**\*\*IMPORTANT NOTICE\*\***

**ONLINE BIDDING PROCESS**

* Bid pricing must be submitted online through Alameda County [EZSourcing Supplier Portal](https://ezsourcing.acgov.org/).
* The following pages require signatures and must be scanned and uploaded to Alameda County [EZSourcing Supplier Portal](https://ezsourcing.acgov.org/):

1. Exhibit A – Bid Response Packet, [Bidder Information and Acceptance](#_BIDDER_INFORMATION) page
   1. [Must be signed by Bidder](#_BIDDER_ACCEPTANCE)
2. Exhibit A – Bid Response Packet, [SLEB Information Sheet](#SLEB_Info_Sheet)
   1. [Must be signed by Bidder](#Prime_Bidder_Signature)
   2. [Must be signed by SLEB Partner](#SLEB_Sub_Signature) if subcontracting to a SLEB

Please read **EXHIBIT A – Bid Response Packet** carefully, **INCOMPLETE BIDS MAY BE REJECTED.** Alameda County will not accept submissions or documentation after the bid response due date. Successful uploading of a document does not equal acceptance of the document by Alameda County.

COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL No. 902010

**for**

FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY TESTING SERVICES

|  |
| --- |
| **For complete information regarding this project, see** **RFP posted at** [**Alameda County Current Contracting Opportunities**](https://gsa.acgov.org/do-business-with-us/contracting-opportunities/) **or contact the County representative listed below. Thank you for your interest!**  **Contact Person: Yulia Kukuyuk, Procurement & Contracts Specialist**  **Phone Number: (510) 208-9615**  **E-mail Address:** [**yulia.kukuyuk@acgov.org**](mailto:yulia.kukuyuk@acgov.org) |

**RESPONSE DUE**

by

**2:00 p.m.**

on

**July 29, 2021**

through

**Alameda County, GSA-Procurement**

[**EZSourcing Supplier Portal**](https://ezsourcing.acgov.org/)

<https://ezsourcing.acgov.org/>

Description: Description: Description: branding.jpgAlameda County is committed to reducing environmental impacts across our entire supply chain.

If printing this document, please print only what you need, print double-sided, and use recycled-content paper.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL No. 902010

FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY TESTING SERVICES

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **EVENT** | **DATE/LOCATION** |
| **Request Issued** | **June 17, 2021** |
| **Networking/Bidders Conference** | **June 28, 2021, 10:00 AM (PST)**  ***TO ATTEND ONLINE*:**  [**Join meeting here**](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NTdmM2QyMmEtOTg3MC00MDVmLWI2ODctYzA3N2FmN2Y3ODYw%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2232fdff2c-f86e-4ba3-a47d-6a44a7f45a64%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%229b05bb24-d3d5-48ef-bdc2-f7fcfa008285%22%7d)  **Or call in (audio only)**  [+1 415-915-3950,,667541057#](tel:+14159153950,,667541057# )   United States, San Francisco  [(888) 715-8170,,667541057#](tel:8887158170,,667541057# )   United States (Toll-free)  Phone Conference ID: 667 541 057# |
| **Written Questions Due via Email:**  [**yulia.kukuyuk@acgov.org**](mailto:first.last@acgov.org) | **June 29, 2021 by 5:00 p.m. (PST)** |
| **List of Attendees** | **June 30, 2021** |
| **Q&A Issued** | **July 15, 2021** |
| **Addendum Issued** | **July 15, 2021** |
| **Response Due and Submitted through** [**EZSourcing Supplier Portal**](https://ezsourcing.acgov.org/) | **July 29, 2021 by 2:00 p.m. (PST)** |
| **Evaluation Period** | **July 29 - August 30, 2021** |
| **Vendor Interviews** | **Week of August 30, 2021** |
| **Notice of Intent to Award Issued** | **September 30, 2021** |
| **Board/General Services Agency Consideration Award Date** | **November 2, 2021** |
| **Contract Start Date** | **January 1, 2022** |

***NOTE: All dates are tentative and subject to change.***

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| ***Alameda County Vendor Outreach*** | |
| Wednesday, June 23, 2021  10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.  ***TO ATTEND ONLINE:***  [Teams Meeting Info](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_ZTcwODZiMDctYzdmNi00ZTgxLWJhOTUtMjAyZTRkMWQxMTg4%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2232fdff2c-f86e-4ba3-a47d-6a44a7f45a64%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22338906a1-74a0-4066-b6d5-051f1847307a%22%7d) | ***COME MEET ALAMEDA COUNTY’S***  ***PROCUREMENT TEAM!***  This is a public event where vendors can speak with GSA professionals, get to know them, and learn more about contracting opportunities with the County. |

COUNTY OF ALAMEDA

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL No. 902010

SPECIFICATIONS, TERMS & CONDITIONS

for

**FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY TESTING SERVICES**

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# STATEMENT OF WORK

## INTENT

## It is the intent of these specifications, terms, and conditions to describe forensic toxicology testing services for the Alameda County Sheriff’s Office’s (ACSO) Coroner’s Bureau and Criminalistics’ Laboratory.

## The County intends to award a three-year contract (with option to renew) to a pool of up to two bidders selected as the most responsible bidders whose response conforms to the RFP and meets the requirements of the ACSO and the County.

## SCOPE

The ACSO’s Coroner’s Bureau requires forensic toxicology testing services in order to determine the cause, manner, and circumstances in some deaths. Toxicology testing services are performed to detect potential toxicants, such as chemicals, drugs, and poisons in decedents through the testing and screening of appropriate bodily fluids (e.g., blood, urine, bile, vitreous, gastric contents) and tissues (e.g., liver, brain, spleen, and muscle).

The ACSO’s Criminalistics’ Laboratory requires forensic toxicology testing services for law enforcement purposes which includes the identification and quantitative analysis of drugs and alcohol from blood, urine, and evidence specimens.

The RFP has two separate bid forms, one for each unit (the Coroner’s Bureau and the Criminalistics’ Laboratory). Bids for each unit will be evaluated separately.

Bidders can submit a bid either for the Coroner’s Bureau (Bid Form A-1) or for the Criminalistics’ Laboratory (Bid Form A-2), or both; but is required to bid on all items listed on the bid form for each unit.

## BIDDER QUALIFICATIONS

* + 1. BIDDERS’ Minimum Qualifications
       1. Bidders shall have been regularly and continuously engaged in the business of providing forensic toxicology testing services for at least ten (10) years and is currently engaged in the business of providing for the development, validation, and performance of postmortem forensic toxicology.
       2. Bidders shall be accredited by an accreditation body who is a signatory to the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) Mutual Recognition Arrangement and offers forensic laboratory accreditation services or a major accreditation body acceptable to the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME). Proof of accreditation must be submitted with the bid proposal.
       3. Bidders shall possess all permits, licenses, and professional credentials necessary to supply products and perform services as specified under this RFP.

## SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS

* + 1. General Laboratory Requirements (applicable to both the Coroner’s Bureau and the Criminalistics’ Laboratory):
       1. Compliance & Quality Assurance
          1. Bidders’ laboratory shall be in compliance with the State of California’s regulations for blood and urine alcohol analysis.
          2. Bidders’ laboratory shall perform lab testing according to written standard operating procedures which includes policies and procedures on validations and technical procedures.
          3. Bidders’ laboratory shall participate in an external proficiency testing program which includes, at a minimum, a proficiency testing program for alcohol in blood or serum, and for drugs in at least one type of specimen. Bidders’ laboratory shall take appropriate actions, which shall be documented when the results of the proficiency testing program are outside of compliance limits. The program shall monitor and assess the laboratory’s quantitative analysis capability.
          4. Bidders’ laboratory shall complete all the specified tests within their own laboratory with the understanding that some esoteric tests may need to be outsourced. Awarded bidder(s) shall inform the Coroner’s Bureau and/or the Criminalistics’ Laboratory of any work to be done external to the bidders’ laboratory. All external laboratories utilized by the bidder(s) must adhere to the same requirements outlined in this RFP.
          5. Bidders’ laboratory shall be actively monitored for quality assurance. The Laboratory shall take appropriate actions, which shall be documented when the results of the quality assurance program require corrective action to be taken. Bidders’ laboratory shall provide access to ACSO and the County to all documents related to these corrective actions.

b. Testing

1. Bidders’ laboratory shall have the ability to test for chemical or biological agents.
2. Bidders’ laboratory shall have the capability of developing methods for the testing of newly abused drugs such as synthetic cannabinoids, synthetic opioids, and opioid derivatives; and a commitment to research and develop testing and validation for newly emerging drug trends.
3. Bidders’ laboratory shall provide for examination of samples on urgent basis and provide live consultation or telephone conversation services at no cost to the Coroner’s Bureau and/or the Criminalistics’ Laboratory.
4. The County has no specific “cut-off” requirements for limits of detection. However, any legal cut-off limits of detections determined by the bidders’ validations shall be adhered to at all times.

c. Caseload

1. If a contract is awarded to a single Contractor, Contractor’s Laboratory shall have the ability to handle a caseload of approximately five hundred (500) cases monthly -- the Criminalistics’ Laboratory expects approximately four hundred (400) cases per month, and the Coroner‘s Bureau expects approximately one hundred (100) cases per month. If two separate contracts are awarded, each Contractor’s Laboratory shall be required to handle the same numbers outlined in this paragraph.
2. Bidders’ laboratory shall work to complete at a minimum of ninety percent (90%) of toxicology examinations within ninety (90) days of case submission.
3. Employee Qualifications
   * 1. Bidders’ laboratory shall be under the direction of a person who is qualified by reason of appropriate education and experience to assume the required professional, organizational, education, managerial, and administrative responsibilities. Preference will be given to bidders who meet the requirements of education and experience comparable to those of persons certified as Diplomate or Fellow by the American Board of Forensic Toxicology.

