

	State of South Carolina Request for Quote	Solicitation: 5400010754 Date Issued: 02/12/2016 Procurement Officer: AMBER KERR Phone: (803) 898-3484 Fax: (803) 898-3505 E-Mail Address: KERRAL@dhec.sc.gov

DESCRIPTION: **Telephone Answering Service**

USING GOVERNMENTAL UNIT: **SC Dept of Health & Environmental Control**

The Term "Offer" Means Your "Bid" or "Proposal". See "Submitting Your Paper Offer or Modification" provision.

SUBMIT YOUR OFFER ON-LINE AT THE FOLLOWING URL: <http://www.procurement.sc.gov>

(See Pages 3 and 4 for instructions)

BY E-MAIL TO kerral@dhec.sc.gov (procurement officer listed above)

PAPER COPY TO EITHER OF THE FOLLOWING ADDRESSES:

MAILING ADDRESS:

SC DHEC – Division of Procurement Services
 Bureau of Business Management
 Columbia Mills Building, 301 Gervais Street
 Columbia, S.C. 29201

MAILING ADDRESS:

SCDHEC - Division of Procurement Services - Bureau of Business Management
 Columbia Mills Building – 4th Floor
 301 Gervais Street
 Columbia, S.C. 29201

Please call the procurement officer listed above or call information at (803) 898-3501 prior to delivery of a bid.

SUBMIT OFFER BY (Opening Date/Time): **02/25/2016 2:30 PM ET** (See "Deadline For Submission Of Offer" provision)

QUESTIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY: **02/18/2016 5:00 PM ET** (See "Questions From Offerors" provision)

NUMBER OF COPIES TO BE SUBMITTED: **Online submission is requested, one (1) copy if submitting a paper bid**

CONFERENCE TYPE: Not Applicable DATE & TIME: (As appropriate, see "Conferences - Pre-Bid/Proposal" & "Site Visit" provisions)	LOCATION: Not Applicable
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You must submit a signed copy of this form with Your Offer. By submitting a bid or proposal, You agree to be bound by the terms of the Solicitation. You agree to hold Your Offer open for a minimum of thirty (30) calendar days after the Opening Date.
 (See "Signing Your Offer" provision.)

NAME OF OFFEROR (full legal name of business submitting the offer)	Any award issued will be issued to, and the contract will be formed with, the entity identified as the Offeror. The entity named as the offeror must be a single and distinct legal entity. Do not use the name of a branch office or a division of a larger entity if the branch or division is not a separate legal entity, i.e., a separate corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, etc.
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE (Person must be authorized to submit binding offer to contract on behalf of Offeror.)	DATE SIGNED
TITLE (business title of person signing above)	STATE VENDOR NO. (Register to Obtain S.C. Vendor No. at www.procurement.sc.gov)
PRINTED NAME (printed name of person signing above)	STATE OF INCORPORATION (If you are a corporation, identify the state of incorporation.)

OFFEROR'S TYPE OF ENTITY: (Check one)

(See "Signing Your Offer" provision.)

☐ Sole Proprietorship ☐ Partnership ☐ Other _____

☐ Corporate entity (not tax-exempt) ☐ Corporation (tax-exempt) ☐ Government entity (federal, state, or local)

PAGE TWO

(Return Page Two with Your Offer)

HOME OFFICE ADDRESS (Address for offeror's home office / principal place of business)	NOTICE ADDRESS (Address to which all procurement and contract related notices should be sent.) (See "Notice" clause)
	Area Code - Number - Extension Facsimile
	E-mail Address

PAYMENT ADDRESS (Address to which payments will be sent.) (See "Payment" clause)	ORDER ADDRESS (Address to which purchase orders will be sent) (See "Purchase Orders and "Contract Documents" clauses)
____ Payment Address same as Home Office Address	____ Order Address same as Home Office Address
____ Payment Address same as Notice Address (check only one)	____ Order Address same as Notice Address (check only one)

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF AMENDMENTS							
Offerors acknowledges receipt of amendments by indicating amendment number and its date of issue. (See "Amendments to Solicitation" Provision)							
Amendment No.	Amendment Issue Date	Amendment No.	Amendment Issue Date	Amendment No.	Amendment Issue Date	Amendment No.	Amendment Issue Date

DISCOUNT FOR PROMPT PAYMENT (See "Discount for Prompt Payment" clause)	10 Calendar Days (%)	20 Calendar Days (%)	30 Calendar Days (%)	____ Calendar Days (%)
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PREFERENCES - A NOTICE TO VENDORS (SEP. 2009): On June 16, 2009, the South Carolina General Assembly rewrote the law governing preferences available to in-state vendors, vendors using in-state subcontractors, and vendors selling in-state or US end products. This law appears in Section 11-35-1524 of the South Carolina Code of Laws. A summary of the new preferences is available at www.procurement.sc.gov/preferences. **ALL THE PREFERENCES MUST BE CLAIMED AND ARE APPLIED BY LINE ITEM, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER AWARD IS MADE BY ITEM OR LOT. VENDORS ARE CAUTIONED TO CAREFULLY REVIEW THE STATUTE BEFORE CLAIMING ANY PREFERENCES. THE REQUIREMENTS TO QUALIFY HAVE CHANGED. IF YOU REQUEST A PREFERENCE, YOU ARE CERTIFYING THAT YOUR OFFER QUALIFIES FOR THE PREFERENCE YOU'VE CLAIMED. IMPROPERLY REQUESTING A PREFERENCE CAN HAVE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES.** [11-35-1524(E)(4)&(6)]

