts. The harness assembly shall incorporate parachute-type, quick-release buckles and shall include shoulder and hip pads. The harness shall include a seat-belt type waist attachment. The back frame shall include accommodation and mounting spaces suitable for installation of a distress alarm integrated with the SCBA. These mounting spaces shall permit installation of an alarm sensor module in an area between the cylinder hanger locking mechanism and the back frame.

Quantity: (50) Advantage 1000 Riot Control Gas Mask**General Requirements**

With a durable Hycar rubber facepiece based on a design developed for the U.S. Armed Forces, this clean, simplified respirator is up to 40% lighter than conventional full-face respirators and provides high performance, a customized fit, comfort, economy, and user acceptance. A flexible, one-piece polyurethane lens with wide field of vision is bonded to the face piece, which also offers a standard nose cup that helps eliminate lens fogging. A standard mechanical speaking diaphragm is included. The fully elastic, six-point head harness promotes easy on-off and easy adjustment with no hair pulling. The dual-canister, bayonet mount allows weapon sighting from either shoulder.

Approvals and Standards

NIOSH approved for protection against CN, CS and OC gas and sprays.

COUNTY OF EL PASO, TEXAS

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

(a)

(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. 1981 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

COUNTY OF EL PASO PURCHASING DEPARTMENT

COUNTY COURTHOUSE, 500 EAST SAN ANTONIO,
ROOM PU500, EL PASO, TEXAS 79901
(915) 543-3887, FAX: (915) 546-8180

PITI VASQUEZ, PURCHASING AGENT
JOSE LOPEZ, JR. ASST. PURCHASING AGENT
LUCY BALDERAMA, INVENTORY BID TECHNICIAN

BIDDING CONDITIONS

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

1. BY SUBMITTING A BID, 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 BID; THE WAIVER BY EL PASO COUNTY OF ANY REQUIREMENTS UNDER THE BID DOCUMENTS OR THE CONTRACT DOCUMENTS; THE ACCEPTANCE OR REJECTION OF ANY BIDS; AND THE AWARD OF THE CONTRACT.
2. Bids must be in the Purchasing Department BEFORE the hour and date specified. Faxed bids will not be accepted.
3. Late bids properly identified will be returned to bidder unopened. Late bids will not be considered under any circumstances.
4. All bids are for new equipment or merchandise unless otherwise specified.
5. Quotes F.O.B. destination. If otherwise, show exact cost to deliver.
6. Bid unit price on quantity specified-extend and show total. In case of error in extension, unit prices shall govern. Bids subject to unlimited price increases will not be considered.
7. Bids must give full firm name and address of bidder. Failure to manually sign bid 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.
9. The County reserves the right to accept or reject all or any part of any bid, waive minor technicalities and award the bid to the lowest responsible bidder. The County of El Paso reserves the right to award by item or by total bid. Prices should be itemized.
10. Bids \$100,000.00 and over, the bidder shall furnish a certified cashiers 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 bid 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.
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 proposal 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:
 - a. A PERFORMANCE BOND, IN THE FULL AMOUNT OF THE CONTRACT, IF THE CONTRACT IS IN EXCESS OF \$100,000; AND
 - b. 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 BIDDER'S RESPONSE SUBMITTED TO THE PURCHASING DEPARTMENT.

Bidders should be aware that this bidding 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?

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

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

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
500 East San Antonio, Suite PU500
El Paso, Texas 79901
(915) 546-2048
(915) 546-8180 Fax

RE: Bid #08-123, BID Eight (8) Air-Pak, Sixteen (16) Carbon Cylinders and Fifty (50) Gas Masks

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 Anthony Cobos
Commissioner Luis C. Sariñana
Commissioner Veronica Escobar
Commissioner Miguel Teran
Commissioner Dan Haggerty

County Employees: Piti Vasquez, Purchasing Agent
Jose Lopez, Jr., Assistant Purchasing Agent
Pete Gutierrez, Buyer II
Linda Gonzalez, Inventory Bid Technician
Lucy Balderama, Inventory Bid Technician
Clint Porter, Commander
Robert Kaminski, Lieutenant
Jose Chariez, Commander
Jamey Holmstead, Commander
Albert Tellez, Sergeant

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 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

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

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.

4

Signature of person doing business with the governmental entity

Date

Tex. Local Gov't Code § 176.006 (2005)

§ 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 with the appropriate records administrator not later than the seventh business day after the date that the person:

(1) begins contract discussions or negotiations with the local governmental entity; or

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

(b) The commission shall adopt a conflict of interest questionnaire for use under this section that requires disclosure of a person's affiliations or business relationships that might cause a conflict of interest 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 affiliation or business relationship the person has with each local government officer of the local governmental entity;

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

(3) identify each affiliation or business relationship described by Subdivision (1) with respect to which the person filing the questionnaire receives, or is likely to receive, taxable 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;

(4) describe each affiliation 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;

(5) describe each affiliation or business relationship with an employee or contractor of the local governmental entity who makes recommendations to a local government officer of the local governmental entity with respect to the expenditure of money;

(6) describe each affiliation or business relationship with a person who:

(A) is a local government officer; and

(B) appoints or employs a local government officer of the local governmental entity that is the subject of the questionnaire; and

(7) describe any other affiliation or business relationship that might cause a conflict of interest.

(d) A person described by Subsection (a) shall file an updated completed questionnaire with the appropriate records administrator not later than:

(1) September 1 of each year in which an activity described by Subsection (a) is pending; and

(2) the seventh business day after the date of an event that would make a statement in the questionnaire incomplete or inaccurate.

(e) A person is not required to file an updated completed questionnaire under Subsection (d)(1) in a year if the person has filed a questionnaire under Subsection (c) or (d)(2) on or after June 1, but before September 1, of that year.

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

(g) It is a defense to prosecution under Subsection (f) that the person filed the required questionnaire not later than the seventh business day after the date the person received notice of the violation.

Tex. Local Gov't Code § 176.001 (2005)

§ 176.001. Definitions

In this chapter:

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

(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.

(3) "Local governmental entity" means a county, municipality, school district, 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; or

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

(5) "Records administrator" means the director, county clerk, municipal secretary, superintendent, or other person responsible for maintaining the records of the local governmental entity.

COUNTY OF EL PASO, TEXAS

Solicitation Check List

**BID Eight (8) Air-Pak, Sixteen (16) Carbon Cylinders and Fifty (50) Gas Masks
Bid #08-123**

THIS CHECKLIST IS PROVIDED FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE

_____ Responses should be delivered to the County Purchasing Department by 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, August 27, 2008. Did you visit our website (www.epcounty.com) for any addendums?

_____ Did you sign the Bidding 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 915-546-2012 attention Joann County Clerks office number is 915-546-2071, ext. 3143 and write the confirmation (document #) number given as proof of filing on your bidding schedule on your Bid packet?

_____ **CIQ forms** - you must write the name of your company underneath the signature with your phone number and bid number. Please include the completed and signed form with your response whether a relationship exists or not.

If your bid totals more than \$100,000, did you include a bid bond?

Did you provide one original and two (2) copies of your response?