(2) Bidders’ laboratory employees shall meet, and continue to meet, educational, training, and experience requirements as defined by the American Board of Forensic Toxicology.

1. Reports

(1) Bidders’ laboratory shall provide a report for each test conducted. The report shall include:

Subject Name

Agency

Agency Case Number

Specimen Description

Chain of custody information

The requested testing

Requesting Agency contract information

Test Results

Certification of test results statement

Analyst signature

Date of test and/or date of report

* + 1. Bidders shall provide a signed laboratory report on all samples submitted for analysis within the following time frame:

1. Blood alcohol or urine within five (5) days from receipt of blood or urine samples;
2. Negative results within five (5) days of receiving the blood or urine samples;
3. Drugs of abuse screen within ten (10) days from receipt of specimen;
4. Confirmation results within fifteen (15) days of receiving the blood or urine samples; and
5. General drug screen within twenty (20) days from receipt of specimen.
6. Fees
7. Bidders’ laboratory shall not charge the County, the ACSO, the Coroner’s Bureau, or the Criminalistics’ Laboratory for false positives. A false-positive shall be defined as when the Laboratory identifies a sample as containing a particular drug, reports this information to the Coroner’s Bureau, the Criminalistics’ Laboratory, the ACSO, or the County; and the Laboratory determines that the information provided as positive was in fact, false.
8. Bidders’ laboratory shall provide services on a retail level for families that may want to pay for tests of specimens of decedents that the Coroner’s Bureau determined were not necessary for its purposes. Such families are solely responsible for paying for such tests. For example, the Coroner’s Bureau will not normally conduct toxicology testing on an obvious gunshot suicide, but the family may want to pay for a drug screen for their own purposes.
9. Protection of Data

(1) If Bidders utilize a computerized information management system, an appropriate security system shall be used to prevent intrusion, unauthorized release of information, or unauthorized addition, deletion, or alteration of data.

(2) Bidders must have controlled access to the data center where the data is stored to prevent unauthorized access to our data.

(a) Bidders shall comply with all applicable laws that require the notification of individuals in the event of unauthorized release of personally identifiable information or other event requiring notification.

(b) Bidders shall notify, in writing, the Coroner’s Bureau and/or the Criminalistics’ Laboratory of any actual exposure or misappropriation of County Data (any "Leak") within twenty-four (24) hours of the discovery of such, whether required by law or not. The following information shall be included in the notification:

(i) The cause of the Incident.

(ii) How Bidder became aware of the Incident.

(iii) Steps taken to resolve the Incident.

(iv) Brief description of steps Bidder is taking to prevent a reoccurrence.

(c) Bidders will reasonably cooperate with County and with law enforcement authorities in investigating any such security breach, at Bidders’ expense. Bidders will likewise reasonably cooperate with County and with law enforcement agencies in any effort to notify injured or potentially injured parties.

(d) Bidders agree to store all data within the United States within a data center with high availability disaster recovery.

(e) Backups: Bidders shall offer a minimum of thirty (30) days of backups that can be fully restored.

(f) All data must be at 256-bit encryption while in transit or when using share lines.

2. Coroner’s Bureau’s Requirements:

Compliance & Quality Assurance

(1) Bidders shall be in compliance with the guidelines of the Society of Forensic Toxicologists (SOFT), or accredited by the American Board of Forensic Toxicologists (ABFT), the College of American Pathologists (CAP), if applicable, proof of accreditation must be submitted with the bid proposal.

(2) Bidders shall participate in external drug proficiency testing for drugs of abuse. As indicated by non-compliance results, bidder shall implement and document corrective actions.

b. Bidders’ laboratory shall provide written reports in support of accreditation for the Coroner’s Bureau. Upon award of a contract, the Coroner’s Bureau and the Contractor will meet to discuss and document the required reports and the timeline for submission for each report. This information will be documented in the contract.

c. Testing

(1) Bidders shall provide for the routine testing of all ethanol and volatiles, major drugs of abuse, major acidic drugs, and all non-esoteric basic drugs, as well as carbon monoxide; with the provision for STAT carbon monoxide testing.

(2) Bidders shall have the ability to test bodily fluids (e.g., blood, saliva, urine, bile, vitreous, gastric contents) and tissues (e.g., liver, brain, spleen, muscle, etc.) for the presence or absence of drugs.

* + - 1. Employee Qualifications

(1) Bidders’ laboratory shall be under the direction of a person who is qualified by reason of appropriate education and experience to assume the required professional, organizational, education, managerial, and administrative responsibilities. The education and experience shall be comparable to those of persons certified as Fellow or Diplomate by the American Board of Forensic Toxicology. Preference will be given to bidders who meet these requirements.

(2) Bidders’ chief toxicologist shall be assessable to present proof of formal training and experience in forensic toxicology. Preference will be given to Bidders whose chief toxicologist holds a relevant doctoral degree from an accredited institution. The chief toxicologist shall be certified by ABFT or certified in toxicological chemistry by the American Board of Clinical Chemistry (ABCC) or the international equivalent.

e. Preservation & Chain of Custody

(1) Bidders shall provide various containers, sealers, and additives/preservative ingredients required by the Coroner’s Bureau to preserve and identify samples submitted.

(2) Bidders shall keep all samples refrigerated or frozen with temperatures between 35 to 38 degrees Fahrenheit (1.7 to 3.3 degrees centigrade).

(3) Bidders shall maintain a strict chain of custody which clearly documents the name, date, and time that laboratory personnel handled, inspected, analyzed, stored, or transported biological samples or evidence which are under the Bidders’ control from the time biological samples are removed from the Coroner’s Bureau and until they are returned to the Coroner’s Bureau.

(4) Bidders shall preserve all specimens tested for a minimum of five (5) years or as requested by the Alameda County District Attorney. Samples shall be appropriately stored to ensure against loss, contamination, or deleterious change.

f. Transportation

(1) Bidders shall provide transportation services of specimens to and from the location listed below. The location is subject to change and may be adjusted upon the needs of the Coroner’s Bureau. Upon the award of a contract, a pickup and delivery schedule shall be created in coordination between the Coroner’s Bureau and the Contractor. Pick up of all samples or items to be tested or inspected by the Contractor shall be required to be picked up at the following location:

(a) Alameda County Sheriff’s Office

Coroner’s Bureau

2901 Peralta Oaks Court

1st Floor

Oakland, CA 94605

3. Criminalistics’ Laboratory’s Requirements:

Compliance & Quality Assurance

1. Bidders shall participate in external drug proficiency testing for drugs of abuse. As indicated by non-compliance results, Bidders shall implement and document corrective actions.
2. Bidders shall maintain documentation of adherence to forensic alcohol testing and training as required by Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations.

b. Testing

1. Bidders shall provide for the routine testing of all ethanol and volatiles, major drugs of abuse, major acidic drugs, and all non-esoteric basic drugs.

(2) Bidders shall test blood and urine samples for alcohol and/or drugs and provide related services as requested by the Criminalistics’ Laboratory, the ACSO, or the County on a nonexclusive basis.

* + - 1. Employee Qualifications
         1. Bidders’ laboratory shall be under the direction of a person who is qualified by reason of appropriate education and experience to assume the required professional, organizational, education, managerial, and administrative responsibilities. The education and experience shall be comparable to those of persons certified as Fellow or Diplomate by the American Board of Forensic Toxicology. Preference will be given to Bidders who meet these requirements.