PREFERENCES - ADDRESS AND PHONE OF IN-STATE OFFICE: Please provide the address and phone number for your in-state office in the space provided below. An in-state office is necessary to claim either the Resident Vendor Preference (11-35-1524(C)(1)(i)&(ii)) or the Resident Contractor Preference (11-35-1524(C)(1)(iii)). Accordingly, you must provide this information to qualify for the preference. An in-state office is not required, but can be beneficial, if you are claiming the Resident Subcontractor Preference (11-35-1524(D)).	
____ In-State Office Address same as Home Office Address ____ In-State Office Address same as Notice Address (check only one)	

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ALL OFFERORS

All Offerors desiring to respond to this solicitation should register and submit your response online. To respond online, you must follow the new South Carolina Enterprise Information System (SCEIS) vendor registration instructions found at the South Carolina Procurement Information Center website address of: <http://www.procurement.sc.gov/>. If you registered as a vendor prior to November 5, 2007, you must either update your existing registration or create a new vendor registration in the new version of the SCEIS system. Once the registration process is complete, the system will generate a SCEIS vendor user ID and password. The Offeror must keep this information current or you will not be able to submit future bids.

OFFERORS ENCOUNTERING REGISTRATION PROBLEMS SHOULD CONTACT:

DSIT Help Desk (803) 896-0001 Select Option 1 then Option 1

Monday – Friday 8:00 AM – 4:30 PM

[SCEIS Service Desk Vendor Ticket Form](#)

Additional vendor instructions concerning submitting offers can be found at:

<http://procurement.sc.gov/PS/vendor/PS-vendor-submitting-offers.phtm>

NUMBER OF COPIES

Offerors will need to follow these instructions carefully when responding to the solicitation online.

1. The original solicitation response should be submitted on-line and is the official response.
2. All Offerors should attach all additional requested documents to their response in the online system. These documents can be attached under the “**Notes and Attachment**” tab in the online system either on the main response page or under the necessary line item.

IF YOU QUALIFY YOUR OFFER WITH A STATEMENT SUCH AS, “THIS IS NOT AN OFFER”, THE OFFER WILL BE DEEMED “NON-RESPONSIVE” AND REMOVED FROM FURTHER CONSIDERATION.

OFFEROR BID SUBMISSION VALIDATION

After submitting an online response to a solicitation, Offerors may validate their submission with the following steps:

STEP 1: Go back to the initial 'RFx and Auctions' screen

The screenshot shows the SAP RFx and Auctions interface. The 'Active Queries' section displays a list of RFx events. The event 'Computer Room Upgrade Project' (Event Number 5400006796) is selected. The table shows the following details for this event:

Event Number	Event Description	Event Type	Event Status	Start Date	End Date	Response Number	Response Status	Event Version	Response Version	Q&A	Start Time	End Time
5400006906	Computer Replacement for SCGOV	Request for Proposal	Published	11/06/2013			No Bid Created	2		0	00:00:00	14:00:00
5400006905	Computer Room Upgrade Project	Request for Proposal	Published	11/06/2013			No Bid Created	2		0	00:00:00	15:00:00
5400006893	RAY44228 11/04/2013 08:48:49	Invitation For Bid	Published	11/06/2013			No Bid Created	1		0	00:00:00	11:00:00
5400006807	Whiteboard Stand	Invitation For Bid	Published	11/15/2013			No Bid Created			0	00:00:00	10:00:00
5400006796	Computer Room Upgrade Project	Invitation For Bid	Published	11/05/2013		5500029632	Submitted	8		0	00:00:00	17:00:00
5400006771	Homemaker Services	Request for Proposal	Published	01/25/2014			No Bid Created	3		0	00:00:00	14:00:00
5400006687	Web Site Design Project	Request for Proposal	Published	11/06/2013			No Bid Created	7		0	00:00:00	17:00:00
5400006328	DSS FPB Technical Assistance & Support	Fixed Price Bid	Published	06/30/2018			No Bid Created	5		0	00:00:00	11:00:00
5400006269	FPB TO PROVIDE MULTI-AGENCY COMMUNITY BA	Fixed Price Bid	Published	05/31/2014			No Bid Created	3		0	00:00:00	11:30:00
5400006008	Xirrus Network Products & Services	Fixed Price Bid	Published	08/19/2018			No Bid Created	3		0	00:00:00	14:30:00

The 'Refresh' button is located in the top right corner of the table area.

STEP 2: Select the 'Refresh' button to update the screen.

STEP 3: Make sure the RFx you responded to, has your specific bid response number '55xxxxxxx' displayed in the Response Number column and the Response Status column has a status of 'Submitted' before you log off.

NOTE: You also have the ability to print out a copy of your submission by selecting the 'Print Preview' button after your offer has been submitted.

The 'Display RFx Response' dialog box shows the following information:

RFx Response Number	RFx Number	Status
5500029632	5400006796	Submitted
RFx Response Version Number	Active Version	RFx Version Number
		8

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I. SCOPE OF SOLICITATION

It is the intent of the State of South Carolina, South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (DHEC), is solicit offers to establish a contract to provide telephone answering services for DHEC's Bureau of Laboratories, in accordance with all requirements as listed herein.

ACQUIRE SERVICES (JAN 2006)

The purpose of this solicitation is to acquire Telephone Answering Services for DHEC Health Services, Bureau of Laboratories.