(2) Bidders’ chief toxicologist shall be able to present proof of formal training and experience in forensic toxicology. Preference will be given to Bidders whose chief toxicologist holds a relevant doctoral degree from an accredited institution. The chief toxicologist shall be certified by ABFT or certified in toxicological chemistry by the American Board of Clinical Chemistry (ABCC) or the international equivalent.

d. Preservation & Chain of Custody

1. Bidders shall provide sufficient quantities of blood and urine specimen collection kits to the Criminalistics’ Laboratory and to designated medical facilities to preserve and identify the samples submitted ensuring a strict chain of custody.
2. Bidders shall keep the samples frozen or refrigerated with temperature between 35 to 38 degrees Fahrenheit (1.7 to 3.3 degrees centigrade).

(3) Bidders shall preserve ALL specimens tested for a minimum of five (5) years or as requested by the Alameda County District Attorney. All samples shall be stored appropriately to ensure against loss, contamination, or deleterious change.

e. Transportation

(1) Bidders shall provide transportation services of specimens to and from the location listed below. The location is subject to change and may be adjusted upon the needs of the Criminalistics’ Laboratory. Upon the award of a contract, a pickup and delivery schedule shall be created in coordination between the Criminalistics’ Laboratory and the Contractor. For all samples or items to be tested or inspected by Bidders, pick up will be currently required at the following locations:

Alameda County Sheriff’s Office

Criminalistics’ Laboratory

2901 Peralta Oaks Court

Third Floor

Oakland, CA 94605

(b) California Highway Patrol

21020 Redwood Road

Castro Valley, CA. 94546

(c) California Highway Patrol

4999 Gleason Road

Dublin, CA. 94568

(d) California Highway Patrol

2434 Whipple Road

Hayward, CA. 94544

(e) California Highway Patrol

3601 Telegraph Avenue

Oakland, CA. 94609

## DELIVERABLES / REPORTS

* + 1. Criminalistics Laboratory requirement:
       1. Monthly invoice for all services provided to be received no later than 15 days into the following month.
       2. Laboratory examination reports to be provided to the investigating agency and the Criminalistics Laboratory no later than 3 business days after testing is completed.
       3. Delivery of all sample containers to specified locations within the County.
       4. Collection and delivery of all specimens from specified locations within the County to the Bidder’s laboratory.
    2. Coroner’s Bureau requirement:

Bidder shall provide sampling media and collection devices, including but not limited to: glass sample jars, brass/stainless steel tubes and end caps, amber jars, summa canisters, critical flow orifices, tedlar bags, fibers, sorbent tubes, air sampling pumps, timing devices, impinge solutions, and impingers. Sampling labels, sampling tags, chain-of-custody seals, chain-of-custody forms, and analytical result sheets shall also be provided. All costs associated with the additional sampling equipment must be included in the test unit price. There shall be no charge to the County for unused or defective equipment.

Bidder shall provide pre-paid overnight FedEx pick-up label to County without additional charge. Contractor can pick up shipment from the County site.

Bidder’s lab report must include a case narrative in the beginning page to describe additional comments, additional instructions per County request, events outside of normal procedures, problems or abnormalities during the sample receiving, preparation, analysis and reporting stages. After the case narrative, a sample result summary section must be included that shows analyses that were detected per sample ID. If Contractor includes subcontractors for testing, those results must all be compiled into one standard format, i.e. the subcontractor’s report format cannot be in a separate format; it has to be all included in one comprehensive report with those subcontractor results summarized in the sample results section.

The Bidder’s reports must be sent electronically or followed up with a hardcopy report by e-mailed to County Department within 10 business days.

In order to maintain transparency, the Bidder’s invoices shall include line item detail as to the service provided, including but not limited to test type, description and price.

During the term of the agreement, additions or deletions of tests may be made if needed. The Bidder will be asked to quote on the needed test. The County reserves the right to negotiate the price. Those tests will then be added to the Contract.

## NETWORKING / BIDDERS CONFERENCES

* + 1. The Bidders Conference held on June 28, 2021 will have an online conference option enabled for remote participation. Bidders can opt to participate via a computer with a stable internet connection (the recommended Bandwidth is 512Kbps) at [Teams Meeting](https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_NTdmM2QyMmEtOTg3MC00MDVmLWI2ODctYzA3N2FmN2Y3ODYw%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2232fdff2c-f86e-4ba3-a47d-6a44a7f45a64%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%229b05bb24-d3d5-48ef-bdc2-f7fcfa008285%22%7d) In order to get the best experience, the County recommends that Bidders who participate remotely use equipment with audio output such as speakers, headsets, or a telephone.
    2. Networking/Bidders Conferences will be held to:
       1. Provide an opportunity for Small Local Emerging Businesses (SLEBs) and large firms to network and develop subcontracting relationships in order to participate in the contract(s) that may result from this RFP.
       2. Provide an opportunity for Bidders to ask specific questions about the project and request RFP clarification.
       3. Provide the County with an opportunity to receive feedback regarding the project and RFP.
    3. The list of Bidder Conference attendees will be released in a separate document.
    4. Only written questions submitted via email and by the stated deadline will be addressed in an RFP Question and Answer (Q&A) following the Networking/Bidders Conference(s). Should there be a need to amend or revise the RFP, an Addendum will be issued following the Networking/Bidders Conferences. The Q&A and Addendum are the final stance of the County.
    5. All questions regarding these specifications, terms and conditions are to be submitted in writing via e-mail by 5:00 p.m. on June 29, 2021 to:

Yulia Kukuyuk, Procurement & Contracts Specialist

Alameda County, GSA-Procurement

1401 Lakeside Drive, Suite 907

Oakland, CA 94612

E-Mail: [Yulia.Kukuyuk@acgov.org](mailto:Yulia.Kukuyuk@acgov.org)

Phone: (510) 208-9615

* + 1. Potential Bidders are strongly encouraged to attend Networking/Bidders Conference(s) in order to further facilitate subcontracting relationships. Vendors who attend a Networking/Bidders Conference will be added to the Vendor Bid List. Failure to participate in a networking/bidders conference will in no way relieve the Contractor from furnishing goods and services required in accordance with these specifications, terms and conditions. Attendance at a Networking/Bidders Conference is highly recommended but is not mandatory.

# COUNTY PROCEDURES, TERMS, AND CONDITIONS

## EVALUATION CRITERIA / SELECTION COMMITTEE

All proposals that pass the initial Evaluation Criteria which are determined on a pass/fail basis will be evaluated by a County Selection Committee (CSC).  The County Selection Committee may be composed of County staff and other parties that may have expertise or experience in forensic toxicology testing services. The CSC will score and recommend one or more Contractors in accordance with the evaluation criteria set forth in this RFP.  Other than the initial pass/fail Evaluation Criteria, the evaluation of the proposals shall be within the sole judgment and discretion of the CSC.

All contact during the evaluation phase shall be through the GSA-Procurement department only. Bidder(s) shall neither contact nor lobby evaluators during the evaluation process. Attempts by Bidder(s) to contact and/or influence members of the CSC may result in disqualification of Bidder.

The CSC will evaluate each proposal meeting the qualification requirements set forth in this RFP. Bidder(s) should bear in mind that any proposal that is unrealistic in terms of the technical or schedule commitments, or unrealistically high or low in cost, will be deemed reflective of an inherent lack of technical competence or indicative of a failure to comprehend the complexity and risk of the County’s requirements as set forth in this RFP.

Bidder(s) are advised that in the evaluation of cost it will be assumed that the unit price quoted is correct in the case of a discrepancy between the unit price and an extension.

As a result of this RFP, the County intends to award a contract to the responsible Bidder(s) whose response conforms to the RFP and whose bid presents the greatest value to the County, all evaluation criteria considered. The combined weight of the evaluation criteria is greater in importance than cost in determining the greatest value to the County. The goal is to award a contract to the Bidder(s) that proposes the County the best quality as determined by the combined weight of the evaluation criteria. The County may award a contract of higher qualitative competence over the lowest priced response.

The basic information that each section should contain is specified below, these specifications should be considered as minimum requirements. Much of the material needed to present a comprehensive proposal can be placed into one of the sections listed. However, other criteria may be added to further support the evaluation process whenever such additional criteria are deemed appropriate in considering the nature of the goods and/or services being solicited.

Each of the Evaluation Criteria below will be used in ranking and determining the quality of Bidders’ proposals. Proposals will be evaluated according to each Evaluation Criteria, and scored on the zero to five-point scale outlined below. The scores for all Evaluation Criteria will then be added, according to their assigned weight (below), to arrive at a weighted score for each proposal. A proposal with a high weighted total will be deemed of higher quality than a proposal with a lesser weighted total. The final maximum score for any project is 550 points, including the possible 50 points for local and small, local emerging, or local preference points (maximum 10% of final score).

The evaluation process may include a two-stage approach including an initial evaluation of the written proposal and preliminary scoring to develop a shortlist of Bidders that will continue to the final stage of oral interview and reference checks.  The preliminary scoring will be based on the total points, excluding points allocated to references and oral interview.

If the two-stage approach is used, the three (3) Bidders receiving the highest preliminary scores and with at least 200 points will be invited to an oral interview.  Only the Bidders meeting the shortlist criteria will proceed to the next stage.  All other Bidders will be deemed eliminated from the process.  All Bidders will be notified of the shortlist participants; however, the preliminary scores at that time will not be communicated to Bidders.

The zero to five-point scale range is defined as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| 0 | Not Acceptable | Non-responsive, fails to meet RFP specification. The approach has no probability of success. If the unmet specification is a mandatory requirement, this score may result in disqualification of proposal. |
| 1 | Poor | Below average, falls short of expectations, is substandard to that which is the average or expected norm, has a low probability of success in achieving objectives per RFP. |
| 2 | Fair | Has a reasonable probability of success, however, some objectives may not be met. |
| 3 | Average | Acceptable, achieves all objectives in a reasonable fashion per RFP specification. This will be the baseline score for each item with adjustments based on interpretation of proposal by Evaluation Committee members. |
| 4 | Above Average / Good | Very good probability of success, better than that which is average or expected as the norm. Achieves all objectives per RFP requirements and expectations. |
| 5 | Excellent / Exceptional | Exceeds expectations, very innovative, clearly superior to that which is average or expected as the norm. Excellent probability of success and in achieving all objectives and meeting RFP specification. |

The Evaluation Criteria and their respective weights are as follows:

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Evaluation Criteria** | **Weight** |
|  | **Completeness of Response:**  Responses to this RFP must be complete. Responses that do not include the proposal content requirements identified within this RFP and subsequent Addenda and do not address each of the items listed below will be considered incomplete, be rated a Fail in the Evaluation Criteria and will receive no further consideration.  Responses that are rated a Fail and are not considered may be picked up at the delivery location within 14 calendar days of contract award and/or the completion of the competitive process. | Pass/Fail |
|  | **Debarment and Suspension:**  Bidders, its principal and named subcontractors are not identified on the list of Federally debarred, suspended or other excluded parties located at [www.sam.gov/SAM/](https://www.sam.gov/SAM/). | Pass/Fail |
|  | **Cost:**  The points for Cost will be computed by dividing the amount of the lowest responsive bid received by each Bidder’s total proposed cost.  While not reflected in the Cost evaluation points, an evaluation may also be made of:   1. Reasonableness (i.e., does the proposed pricing accurately reflect the Bidder’s effort to meet requirements and objectives?); 2. Realism (i.e., is the proposed cost appropriate to the nature of the products and/or services to be provided?); and 3. Affordability (i.e., the ability of the County to finance the forensic toxicology testing services).     Consideration of price in terms of overall affordability may be controlling in circumstances where two or more proposals are otherwise adjudged to be equal, or when a superior proposal is at a price that the County cannot afford. | 20 Points |
|  | **Key Personnel:**  Proposals will be evaluated against the RFP specifications and the questions below:   1. Do the individuals assigned to the project have experience on similar projects? 2. How extensive is the applicable education and experience of the personnel designated to work on the project? | 20 Points |
|  | **References (See Exhibit A – Bid Response Packet)** | 10 Points |
|  | **Oral Interview:**  The oral interview on the proposal shall not exceed 60 minutes. The oral interview may include responding to standard and specific questions from the CSC regarding the Bidder’s proposal. The scoring may be revised based on the oral interview. | 10 Points |
|  | **Description of Proposed Services:**  Proposals will be evaluated against the RFP specifications and the questions below:   1. Has the Bidder demonstrated a thorough understanding of the purpose and scope of the project? 2. How well has the Bidder identified pertinent issues and potential problems related to the project? 3. Has the Bidder demonstrated that it understands the deliverables the County expects it to provide? 4. Does the Bidder depict a logical approach to fulfilling the requirements of the RFP? 5. How well does the Bidder achieve all the requirements set out in the RFP? 6. For Criminalistics Laboratory preference will be given to Bidders whose chief toxicologist holds a relevant doctoral degree from an accredited institution. The chief toxicologist shall be certified by ABFT or certified in toxicological chemistry by the American Board of Clinical Chemistry (ABCC) or the international equivalent. 7. How well has the Bidder Identified any limitations, restrictions, pertinent issues, and/or potential problems in providing the services that the County should be aware of in evaluating its bid response? Providing the services that the County should be aware of in evaluating its bid response? | 30 Points |
|  | **Chain of Custody & Protection of Data:**  Proposals will be evaluated against the RFP specifications and the questions below:   1. Does the chain of custody for the toxicology services meet the County’s requirements? 2. Does the Bidder’s protection of data meet the County’s requirements? | 10 Points |
| **SMALL LOCAL EMERGING BUSINESS PREFERENCE** | | |
|  | Local Preference: Points equaling five percent of the Bidder’s total score, for the above Evaluation Criteria, will be added. This will be the Bidder’s final score for purposes of award evaluation. | 5% |
|  | Small and Local or Emerging and Local Preference: Points equaling five percent of the Bidder’s total score, for the above Evaluation Criteria, will be added. This will be the Bidder’s final score for purposes of award evaluation. | 5% |

## CONTRACT EVALUATION AND ASSESSMENT

During the initial 60 day period of any contract which may be awarded to the Contractor, the County may review the proposal, the contract, any goods or services provided, and/or meet with the Contractor to identify any issues or potential problems.

The County reserves the right to determine, at its sole discretion, whether:

* + 1. The contractor has complied with all terms of this RFP; and
    2. Any problems or potential problems with the proposed goods and services were evidenced which make it unlikely (even with possible modifications) that such goods and services have met or will meet the County requirements.

If, as a result of such determination, the County concludes that it is not satisfied with Contractor, Contractor’s performance under any awarded contract and/or Contractor’s goods and services as contracted for therein, the Contractor will be notified that the contract is being terminated.  The contractor shall be responsible for returning County facilities to their original state at no charge to the County.  The County will have the right to invite the next highest-ranked Bidder to enter into a contract.  The County also reserves the right to re-bid this project if it is determined to be in its best interest to do so.

## NOTICE OF INTENT TO AWARD

* + 1. At the conclusion of the RFP response evaluation process (“Evaluation Process”), all Bidders will be notified in writing by e-mail, fax, or US Postal Service mail, of the contract award recommendation, if any, by GSA-Procurement. The document providing this notification is the Notice of Intent to Award.

The Notice of Intent to Award will provide the following information:

* + - 1. The name of the Bidder being recommended for contract award; and
      2. The names of all other parties that submitted proposals.
    1. At the conclusion of the RFP response evaluation process and negotiations, debriefings for unsuccessful Bidders will be scheduled and provided upon written request and will be restricted to discussion of the unsuccessful offeror’s bid. Under no circumstances will any discussion be conducted with regard to contract negotiations with the successful Bidder.
    2. The submitted proposals shall be made available upon request no later than five calendar days before approval of the award and contract is scheduled to be heard by the Board of Supervisors.

## Bid Protest/Appeals Process

GSA-Procurement prides itself on the establishment of fair and competitive contracting procedures and the commitment made to follow those procedures. The following is provided in the event that Bidders wish to protest the bid process or appeal the recommendation to award a contract for this project once the Notices of Intent to Award/Non-Award have been issued. Bid protests submitted prior to issuance of the Notices of Intent to Award/Non-Award will not be accepted by the County.

* + 1. Any bid protest by any Bidder regarding any other Bid must be submitted in writing to the County’s GSA–Office of Acquisition Policy, ATTN: Contract Compliance Officer, located at 1401 Lakeside Drive, 10th Floor, Oakland, CA 94612, Email: [GSA-BidProtests@acgov.org](mailto:GSA-BidProtests@acgov.org), Fax: (510) 208-9720, before 5:00 p.m. of the FIFTH (5th) business day following the date of issuance of the Notice of Intent to Award, not the date received by the Bidder. A Bid protest received after 5:00 p.m. is considered received as of the next business day.
       1. The bid protest must contain a complete statement of the reasons and facts for the protest.
       2. The protest must refer to the specific portions of all documents that form the basis for the protest.
       3. The protest must include the name, address, email address, fax number and telephone number of the person representing the protesting party.
       4. The County Agency/Department will notify all Bidders of the protest as soon as possible.
    2. Upon receipt of the written protest, GSA–Office of Acquisition Policy, or designee, will review and evaluate the protest and issue a written decision. The GSA–Office of Acquisition Policy, may, at its discretion, investigate the protest, obtain additional information, provide an opportunity to settle the protest by mutual agreement, and/or schedule a meeting(s) with the protesting Bidder and others (as appropriate) to discuss the protest. The decision on the bid protest will be issued at least ten (10) business days prior to the Board hearing or GSA award date.   
         