MAXIMUM CONTRACT PERIOD - ESTIMATED (JAN 2006)

Start date: 04/01/2016 End date: 03/31/2021.

Dates provided are estimates only. Any resulting contract will begin on the date specified in the notice of award. See clause entitled "Term of Contract - Effective Date/Initial Contract Period".

This resulting contract is for one year with four (4) one-year renewal options for a possible maximum term of five years.

II. INSTRUCTIONS TO OFFERORS - A. GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

DEFINITIONS, CAPITALIZATION, AND HEADINGS (FEB 2015)

CLAUSE HEADINGS USED IN THIS SOLICITATION ARE FOR CONVENIENCE ONLY AND SHALL NOT BE USED TO CONSTRUE MEANING OR INTENT. EVEN IF NOT CAPITALIZED, THE FOLLOWING DEFINITIONS ARE APPLICABLE TO ALL PARTS OF THE SOLICITATION, UNLESS EXPRESSLY PROVIDED OTHERWISE.

AMENDMENT means a document issued to supplement the original solicitation document.

BOARD means the South Carolina Budget & Control Board or its successor in interest.

BUSINESS means any corporation, partnership, individual, sole proprietorship, joint stock company, joint venture, or any other legal entity. [11-35-310(3)]

CHANGE ORDER means any written alteration in specifications, delivery point, rate of delivery, period of performance, price, quantity, or other provisions of any contract accomplished by mutual agreement of the parties to the contract. [11-35-310(4)]

CONTRACT See clause entitled Contract Documents & Order of Precedence.

CONTRACT MODIFICATION means a written order signed by the procurement officer, directing the contractor to make changes which the clause of the contract titled "Changes," if included herein, authorizes the Procurement Officer to order without the consent of the contractor. [11-35-310(9)]

CONTRACTOR means the Offeror receiving an award as a result of this solicitation.

COVER PAGE means the top page of the original solicitation on which the solicitation is identified by number. Offerors are cautioned that Amendments may modify information provided on the Cover Page.

OFFER means the bid or proposal submitted in response this solicitation. The terms Bid and Proposal are used interchangeably with the term Offer.

OFFEROR means the single legal entity submitting the offer. The term Bidder is used interchangeably with the term Offeror. See bidding provisions entitled Signing Your Offer and Bid/Proposal As Offer To Contract.

PAGE TWO means the second page of the original solicitation, which is labeled Page Two.

PROCUREMENT OFFICER means the person, or his successor, identified as such on either the Cover Page, an amendment, or an award notice.

YOU and YOUR means Offeror.

SOLICITATION means this document, including all its parts, attachments, and any Amendments.

STATE means the Using Governmental Unit(s) identified on the Cover Page.

SUBCONTRACTOR means any person you contract with to perform or provide any part of the work.

US or WE means the using governmental unit.

USING GOVERNMENTAL UNIT means the unit(s) of government identified as such on the Cover Page. If the Cover Page identifies the Using Governmental Unit as "Statewide Term Contract," the phrase "Using Governmental Unit" means any South Carolina Public Procurement Unit [11-35-4610(5)] that has submitted a Purchase Order to you pursuant to the contract resulting from this solicitation. Reference the clauses titled "Purchase Orders" and "Statewide Term Contract."

WORK means all labor, materials, equipment, services, or property of any type, provided or to be provided by the Contractor to fulfill the Contractor's obligations under the Contract.

[02-2A003-2]

AMENDMENTS TO SOLICITATION (DHEC – FEB 2007)

(a) The Solicitation may be amended at any time prior to opening. (b) Offerors shall acknowledge receipt of any amendment to this solicitation (1) by signing and returning the amendment, (2) by identifying the amendment number and date in the space provided for this purpose on Page Two, (3) by letter, or (4) by submitting a bid that indicates in some way that the bidder received the amendment. (c) If this solicitation is amended, then all terms and conditions which are not modified remain unchanged.

AUTHORIZED AGENT (FEB 2015)

All authority regarding this procurement is vested solely with the responsible Procurement Officer. Unless specifically delegated in writing, the Procurement Officer is the only government official authorized to bind the government with regard to this procurement or the resulting contract. [02-2A007-1]

BID/PROPOSAL AS OFFER TO CONTRACT (JAN 2004)

By submitting Your Bid or Proposal, You are offering to enter into a contract with the Using Governmental Unit(s). Without further action by either party, a binding contract shall result upon final award. Any award issued will be issued to, and the contract will be formed with, the entity identified as the Offeror on the Cover Page. An Offer may be submitted by only one legal entity; "joint bids" are not allowed. [02-2A015-1]

BID ACCEPTANCE PERIOD (JAN 2004)

In order to withdraw Your Offer after the minimum period specified on the Cover Page, You must notify the Procurement Officer in writing. [02-2A020-1]

BID IN ENGLISH and DOLLARS (JAN 2004)

Offers submitted in response to this solicitation shall be in the English language and in US dollars, unless otherwise permitted by the Solicitation. [02-2A025-1]

CERTIFICATE OF INDEPENDENT PRICE DETERMINATION (MAY 2008)

GIVING FALSE, MISLEADING, OR INCOMPLETE INFORMATION ON THIS CERTIFICATION MAY RENDER YOU SUBJECT TO PROSECUTION UNDER SECTION 16-9-10 OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS AND OTHER APPLICABLE LAWS.

(a) By submitting an offer, the offeror certifies that-

(1) The prices in this offer have been arrived at independently, without, for the purpose of restricting competition, any consultation, communication, or agreement with any other offeror or competitor relating to-

- (i) Those prices;
- (ii) The intention to submit an offer; or
- (iii) The methods or factors used to calculate the prices offered.