       The decision will be communicated by e-mail, fax, or US Postal Service mail, and will inform the Bidder whether or not the recommendation to the Board of Supervisors or GSA in the Notice of Intent to Award is going to change. A copy of the decision will be furnished to all Bidders affected by the decision. As used in this paragraph, a Bidder is affected by the decision on a Bid protest if a decision on the protest could have resulted in the Bidder not being the apparent successful Bidder on the Bid.
    3. The decision of the GSA-Office of Acquisition Policy on the bid protest may be appealed to the Auditor-Controller's Office of Contract Compliance & Reporting (OCCR) located at 1221 Oak St., Room 249, Oakland, CA 94612, Fax: (510) 272-6502 unless the OCCR determines that it has a conflict of interest in which case an alternate will be identified to hear the appeal and all steps to be taken by OCCR will be performed by the alternate. The Bidder whose bid is the subject of the protest, all Bidders affected by the GSA-Office of Acquisition Policy's decision on the protest, and the protestor have the right to appeal if not satisfied with the GSA-Office of Acquisition Policy's decision. All appeals to the Auditor-Controller's OCCR shall be in writing and submitted within five (5) business days following the issuance of the decision by the GSA-Office of Acquisition Policy, not the date received by the Bidder. An appeal received after 5:00 p.m. is considered received as of the next business day. An appeal received after the FIFTH (5th) business day following the date of issuance of the decision by the GSA-Office of Acquisition Policy shall not be considered under any circumstances by the GSA or the Auditor-Controller OCCR.
       1. The appeal shall specify the decision being appealed and all the facts and circumstances relied upon in support of the appeal.
       2. In reviewing protest appeals, the OCCR will not re-judge the proposal(s). The appeal to the OCCR shall be limited to review of the procurement process to determine if the contracting department materially erred in following the bid or, where appropriate, County contracting policies or other laws and regulations.
       3. The appeal to the OCCR also shall be limited to the grounds raised in the original protest and the decision by the GSA-Office of Acquisition Policy. As such, a Bidder is prohibited from stating new grounds for a Bid protest in its appeal. The Auditor-Controller (OCCR) shall only review the materials and conclusions reached by the GSA-Office of Acquisition Policy or department designee, and will determine whether to uphold or overturn the protest decision.
       4. The Auditor’s Office may overturn the results of a bid process for ethical violations by Procurement staff, County Selection Committee members, subject matter experts, or any other County staff managing or participating in the competitive bid process, regardless of timing or the contents of a bid protest.
       5. The decision of the Auditor-Controller’s OCCR is the final step of the appeal process. A copy of the decision of the Auditor-Controller’s OCCR will be furnished to the protestor, the Bidder whose Bid is the subject of the Bid protest, and all Bidders affected by the decision.
    4. The County will complete the Bid protest/appeal procedures set forth in this paragraph before a recommendation to award the Contract is considered by the Board of Supervisors or GSA.
    5. The procedures and time limits set forth in this paragraph are mandatory and are each Bidder's sole and exclusive remedy in the event of Bid Protest. A Bidder’s failure to timely complete both the Bid protest and appeal procedures shall be deemed a failure to exhaust administrative remedies. Failure to exhaust administrative remedies, or failure to comply otherwise with these procedures, shall constitute a waiver of any right to further pursue the Bid protest, including filing a Government Code Claim or legal proceedings.

## TERM / TERMINATION / RENEWAL

* + 1. The term of the contract, which may be awarded pursuant to this RFP, will be three years.
    2. By mutual agreement, any contract which may be awarded pursuant to this RFP, may be extended for an additional two-year term at agreed prices with all other terms and conditions remaining the same.

## QUANTITIES

Quantities listed herein are annual estimates based on past usage and are not to be construed as a commitment. No minimum or maximum is guaranteed or implied

## PRICING

* + 1. All pricing as quoted will remain firm for the term of any contract that may be awarded as a result of this RFP.
    2. Unless otherwise stated, Bidder agrees that, in the event of a price decline, the benefit of such lower price shall be extended to the County.
    3. All prices are to be F.O.B. destination. Any freight/delivery charges are to be included.
    4. Taxes and freight charges:
       1. The County is soliciting a total price for this project. The price quoted shall be the total cost the County will pay for this project including all taxes (excluding Sales and Use taxes) and all other charges.
       2. No charge for delivery, drayage, express, parcel post packing, cartage, insurance, license fees, permits, costs of bonds, or for any other purpose, except taxes legally payable by County, will be paid by the County unless expressly included and itemized in the bid.
       3. Amount paid for transportation of property to the County of Alameda is exempt from Federal Transportation Tax. An exemption certificate is not required where the shipping papers show the consignee as Alameda County; as such papers may be accepted by the carrier as proof of the exempt character of the shipment.
       4. Articles sold to the County of Alameda are exempt from certain Federal excise taxes. The County will furnish an exemption certificate.
    5. All prices quoted shall be in United States dollars and "whole cent," nocent fractions shall be used. There are no exceptions.
    6. Price quotes shall include any and all payment incentives available to the County.
    7. Bidders are advised that in the evaluation of cost, if applicable, it will be assumed that the unit price quoted is correct in the case of a discrepancy between the unit price and an extension.
    8. Federal and State minimum wage laws apply. The County has no requirements for living wages. The County is not imposing any additional requirements regarding wages.

## AWARD

* + 1. Proposals will be evaluated by a committee and will be ranked in accordance with the RFP section titled “Evaluation Criteria/Selection Committee.”
    2. The committee will recommend award to the Bidder who, in its opinion, has submitted the proposal that best serves the overall interests of the County and attains the highest overall point score. Award may not necessarily be made to the Bidder with the lowest price.
    3. Small and Emerging Locally Owned Business: The County is vitally interested in promoting the growth of small and emerging local businesses by means of increasing the participation of these businesses in the County’s purchase of goods and services.

As a result of the County’s commitment to advance the economic opportunities of these businesses, **Bidders must meet the County’s Small and Emerging Locally Owned Business requirements in order to be considered for the contract award.** These requirements can be found online at:

* [**Alameda County SLEB Program Overview**](http://acgov.org/auditor/sleb/overview.htm) [<http://acgov.org/auditor/sleb/overview.htm>] and
* [**Alameda County SLEB Program Additional Information**](https://gsa.acgov.org/do-business-with-us/vendor-support/small-local-and-emerging-businesses/) [<https://gsa.acgov.org/do-business-with-us/vendor-support/small-local-and-emerging-businesses/>]

For purposes of this bid, applicable industries include, but are not limited to, the following NAICS Code(s): 541380, 621511.

A small business is defined by the [United States Small Business Administration](http://www.sba.gov/) (SBA) as having no more than the number of employees or average annual gross receipts over the last three years required per SBA standards based on the small business's appropriate NAICS code.

An emerging business is defined by the County as having either annual gross receipts of less than one-half that of a small business OR having less than one-half the number of employees AND that has been in business less than five years.

* + 1. The County reserves the right to reject any or all responses that materially differ from any terms contained in this RFP or from any Exhibits attached hereto, to waive informalities and minor irregularities in responses received, and to provide an opportunity for Bidders to correct minor and immaterial errors contained in their submissions. The decision as to what constitutes a minor irregularity shall be made solely at the discretion of the County.
    2. Any proposal/bids that contain false or misleading information may be disqualified by the County.
    3. The County reserves the right to award to a single or multiple Contractors.
    4. The County has the right to decline to award this contract or any part thereof for any reason.
    5. Board approval to award a contract is required.
    6. A contract must be negotiated, finalized, and signed by the recommended awardee prior to Board approval.
    7. Final Standard Agreement terms and conditions will be negotiated with the selected Bidder. Bidder may access a copy of the Standard Services Agreement template can be found online at:

[**Alameda County Standard Services Agreement Template**](https://acgovt.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/GSADigitalLibrary/EeGBnUyJSMFBoXqtvbj7ly0BqycT5J83NKyIV19tLO6-yA?e=YwGjFP)

[<https://acgovt.sharepoint.com/:w:/s/GSADigitalLibrary/EeGBnUyJSMFBoXqtvbj7ly0BqycT5J83NKyIV19tLO6-yA?e=YwGjFP>]

The template contains minimal Agreement boilerplate language only.

* + 1. The RFP specifications, terms, conditions and Exhibits, RFP Addenda and Bidder’s proposal, may be incorporated into and made a part of any contract that may be awarded as a result of this RFP.

## METHOD OF ORDERING

* + 1. A written PO and signed Standard Agreement contract will be issued upon Board approval.
    2. POs and Standard Agreements will be faxed, transmitted electronically or mailed and shall be the only authorization for the Contractor to place an order.
    3. POs and payments for products and/or services will be issued only in the name of Contractor.
    4. Contractor shall adapt to changes to the method of ordering procedures as required by the County during the term of the contract.
    5. Change orders shall be agreed upon by Contractor and County and issued as needed in writing by County.

## INVOICING

* + 1. Contractor shall invoice the requesting department, unless otherwise advised, upon satisfactory receipt of product and/or performance of services.
    2. County will use best efforts to make payment within 30 days following receipt and review of invoice and upon complete satisfactory receipt of product and performance of services.
    3. County shall notify Contractor of any adjustments required to invoice.
    4. Invoices shall contain County PO number, invoice number, remit to address and itemized products and/or services description and price as quoted and shall be accompanied by acceptable proof of delivery.
    5. Contractor shall utilize standardized invoice upon request.
    6. Invoices shall only be issued by the Contractor who is awarded a contract.
    7. Payments will be issued to and invoices must be received from the same Contractor whose name is specified on the POs.
    8. The County will pay Contractor monthly or as agreed upon, not to exceed the total quoted in the bid response.

## ACCOUNT MANAGER / SUPPORT STAFF

* + 1. Contractor shall provide a dedicated competent account manager who shall be responsible for the County account/contract. The account manager shall receive all orders from the County and shall be the primary contact for all issues regarding Bidder’s response to this RFP and any contract which may arise pursuant to this RFP.
    2. Contractor shall also provide adequate, competent support staff that shall be able to service the County during normal working hours, Monday through Friday. Such representative(s) shall be knowledgeable about the contract, products and/or services offered and able to identify and resolve quickly any issues including but not limited to order and invoicing problems.
    3. Contractor account manager shall be familiar with County requirements and standards and work with the ACSO Coroner’s Bureau and Criminalistics’ Laboratory.

# INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

## COUNTY CONTACTS

GSA-Procurement is managing the competitive process for this project on behalf of the County. All contact during the competitive process is to be through the GSA-Procurement department only.

The evaluation phase of the competitive process shall begin upon receipt of sealed bids until a contract has been awarded. Bidders shall not contact or lobby evaluators during the evaluation process. Attempts by Bidder to contact evaluators may result in disqualification of Bidder.

Contact Information for this RFP:

Yulia Kukuyuk, Procurement & Contracts Specialist

Alameda County, GSA-Procurement

1401 Lakeside Drive, Suite 907

Oakland, CA 94612

E-Mail: [Yulia.Kukuyuk@acgov.org](mailto:Yulia.Kukuyuk@acgov.org)

Phone: (510) 208-9615

The GSA Contracting Opportunities website will be the official notification posting place of all Requests for Interest, Proposals, Quotes and Addenda. Go to [**Alameda County Current Contracting Opportunities**](https://gsa.acgov.org/do-business-with-us/contracting-opportunities/) [<https://gsa.acgov.org/do-business-with-us/contracting-opportunities/>]to view current contracting opportunities.

## SUBMITTAL OF BIDS

* + 1. All bids must be completed and successfully uploaded through Alameda County EZSourcing Supplier Portal BY 2:00 p.m. on the due date specified in the Calendar of Events. Technical difficulties in downloading/submitting documents through the Alameda County EZSourcing Supplier Portal shall not extend the due date and time.
    2. Bidders **must** submit an electronic version of their proposal and preferably be in a single file (PDF with Optical Character Recognition (OCR) preferred). Proposal shall include Exhibit A – Bid Response Packet, including additional required documentation.
    3. Bidders **must** submit pricing on the Excel Spreadsheet – Bid Form in EZSourcing Supplier Portal.
    4. No email (electronic) or facsimile bids will be considered.
    5. All costs required for the preparation and submission of a bid shall be borne by Bidder.
    6. Only one bid response will be accepted from any one person, partnership, corporation, or other entity; however, several alternatives may be included in one response. For purposes of this requirement, “partnership” shall mean, and is limited to, a legal partnership formed under one or more of the provisions of the California or other state’s Corporations Code or an equivalent statute.
    7. All other information regarding the bid responses will be held as confidential until such time as the County Selection Committee has completed its evaluation, a recommended award has been made by the County Selection, and the contract has been fully negotiated with the intended awardee named in the recommendation to award/non-award notification(s). The submitted proposals shall be made available upon request no later than five calendar days before the recommendation to award and enter into a contract is scheduled to be heard by the Board of Supervisors. All parties submitting proposals, either qualified or unqualified, will be sent recommend to award/non-award notification(s), which will include the name of the Bidder to be recommended for award of this project.  In addition, award information will be posted on the County’s “Contracting Opportunities” website, mentioned above.
    8. Each bid received, with the name of the Bidder, shall be entered on a record, and each record with the successful bid indicated thereon shall, after the award of the order or contract, be open to public inspection.
    9. California Government Code Section 4552: In submitting a bid to a public purchasing body, the Bidder offers and agrees that if the bid is accepted, it will assign to the purchasing body all rights, title, and interest in and to all causes of action it may have under Section 4 of the Clayton Act (15 U.S.C. Sec. 15) or under the Cartwright Act (Chapter 2, commencing with Section 16700, of Part 2 of Division 7 of the Business and Professions Code), arising from purchases of goods, materials, or services by the Bidder for sale to the purchasing body pursuant to the bid. Such assignment shall be made and become effective at the time the purchasing body tenders final payment to the Bidder.
    10. Bidder expressly acknowledges that it is aware that if a false claim is knowingly submitted (as the terms “claim” and “knowingly” are defined in the California False Claims Act, Cal. Gov. Code, §12650 et seq.), County will be entitled to civil remedies set forth in the California False Claim Act. It may also be considered fraud and the Contractor may be subject to criminal prosecution.
    11. The undersigned Bidder certifies that it is, at the time of bidding, and shall be throughout the period of the contract, licensed by the State of California to do the type of work required under the terms of the Contract Documents. Bidder further certifies that it is regularly engaged in the general class and type of work called for in the Bid Documents.
    12. The undersigned Bidder certifies that it is not, at the time of bidding, on the California Department of General Services (DGS) list of persons determined to be engaged in investment activities in Iran or otherwise in violation of the Iran Contracting Act of 2010 (Public Contract Code Section 2200-2208).
    13. It is understood that County reserves the right to reject this bid and that the bid shall remain open to acceptance and is irrevocable for a period of 180 days, unless otherwise specified in the Bid Documents.

## RESPONSE FORMAT

* + 1. Bid responses must be submitted online through Alameda County EZSourcing Supplier Portal.
    2. Bid responses are to be straightforward, clear, concise and specific to the information requested.
    3. In order for bids to be considered complete, Bidder **must** provide responses to all information requested. See Exhibit A – Bid Response Packet.
    4. Bid responses, in whole or in part, are NOT to be marked confidential or proprietary. County may refuse to consider any bid response or part thereof so marked. Bid responses submitted in response to this RFP may be subject to public disclosure.  County shall not be liable in any way for disclosure of any such records. Please refer to the County’s website at: [**Alameda County Proprietary and Confidential Information Policies**](https://gsa.acgov.org/do-business-with-us/contracting-opportunities/policies-procedures/proprietary-confidential-information/) [<https://gsa.acgov.org/do-business-with-us/contracting-opportunities/policies-procedures/proprietary-confidential-information/>] for more information.