(2) The prices in this offer have not been and will not be knowingly disclosed by the offeror, directly or indirectly, to any other offeror or competitor before bid opening (in the case of a sealed bid solicitation) or contract award (in the case of a negotiated solicitation) unless otherwise required by law; and

(3) No attempt has been made or will be made by the offeror to induce any other concern to submit or not to submit an offer for the purpose of restricting competition.

(b) Each signature on the offer is considered to be a certification by the signatory that the signatory-

(1) Is the person in the offeror's organization responsible for determining the prices being offered in this bid or proposal, and that the signatory has not participated and will not participate in any action contrary to paragraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) of this certification; or

(2)(i) Has been authorized, in writing, to act as agent for the offeror's principals in certifying that those principals have not participated, and will not participate in any action contrary to paragraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) of this certification [As used in this subdivision (b)(2)(i), the term "principals" means the person(s) in the offeror's organization responsible for determining the prices offered in this bid or proposal];

(ii) As an authorized agent, does certify that the principals referenced in subdivision (b)(2)(i) of this certification have not participated, and will not participate, in any action contrary to paragraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) of this certification; and

(iii) As an agent, has not personally participated, and will not participate, in any action contrary to paragraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) of this certification.

(c) If the offeror deletes or modifies paragraph (a)(2) of this certification, the offeror must furnish with its offer a signed statement setting forth in detail the circumstances of the disclosure. [02-2A032-1]

CERTIFICATION REGARDING DEBARMENT AND OTHER RESPONSIBILITY MATTERS (JAN 2004)

(a) (1) By submitting an Offer, Offeror certifies, to the best of its knowledge and belief, that-

(i) Offeror and/or any of its Principals-

(A) Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, or declared ineligible for the award of contracts by any state or federal agency;

(B) Have not, within a three-year period preceding this offer, been convicted of or had 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) contract or subcontract; violation of Federal or state antitrust statutes relating to the submission of offers; or commission of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, tax evasion, or receiving stolen property; and

(C) Are not presently indicted for, or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a governmental entity with, commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph (a)(1)(i)(B) of this provision.

(ii) Offeror has not, within a three-year period preceding this offer, had one or more contracts terminated for default by any public (Federal, state, or local) entity.

(2) "Principals," for the purposes of this certification, means officers; directors; owners; partners; and, persons having primary management or supervisory responsibilities within a business entity (e.g., general manager; plant manager; head of a subsidiary, division, or business segment, and similar positions).

(b) Offeror shall provide immediate written notice to the Procurement Officer if, at any time prior to contract award, Offeror learns that its certification was erroneous when submitted or has become erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.

(c) If Offeror is unable to certify the representations stated in paragraphs (a)(1), Offer must submit a written explanation regarding its inability to make the certification. The certification will be considered in connection with a review of the Offeror's responsibility. Failure of the Offeror to furnish additional information as requested by the Procurement Officer may render the Offeror nonresponsible.

(d) Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render, in good faith, the certification required by paragraph (a) of this provision. The knowledge and information of an Offeror is not required to exceed that which is normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.

(e) The certification in paragraph (a) of this provision is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when making award. If it is later determined that the Offeror knowingly or in bad faith rendered an erroneous certification, in addition to other remedies available to the State, the Procurement Officer may terminate the contract resulting from this solicitation for default.

[02-2A035-1]

CODE OF LAWS AVAILABLE (JAN 2006)

The South Carolina Code of Laws, including the Consolidated Procurement Code, is available at:
<http://www.scstatehouse.gov/code/statmast.php>

The South Carolina Regulations are available at:
<http://www.scstatehouse.gov/coderegs/statmast.php>

[02-2A040-2]

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST OR UNFAIR COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE (FEB 2015)

You warrant and represent that your offer identifies and explains any unfair competitive advantage you may have in competing for the proposed contract and any actual or potential conflicts of interest that may arise from your participation

in this competition or your receipt of an award. The two underlying principles are (a) preventing the existence of conflicting roles that might bias a contractor's judgment, and (b) preventing an unfair competitive advantage. If you have an unfair competitive advantage or a conflict of interest, the state may withhold award. Before withholding award on these grounds, an offeror will be notified of the concerns and provided a reasonable opportunity to respond. Efforts to avoid or mitigate such concerns, including restrictions on future activities, may be considered. Without limiting the foregoing, you represent that your offer identifies any services that relate to either this solicitation or the work and that has already been performed by you, a proposed subcontractor, or an affiliated business of either. [02-2A047-2]

DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSION OF OFFER (JAN 2004)

Any offer received after the Procurement Officer of the governmental body or his designee has declared that the time set for opening has arrived, shall be rejected unless the offer has been delivered to the designated purchasing office or the governmental body's mail room which services that purchasing office prior to the opening. [R.19-445.2070(G)] [02-2A050-1]

DRUG FREE WORK PLACE CERTIFICATION (JAN 2004)

By submitting an Offer, Contractor certifies that, if awarded a contract, Contractor will comply with all applicable provisions of The Drug-free Workplace Act, Title 44, Chapter 107 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended. [02-2A065-1]

DUTY TO INQUIRE (FEB 2015)