### EXHIBIT A

**BID RESPONSE PACKET**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

* **As described in the submittal of bids section of this RFP, Bidders must submit an electronic copy of the bid in PDF (with OCR preferred). The electronic copy must have all appropriate pages signed (**✍**).**
* **Each page of the Bid Response Packet must be submitted through the** [**EZSourcing Supplier Portal**](https://ezsourcing.acgov.org) **as PDF attachment(s) with all required information included and documents attached; any pages of the Bid Response Packet not applicable to the Bidder must be submitted with such pages or items clearly marked “N/A” or the bid may be disqualified as incomplete.**
* **Bidders shall not modify the Bid Response Packet or any other County-provided document unless instructed to do so. Modifications Bidders are instructed to make include:**
  + **On the cover page of the Bid Response Packet, Bidders must replace the information in BLUE font (name of Bidder organization, primary contact name, etc.).**
* **Bidder must quote price(s) as specified in the RFP, including any addendums, and as specified in the** [**EZSourcing Supplier Portal**](https://ezsourcing.acgov.org) **event.**
* **Bidders that do not comply with the requirements, and/or submit incomplete bid packages, are subject to disqualification and their bids being rejected.**
* **If a Bidder is making any clarifications, or taking exception to policies or specifications of this RFP, these must be submitted in the *Exceptions and Clarifications* form of the Bid Response Packet in order for the bid response to be considered complete.**

**Date of Submission**

**Name of Bidding Organization**

**Primary Contact Name**

**Primary Contact Title**

**Address 1**

**Address 2**

**City, State Zip Code**

**Phone Number**

**Email Address**

### BID RESPONSE PACKET

RFP No. 902010

FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY TESTING SERVICES

#### BIDDER INFORMATION

Official Name of Bidder:

Street Address Line 1:

Street Address Line 2:

City:  State:  Zip Code:

Webpage:

Type of Entity / Organizational Structure (check one):

Corporation  Joint Venture  Partnership

Limited Liability Partnership  Limited Liability Corporation  Non-Profit / Church

Sole Proprietor

Other:

Jurisdiction of Organizational Structure:

Date of Organizational Structure:

Federal Tax Identification Number:

Alameda County Supplier Identification Number (if applicable):

DIR Contractor Registration Number (if applicable):

Primary Contact Information:

Name / Title:

Telephone Number:  Alternate Number:

E-mail Address:

#### BIDDER ACCEPTANCE

1. The undersigned declares and agrees that the Bid Documents, including, without limitation, the RFP, Q&A, Addenda, and Exhibits have been read and accepted.
2. The undersigned is authorized, offers, and agrees to furnish the articles and/or services specified in accordance with the Specifications, Terms & Conditions of the Bid Documents of RFP No. 902010 – FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY TESTING SERVICES.
3. The undersigned has reviewed the Bid Documents and fully understands the requirements in this Bid including, but not limited to, general County requirements, and that each Bidder who is awarded a contract shall be, in fact, a prime Contractor, not a subcontractor, to County, and agrees that its Bid, if accepted by County, will be the basis for the Bidder to enter into a contract with County in accordance with the intent of the Bid Documents.

* The undersigned agrees to the following terms, conditions, certifications, and requirements found on the County’s website:
* [**Debarment & Suspension Policy**](https://gsa.acgov.org/do-business-with-us/contracting-opportunities/debarment-suspension-policy/)

**[**[**https://gsa.acgov.org/do-business-with-us/contracting-opportunities/debarment-suspension-policy/**](https://gsa.acgov.org/do-business-with-us/contracting-opportunities/debarment-suspension-policy/)**]**

* [**Iran Contracting Act (ICA) of 2010**](https://gsa.acgov.org/do-business-with-us/contracting-opportunities/policies-procedures/iran-contracting-act-of-2010-ica/)

**[**[**https://gsa.acgov.org/do-business-with-us/contracting-opportunities/policies-procedures/iran-contracting-act-of-2010-ica/**](https://gsa.acgov.org/do-business-with-us/contracting-opportunities/policies-procedures/iran-contracting-act-of-2010-ica/)**]**

* [**General Environmental Requirements**](https://gsa.acgov.org/do-business-with-us/contracting-opportunities/policies-procedures/general-environmental-requirements/)

**[**[**https://gsa.acgov.org/do-business-with-us/contracting-opportunities/policies-procedures/general-environmental-requirements/**](https://gsa.acgov.org/do-business-with-us/contracting-opportunities/policies-procedures/general-environmental-requirements/)**]**

* [**Alameda County SLEB Program Overview**](http://acgov.org/auditor/sleb/overview.htm)

**[**[**http://acgov.org/auditor/sleb/overview.htm**](http://acgov.org/auditor/sleb/overview.htm)**]**

* [**Alameda County SLEB Program Additional Information**](https://gsa.acgov.org/do-business-with-us/vendor-support/small-local-and-emerging-businesses/)

**[**[**https://gsa.acgov.org/do-business-with-us/vendor-support/small-local-and-emerging-businesses/**](https://gsa.acgov.org/do-business-with-us/vendor-support/small-local-and-emerging-businesses/)**]**

* [**First Source**](http://acgov.org/auditor/sleb/sourceprogram.htm)

**[**[**http://acgov.org/auditor/sleb/sourceprogram.htm**](http://acgov.org/auditor/sleb/sourceprogram.htm)**]**

* [**Online Contract Compliance System**](http://acgov.org/auditor/sleb/elation.htm)

**[**[**http://acgov.org/auditor/sleb/elation.htm**](http://acgov.org/auditor/sleb/elation.htm)**]**

* [**General Requirements**](https://gsa.acgov.org/do-business-with-us/contracting-opportunities/policies-procedures/general-requirements/)

**[**[**https://gsa.acgov.org/do-business-with-us/contracting-opportunities/policies-procedures/general-requirements/**](https://gsa.acgov.org/do-business-with-us/contracting-opportunities/policies-procedures/general-requirements/)**]**

1. The undersigned acknowledges that Bidder is and will remain in good standing in the State of California, with all the necessary licenses, permits, certifications, approvals, and authorizations necessary to perform all obligations in connection with this RFP.
2. It is the responsibility of each Bidder to be familiar with all of the specifications, terms and conditions and, if applicable, the site condition. By the submission of a Bid, the Bidder certifies that if awarded a contract they will make no claim against the County based upon ignorance of conditions or misunderstanding of the specifications.
3. Patent indemnity: Vendors who do business with the County shall hold the County of Alameda, its officers, agents and employees, harmless from liability of any nature or kind, including cost and expenses, for infringement or use of any patent, copyright or other proprietary right, secret process, patented or unpatented invention, article or appliance furnished or used in connection with the contract or purchase order.
4. The undersigned acknowledges ***ONE*** of the following (please check only one box):

Bidder is not local to Alameda County and is ineligible for any bid preference; **or**

Bidder is a certified SLEB at the time of bid submittal and is requesting 10% bid preference; (Bidder must check the first box and provide its SLEB Certification Number in the [SLEB Information Sheet](#SLEB_Info_Sheet)); **or**

Bidder is LOCAL to Alameda County and is requesting 5% bid preference, and has attached the following documentation to this Exhibit:

* Copy of a verifiable business license, issued by the County of Alameda or a City within the County; and
* Proof of six months business residency, identifying the name of the vendor and the local address. Utility bills, deed of trusts or lease agreements, etc., are acceptable verification documents to prove residency.

**SIGNATURE:** ✍

Name/Title of Authorized Signer:

Dated this  day of  20

#### TABLE OF CONTENTS

**Instructions**: Please remove this page and replace it with a **Table of Contents** listing the individual sections of the proposal and their corresponding page numbers. The page(s) inserted shall be clearly marked *Table of Contents*.

#### LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

**Instructions**: Please remove this page and replace it with a **Letter of Transmittal**. The letter shall include a description of Bidder’s capabilities and approach in providing its services to the County, and provide a brief synopsis of the highlights of its proposal and overall benefits to the County. The page(s) inserted shall be clearly marked *Letter of Transmittal*.

**Maximum Length**: 2 pages

#### BID FORM

**Instructions**:Bidder must use the separate Excel Bid Form provided.

**COST SHALL BE SUBMITTED AS REQUESTED ON THE EXCEL BID FORM. NO ALTERATIONS OR CHANGES OF ANY KIND ARE PERMITTED.** Bid responses that do not comply will be subject to rejection in total. The cost quoted shall include all taxes (excluding sales and use tax) and all other charges, including travel expenses, and is the maximum cost the County will pay for the term of any contract that is a result of this RFP.

Quantities listed on Alameda County [**EZSourcing Supplier Portal**](https://ezsourcing.acgov.org) are estimates and are not to be construed as a commitment. No minimum or maximum is guaranteed or implied.

Bidders can submit a bid either for the Coroner’s Bureau (Bid Form A-1) or for the Criminalistics’ Laboratory (Bid Form A-2), or both; but is required to bid on all items listed on the bid form for each unit. Partial bid for each unit is not acceptable.

By submission through the Alameda County [**EZSourcing Supplier Portal**](https://ezsourcing.acgov.org) Bidder certifies to County that all representations, certifications, and statements made by Bidder, as set forth in each entry in the Alameda County [**EZSourcing Supplier Portal**](https://ezsourcing.acgov.org) and attachments are true and correct and are made under penalty of perjury pursuant to the laws of California.

**DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED SERVICES**

**Instructions**: Please include this page as part of the Bid Response Packet. Following this page, Bidder shall provide a **Description of Proposed Services**.

The *Description of Proposed Service* shall describe the overall services. The Bidder must address how they will meet or exceed each requirement listed in **Section D (Requirements)** and **Section E (Deliverables/Reports)**.