Offeror, by submitting an Offer, represents that it has read and understands the Solicitation and that its Offer is made in compliance with the Solicitation. Offerors are expected to examine the Solicitation thoroughly and should request an explanation of any ambiguities, discrepancies, errors, omissions, or conflicting statements in the Solicitation. Failure to do so will be at the Offeror's risk. All ambiguities, discrepancies, errors, omissions, or conflicting statements in the Solicitation shall be interpreted to require the better quality or greater quantity of work and/or materials, unless otherwise directed by amendment. Offeror assumes responsibility for any patent ambiguity in the Solicitation that Offeror does not bring to the State's attention. See clause entitled "Questions from Offerors." [02-2A070-2]

ETHICS CERTIFICATE (MAY 2008)

By submitting an offer, the offeror certifies that the offeror has and will comply with, and has not, and will not, induce a person to violate Title 8, Chapter 13 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, as amended (ethics act). The following statutes require special attention: Section 8-13-700, regarding use of official position for financial gain; Section 8-13-705, regarding gifts to influence action of public official; Section 8-13-720, regarding offering money for advice or assistance of public official; Sections 8-13-755 and 8-13-760, regarding restrictions on employment by former public official; Section 8-13-775, prohibiting public official with economic interests from acting on contracts; Section 8-13-790, regarding recovery of kickbacks; Section 8-13-1150, regarding statements to be filed by consultants; and Section 8-13-1342, regarding restrictions on contributions by contractor to candidate who participated in awarding of contract. The state may rescind any contract and recover all amounts expended as a result of any action taken in violation of this provision. If contractor participates, directly or indirectly, in the evaluation or award of public contracts, including without limitation, change orders or task orders regarding a public contract, contractor shall, if required by law to file such a statement, provide the statement required by Section 8-13-1150 to the procurement officer at the same time the law requires the statement to be filed. [02-2A075-2]

OMIT TAXES FROM PRICE (JAN 2004)

Do not include any sales or use taxes in Your price that the State may be required to pay. [02-2A080-1]

PROHIBITED COMMUNICATIONS AND DONATIONS (FEB 2015)

Violation of these restrictions may result in disqualification of your offer, suspension or debarment, and may constitute a violation of law.

(a) During the period between publication of the solicitation and final award, ***you must not communicate, directly or indirectly, with the Using Governmental Unit or its employees, agents or officials regarding any aspect of this procurement activity, unless otherwise approved in writing by the Procurement Officer.*** All communications must be solely with the Procurement Officer. [R. 19-445.2010]

(b) You are advised to familiarize yourself with Regulation 19-445.2165, which restricts donations to a governmental entity with whom you have or seek to have a contract. ***You represent that your offer discloses any gifts made, directly or through an intermediary, by you or your named subcontractors to or for the benefit of the Using Governmental Unit during the period beginning eighteen months prior to the Opening Date.*** [R. 19-445.2165] [02-2A087-1]

QUESTIONS FROM OFFERORS (FEB 2015)

(a) Any prospective offeror desiring an explanation or interpretation of the solicitation, drawings, specifications, etc., must request it in writing. Questions regarding the original solicitation or any amendment must be received by the Procurement Officer no later than five (5) days prior to opening unless an earlier date is stated on the Cover Page. Label any communication regarding your questions with the name of the procurement officer, and the solicitation's title and number. Oral explanations or instructions will not be binding. [See R. 19-445.2042(B)] Any information given a prospective offeror concerning a solicitation will be furnished promptly to all other prospective offerors as an Amendment to the solicitation, if that information is necessary for submitting offers or if the lack of it would be prejudicial to other prospective offerors. See clause entitled "Duty to Inquire." **We will not identify you in our answer to your question.** (b) The State seeks to permit maximum practicable competition. Offerors are urged to advise the Procurement Officer -- as soon as possible -- regarding any aspect of this procurement, including any aspect of the Solicitation that unnecessarily or inappropriately limits full and open competition. [See R. 19-445.2140] [02-2A095-2]

All questions must be in writing and received by Amber Kerr no later than **5:00 p.m. ET, February 18, 2016**. Email is the preferred method for submitting questions with "RFQ 5400010754, Telephone Answering Service" as the subject of the email. Submit questions in an easily copied format such as MS Word.

Email: kerral@dhec.sc.gov

If you choose not to email questions, send to the following address/fax number:

South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control
Division of Procurement Services
Attn: Amber Kerr
301 Gervais Street
Columbia, S. C. 29201
Fax: 803-898-3505

REJECTION/CANCELLATION (JAN 2004)

The State may cancel this solicitation in whole or in part. The State may reject any or all proposals in whole or in part. [SC Code Section 11-35-1710 & R.19-445.2065] [02-2A100-1]

RESPONSIVENESS/IMPROPER OFFERS (JUN 2015)

(a) Bid as Specified. Offers for supplies or services other than those specified will not be considered unless authorized by the Solicitation.

(b) Multiple Offers. Offerors may submit more than one Offer, provided that each Offer has significant differences other than price. Each separate Offer must satisfy all Solicitation requirements. If this solicitation is an Invitation for Bids, each separate offer must be submitted as a separate document. If this solicitation is a Request for Proposals, multiple offers may be submitted as one document, provided that you clearly differentiate between each offer and you submit a separate cost proposal for each offer, if applicable.

(c) Responsiveness. Any Offer which fails to conform to the material requirements of the Solicitation may be rejected as nonresponsive. Offers which impose conditions that modify material requirements of the Solicitation may be rejected. If a fixed price is required, an Offer will be rejected if the total possible cost to the State cannot be determined. Offerors will not be given an opportunity to correct any material nonconformity. Any deficiency resulting from a minor informality may be cured or waived at the sole discretion of the Procurement Officer. [R.19-445.2070 and Section 11-35-1520(13)]

(d) Price Reasonableness: Any offer may be rejected if the Procurement Officer determines in writing that it is unreasonable as to price. [R. 19-445.2070].