At minimum, the Bidder must include the following details:

1. Describe how Bidder will be able to effectively and consistently complete the County’s anticipated volume of work within the stated timeframes. Include key tasks and the key personnel responsible for achieving them. Include details on Bidder’s quality assurance program, accreditations, licenses, and certifications where applicable.
2. Detail existing data collection infrastructure and demonstrate ability to interface with County’s database(s) and/or provide reporting data to the County for maximum efficiency. In particular, The Coroner’s Bureau currently use a case management system, Coroners and Medical Examiners (CME) Software by VertiQ. This software provides the bidders the ability to interface with County’s database(s) and/or provide reporting data to the County for maximum efficiency.
3. Explain any special resources, procedures, or approaches that make the services of Bidder particularly advantageous to the County.
4. Identify any limitations or restrictions of Bidder in providing the services that the County should be aware of in evaluating its Response to this RFP. (Please note any requests for exceptions or clarifications MUST be identified on Exceptions and Clarification form below and the County is under no obligation to accept any exceptions or clarifications and any such exceptions and clarifications may be a basis for bid disqualification.)

**Maximum** **Length**: none

**TABLE OF KEY PERSONNEL**

**Instructions**: Please include this page as part of the Bid Response Packet. Following this page, Bidder shall provide a **Table of Key Personnel**. The table shall include all key personnel associated with the RFP.

This table must include all key personnel who will provide services to the County. The table must include the following information for each key person:

1. The person’s relationship with Bidder, including job title and years of employment with Bidder;
2. Work contact information including, but not limited to, the following: work address, office telephone number, mobile work number, and e-mail address;
3. Related experience on similar projects, certifications, and merits.

If a Bidder collaborates with any other partners or subcontractors, Bidder shall identify subcontractors, subcontractor qualifications, and how they plan to work together. Bidder(s) shall identify any existing agreements or MOUs between the Bidder(s) and proposed collaborator(s).

In addition to the table, Bidders must submit a complete résumé or curriculum vitae for each key personnel listed in the table that includes educational background, relevant experience on similar projects, certifications, and merits

**Maximum** **Length**: There is no limit to the table.

#### REFERENCES

**Instructions**: On the following pages are the templates that Bidders must use to provide references. Bidders are to provide a list of three (3) references. References must be satisfactory as deemed solely by County. Services or goods provided by Bidder to the references should have similar scope, volume and requirements to those outlined in these specifications, terms and conditions.

Bidders must verify that the contact information for all references provided is current and valid. If a reference cannot be contacted it may affect the qualification and scoring of Bidders submission.

Bidders are strongly encouraged to notify all references that the County may be contacting them to obtain a reference.

The County may contact some or all of the references provided in order to determine Bidder’s performance record on work similar to that described in this request. The County reserves the right to contact references other than those provided in the Response and to use the information gained from them in the evaluation process.

**REFERENCES**

RFP No. 902010 - FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY TESTING SERVICES

Bidder Name:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Company Name: | Contact Person: |
| Address: | Telephone Number: |
| City, State, Zip: | E-mail Address: |
| Services Provided / Date(s) of Service: | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Company Name: | Contact Person: |
| Address: | Telephone Number: |
| City, State, Zip: | E-mail Address: |
| Services Provided / Date(s) of Service: | |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Company Name: | Contact Person: |
| Address: | Telephone Number: |
| City, State, Zip: | E-mail Address: |
| Services Provided / Date(s) of Service: | |

#### EXCEPTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

**Instructions**: On the following page is the **Exceptions and Clarifications** form. Bidders must use this form to identify any and all exceptions and/or clarifications to the RFP and associated Bid Documents.

**THE COUNTY IS UNDER NO OBLIGATION TO ACCEPT ANY EXCEPTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS ANY SUCH EXCEPTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS MAY BE A BASIS FOR BID DISQUALIFICATION.**

**EXCEPTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS**

RFP No. 902010 - FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY TESTING SERVICES

Bidder Name:

List below requests for exceptions and clarification, if any, to the RFP and associated Bid Documents, and submit with your bid response.

The County is under no obligation to accept any exceptions and clarifications and such exceptions and clarifications may be a basis for bid disqualification.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Reference to:** | | | **Description** |
| Page No. | Section | Item No. |  |
| **p. 23**  EXAMPLE | **D** | **1.c.** | ***Vendor takes exception to…*** |
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\*Use additional pages as necessary

#### SLEB INFORMATION SHEET

**Instructions**: On the following page is the *SLEB Information Sheet*. Every Bidder must fill out and submit a signed SLEB Information Sheet, indicating their SLEB certification status. If Bidder is not certified, the information sheet must be completed with the name, identification information, and goods/services to be provided by the CERTIFIED SLEB partner(s) with whom the Bidder will subcontract to meet the County SLEB participation requirement.  The Exhibit must be signed by EACH of the named CERTIFIED SLEB(s) that will be subcontractors.

SLEB certification must be complete at the time of bid submittal for SLEB primes and SLEB subcontractor(s).

* For SLEB Subcontracting Questions: Please contact the General Services Agency-Office of Acquisition Policy - Ratha Chuon, [ratha.chuon@acgov.org](mailto:ratha.chuon@acgov.org), (510) 208-9617.
* For questions/information regarding SLEB certification including requirements, please contact the Auditor-Controller Agency, Office of Contract Compliance & Reporting – SLEB Certification Unit at (510) 891-5500.

SMALL LOCAL EMERGING BUSINESS (SLEB)

INFORMATION SHEET

**RFP No. 902010 - FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY TESTING SERVICES**

**In order to meet the Small Local Emerging Business (SLEB) requirements of this RFP, all Bidders must complete this form.**

**Bidders that are not certified SLEBS (for definition of a SLEB see** [**Alameda County SLEB Program Overview**](http://acgov.org/auditor/sleb/overview.htm)**; [**[**http://acgov.org/auditor/sleb/overview.htm**](http://acgov.org/auditor/sleb/overview.htm)**]) are required to subcontract with a SLEB for at least 20% of the total estimated bid amount in order to be eligible for contract award. SLEB subcontractors must be independently owned and operated from the prime Contractor with no employees of either entity working for the other. A copy of this form must be submitted for each SLEB that the Bidder will subcontract with, as evidence of a firm contractual commitment to meeting the SLEB participation requirement.**

**Bidders are encouraged to form a partnership with a SLEB that can participate directly with this contract. One of the benefits of the partnership will be economic, but this partnership will also assist the SLEB to grow and build capacity to eventually bid as a prime on their own.**

**Once a contract has been awarded, substitutions of the named subcontractor(s) are not allowed without prior written approval from the Auditor-Controller, Office of Contract Compliance & Reporting (OCCR).**

**County departments, prime and subcontractors are required to use the web-based Elation Systems to monitor SLEB subcontractor compliance with** [**Elation Systems**](http://www.elationsys.com/elationsys/)**; [**[**http://www.elationsys.com/elationsys/**](http://www.elationsys.com/elationsys/)**].**

|  |
| --- |
| **BIDDER IS A CERTIFIED SLEB (sign at bottom of page)**  **SLEB BIDDER Business Name:**  **SLEB Certification #:       SLEB Certification Expiration Date:**  **NAICS Codes Included in Certification:** |

**OR**

|  |
| --- |
| **BIDDER IS NOT A CERTIFIED SLEB and will subcontract      % with the SLEB named below for the following goods/services:**  **SLEB Subcontractor Business Name:**  **SLEB Certification #:       SLEB Certification Expiration Date:**  **SLEB Certification Status:  Small /  Emerging**  **NAICS Codes Included in Certification:**  **SLEB Subcontractor Principal Name:**  **SLEB Subcontractor Principal Signature:** ✍ **Date:** |

**Upon award, Bidder (the prime Contractor) and** **all SLEB subcontractors** agree to register and use the secure web-based ELATION SYSTEMS. ELATION SYSTEMS will be used to submit SLEB subcontractor participation including, but not limited to, subcontractor contract amounts, payments made, and confirmation of payments received.

Bidder Printed Name/Title: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_City\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_State\_\_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code\_\_\_\_\_\_

##### Bidder Signature: ✍ Date:

#### CREDENTIALS

**Instructions**: This page must be included as part of the Bid Response Packet. Following this page, Bidders are to provide proof of any permits, licenses, and/or professional credentials necessary to supply product and perform services as specified in this RFP.

##### INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

Insurance certificates are not required at the time of submission; however, by signing the Bid Response Packet, the Bidder agrees to meet the minimum insurance requirements prior to award. Insurance documentation must be provided to the County, prior to award, and include an insurance certificate and additional insured certificate, naming the County of Alameda, which meets the minimum insurance requirements, as stated in the RFP.

The following page contains the minimum insurance limits, required by the County of Alameda, to be held by the Contractor performing on this RFP:

see next page for county of alameda

minimum insurance requirements