(e) Unbalanced Bidding. The State may reject an Offer as nonresponsive if the prices bid are materially unbalanced between line items or subline items. A bid is materially unbalanced when it is based on prices significantly less than cost for some work and prices which are significantly overstated in relation to cost for other work, and if there is a reasonable doubt that the bid will result in the lowest overall cost to the State even though it may be the low evaluated bid, or if it is so unbalanced as to be tantamount to allowing an advance payment.

(f) **Do not submit bid samples or descriptive literature unless expressly requested.** Unsolicited bid samples or descriptive literature will not be examined or tested, will not be used to determine responsiveness, and will not be deemed to vary any of the provisions of the solicitation. S.C. Code Ann. Reg. 19-445.2077(D).

[02-2A105-2]

SIGNING YOUR OFFER (JAN 2004)

Every Offer must be signed by an individual with actual authority to bind the Offeror. (a) If the Offeror is an individual, the Offer must be signed by that individual. If the Offeror is an individual doing business as a firm, the Offer must be submitted in the firm name, signed by the individual, and state that the individual is doing business as a firm. (b) If the Offeror is a partnership, the Offer must be submitted in the partnership name, followed by the words by its Partner, and signed by a general partner. (c) If the Offeror is a corporation, the Offer must be submitted in the corporate name, followed by the signature and title of the person authorized to sign. (d) An Offer may be submitted by a joint venturer involving any combination of individuals, partnerships, or corporations. If the Offeror is a joint venture, the Offer must be submitted in the name of the Joint Venture and signed by every participant in the joint venture in the manner prescribed in paragraphs (a) through (c) above for each type of participant. (e) If an Offer is signed by an agent, other than as stated in subparagraphs (a) through (d) above, the Offer must state that it has been signed by an Agent. Upon request, Offeror must provide proof of the agent's authorization to bind the principal. [02-2A115-1]

STATE OFFICE CLOSINGS (JAN 2004)

If an emergency or unanticipated event interrupts normal government processes so that offers cannot be received at the government office designated for receipt of bids by the exact time specified in the solicitation, the time specified for receipt of offers will be deemed to be extended to the same time of day specified in the solicitation on the first work day on which normal government processes resume. In lieu of an automatic extension, an Amendment may be issued to reschedule bid opening. If state offices are closed at the time a pre-bid or pre-proposal conference is scheduled, an Amendment will be issued to reschedule the conference. Useful information may be available at:

<http://www.scemd.org/planandprepare/disasters/severe-winter-weather>

[02-2A120-3]

SUBMITTING CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION (FEB 2015)

(An overview is available at www.procurement.sc.gov) For every document Offeror submits in response to or with regard to this solicitation or request, Offeror must separately mark with the word "CONFIDENTIAL" every page, or portion thereof, that Offeror contends contains information that is exempt from public disclosure because it is either (a) a trade secret as defined in Section 30-4-40(a)(1), or (b) privileged and confidential, as that phrase is used in Section 11-35-410. For every document Offeror submits in response to or with regard to this solicitation or request, Offeror must separately mark with the words "TRADE SECRET" every page, or portion thereof, that Offeror contends contains a trade secret as that term is defined by Section 39-8-20 of the Trade Secrets Act. For every document Offeror submits in response to or with regard to this solicitation or request, Offeror must separately mark with the word "PROTECTED" every page, or portion thereof, that Offeror contends is protected by Section 11-35-1810. All markings must be conspicuous; use color, bold, underlining, or some other method in order to conspicuously distinguish the mark from the other text. Do not mark your entire response (bid, proposal, quote, etc.) as confidential, trade secret, or protected. If your response, or any part thereof, is improperly marked as confidential or trade secret or protected, the State may, in its sole discretion, determine it nonresponsive. If only portions of a page are subject to some protection, do not mark the entire page. By submitting a response to this solicitation or request, Offeror (1) agrees to the public disclosure of every page of every document regarding this solicitation or request that was submitted at any time prior to entering into a contract (including, but not limited to, documents contained in a response, documents submitted to clarify a response, and documents submitted during negotiations), unless the page is conspicuously marked "TRADE SECRET" or "CONFIDENTIAL" or "PROTECTED", (2) agrees that any information not marked, as required by these bidding instructions, as a "Trade Secret" is not a trade secret as defined by the Trade Secrets Act, and (3) agrees that, notwithstanding any claims or markings otherwise, any prices, commissions, discounts, or other financial figures used to determine the award, as well as the final contract amount, are subject to public disclosure. In determining whether to release documents, the State will detrimentally rely on Offeror's

marking of documents, as required by these bidding instructions, as being either "Confidential" or "Trade Secret" or "PROTECTED". By submitting a response, Offeror agrees to defend, indemnify and hold harmless the State of South Carolina, its agencies, officers and employees, from every claim, demand, loss, expense, cost, damage or injury, including attorney's fees, arising out of or resulting from withholding information by the State of South Carolina or any of its agencies, that Offeror marked as "confidential" or "trade secret" or "PROTECTED". (All references to S.C. Code of Laws.) [02-2A125-2]

TAX CREDIT FOR SUBCONTRACTING WITH DISADVANTAGED SMALL BUSINESSES (JAN 2008)

Pursuant to Section 12-6-3350, a taxpayer having a contract with this State who subcontracts with a socially and economically disadvantaged small business is eligible for an income tax credit equal to four percent of the payments to that subcontractor for work pursuant to the contract. The subcontractor must be certified as a socially and economically disadvantaged small business as defined in Section 11-35-5010 and regulations pursuant to it. The credit is limited to a maximum of fifty thousand dollars annually. A taxpayer is eligible to claim the credit for ten consecutive taxable years beginning with the taxable year in which the first payment is made to the subcontractor that qualifies for the credit. After the above ten consecutive taxable years, the taxpayer is no longer eligible for the credit. A taxpayer claiming the credit shall maintain evidence of work performed for the contract by the subcontractor. The credit may be claimed on Form TC-2, "Minority Business Credit." A copy of the subcontractor's certificate from the Governor's Office of Small and Minority Business (OSMBA) is to be attached to the contractor's income tax return. Questions regarding the tax credit and how to file are to be referred to: SC Department of Revenue, Research and Review, Phone: (803) 898-5786, Fax: (803) 898-5888. Questions regarding subcontractor certification are to be referred to: Governor's Office of Small and Minority Business Assistance, Phone: (803) 734-0657, Fax: (803) 734-2498. [02-2A135-1]

VENDOR REGISTRATION MANDATORY (JAN 2006)

You must have a state vendor number to be eligible to submit an offer. To obtain a state vendor number, visit www.procurement.sc.gov and select New Vendor Registration. (To determine if your business is already registered, go to "Vendor Search"). Upon registration, you will be assigned a state vendor number. Vendors must keep their vendor information current. If you are already registered, you can update your information by selecting Change Vendor Registration. (Please note that vendor registration does not substitute for any obligation to register with the S.C. Secretary of State or S.C. Department of Revenue. You can register with the agencies at <http://www.scbos.com/default.htm>) [02-2A145-1]

WITHDRAWAL OR CORRECTION OF OFFER (JAN 2004)

Offers may be withdrawn by written notice received at any time before the exact time set for opening. If the Solicitation authorizes facsimile offers, offers may be withdrawn via facsimile received at any time before the exact time set for opening. A bid may be withdrawn in person by a bidder or its authorized representative if, before the exact time set for opening, the identity of the person requesting withdrawal is established and the person signs a receipt for the bid. The withdrawal and correction of Offers is governed by S.C. Code Section 11-35-1520 and Regulation 19-445.2085. [02-2A150-1]

II. INSTRUCTIONS TO OFFERORS -- B. SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS

CLARIFICATION (NOV 2007)

Pursuant to Section 11-35-1520(8), the Procurement Officer may elect to communicate with you after opening for the purpose of clarifying either your offer or the requirements of the solicitation. Such communications may be conducted only with offerors who have submitted an offer which obviously conforms in all material aspects to the solicitation. Clarification of an offer must be documented in writing and included with the offer. Clarifications may not be used to revise an offer or the solicitation. [Section 11-35-1520(8); R.19-445.2080] [02-2B055-1]

ON-LINE BIDDING INSTRUCTIONS (MAR 2015)

(a) Mandatory Registration. You must register before you can submit an offer on line! See clause entitled "VENDOR REGISTRATION MANDATORY."

(b) Steps for On-Line Bidding

1 The link provided on the solicitation's Cover Page will take you to our web based on-line bidding system, where you will enter and/or upload your offer.

2 Follow the general user instructions posted at www.procurement.sc.gov under the heading "Submitting Offers."

3 Confirm your offer has a status of "submitted" by refreshing the "RFx and Auctions" screen.

Only offers with a status of "submitted" have been received by the State.

Offers with a status of "saved" have not been received.

4 Save or print a copy of your offer using the "Print Preview" button after your offer has been submitted.

[02-2B105-2]

UNIT PRICES REQUIRED (JAN 2006)

Unit price to be shown for each item. [02-2B170-1]

III. SCOPE OF WORK/SPECIFICATIONS

STATEMENT OF WORK (JUN 2007)

The purpose of this solicitation is to provide a contract for telephone answering services/coverage for DHEC's Bureau of Laboratories. The Bureau of Laboratories services as a multi-disciplinary, integrated source of diagnostic services including analytical support and consultation for physicians, provide laboratories, hospitals, and county health departments.

STATEMENT OF WORK

3.1. CONTRACTOR'S STANDARD OF RESPONSIBILITY:

- 3.1.1. Provide a dedicated toll free telephone number to which the main number for the Bureau of Laboratories will be transferred to after normal business hours.
 - 3.1.1.1. The phone number will be for the Bureau of Laboratories use only.
- 3.1.2. The Line will be answered "**Message center for the DHEC Bureau of Laboratories.**"
- 3.1.3. All patient information must be treated as confidential information and is protected under State and Federal Standards.
 - 3.1.3.1. The contractor will be required to sign DHEC's Business Associate Agreement (Form 0854) to safeguard the privacy and security of Protected Health Information (PHI) and Electronic Protected Health Information (ePHI) pursuant to requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1995 (HIPAA). A copy of the Business Associate Agreement is included in the Appendix of this solicitation. By submission of an offer, you are agreeing to sign DHEC's Business Associate Agreement, if awarded.
 - 3.1.3.2. The contractor agrees to abide for by DHEC's Confidentiality Policy.
- 3.1.4. The contractor will email logs from the previous night's messages, calls by the contractor to DHEC personnel, and patch through services to designated DHEC staff.
- 3.1.5. Operational Protocol:
 - 3.1.5.1. The telephone operator must answer telephones promptly and professionally.
 - 3.1.5.2. Calls will be handled by live operators.
 - 3.1.5.3. No more than four (4) rings should be allowed per call.
 - 3.1.5.4. Contractor must ensure no busy signals are experienced by callers.
- 3.1.6. Maintain a backup power system to continue operating in an emergency.
- 3.1.7. The Contractor will contact the designated DHEC point of contact in the event of failure of equipment, shortage of staff, or any other event that prevents the Contractor from sufficiently handling calls.

3.2. COVER TIME-FRAME:

- 3.2.1. The main telephone number for the Bureau of Laboratories will be transferred to the toll free number on weekdays 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.
- 3.2.2. After Normal Working Hours – Weekday Coverage
 - 3.2.2.1. The main telephone number will be transferred to the toll free number on weekdays 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.
 - 3.2.2.2. There may be periods of time on normal work days that coverage is required
- 3.1.3. Weekends and State Holidays
 - 3.1.3.1. Coverage must be provided 7 days a week, 24 hours a day for weekends and state holidays.
 - 3.1.3.2. A listing of the State of South Carolina holidays is available upon request.
- 3.1.4. Emergencies
- 3.1.5. Exception: When the Governor of South Carolina closes State Offices due to hazardous weather.
 - 3.1.5.1. Approximately eight (8) times per year

3.3. WEEKEND OR HOLIDAY COVERAGE INSTRUCTIONS:

- 3.3.1. An updated 'on-call' (Rabies Roster for Weekends and Holidays) list will be faxed or emailed to the contractor quarterly.
- 3.3.2. For routine inquiries take a message.
 - 3.3.2.1. These messages should be emailed to the previously named personnel no later than 8:30 a.m. the next work day.
- 3.3.3. For EMERGENCY SITUATIONS telephone the Director on call.
NOTE: Rabies testing and food poisoning outbreaks are treated as emergency situations on weekends and holidays.

NOTE: If at any time the requested or on-call individual cannot be reached, please contact the Bureau Chief and he will respond to the situation.

- 3.3.4. An updated list of numbers for the DHEC Bureau of Laboratories' staff will be provided to the contractor along with the Bureau of Laboratories Rabies Roster for Weekends and Holidays each quarter.
- 3.3.4.1. The list shall include: Home 1st number to try, Cell Phone, 2nd number to try; Digital Pager (when available).

3.4. INSTRUCTION FOR HANDLING TELEPHONE CALLS:

- 3.4. After Normal Working Hours – Weekday Coverage (4:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m.):
- 3.4.1. For routine inquiries take a message.
- 3.4.2. These messages will be emailed to the previously named personnel no later than 8:30 a.m. each work day.
- NOTE: Rabies testing and food poisoning outbreaks are to be treated as routine inquiries EXCEPT on weekends or holidays.
- 3.4.3. For EMERGENCY SITUATIONS telephone the requested person or call down the call list until contact is made with a Bureau of Laboratories employee.
- 3.4.4. If the call involves a problem with shipping of infectious materials, notify DHEC designated personnel.

3.5. RECORDS RETENTION:

- 3.5.1. Records with respect to all matters covered by the Contract shall be retained by the Contractor for six (6) years after the end of the Contract period, and shall be available for audit and inspection at any time such audit is deemed necessary by DHEC.
- 3.5.2. If audit has begun but is not completed at the end of the 6-year period, or if audit findings have not been resolved at the end of the 6-year period, the records shall be retained until resolution of the audit findings.

3.4. PRICING – BIDDING SCHEDULE, SECTION VIII.

- 3.4.1. Monthly Cost – Based on Seventy-five (75) calls per month
- 3.4.2. Overage Cost – Based on calls over 75
- 3.4.3. Monthly Cost shall be all inclusive of the following, at a minimum:
- * Estimated average of 75 calls per month
 - * Initial setup
 - * Dedicated toll free access telephone number
 - * Message Reporting
 - * After normal working hours – weekday coverage, weekends, and holidays

SEE BIDDING SCHEDULE

See Bidding Schedule [03-3005-1]

IV. INFORMATION FOR OFFERORS TO SUBMIT

INFORMATION FOR OFFERORS TO SUBMIT -- GENERAL (MAR 2015)

You shall submit a signed Cover Page and Page Two. If you submit your offer electronically, you must upload an image of a signed Cover Page and Page Two. Your offer should include all other information and documents requested in this part and in parts II.B. Special Instructions; III. Scope of Work; V. Qualifications; VIII. Bidding Schedule/Price Proposal; and any appropriate attachments addressed in Part IX. Attachments to Solicitations. You should submit a summary of all insurance policies you have or plan to acquire to comply with the insurance requirements stated herein, if any, including policy types; coverage types; limits, sub-limits, and deductibles for each policy and coverage type; the carrier's A.M. Best rating; and whether the policy is written on an occurrence or claims-made basis. [04-4010-2]

MINORITY PARTICIPATION (JAN 2006)

Is the bidder a South Carolina Certified Minority Business? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Is the bidder a Minority Business certified by another governmental entity? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, please list the certifying governmental entity: _____

Will any of the work under this contract be performed by a SC certified Minority Business as a subcontractor? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, what percentage of the total value of the contract will be performed by a SC certified Minority Business as a subcontractor? _____

Will any of the work under this contract be performed by a minority business certified by another governmental entity as a subcontractor? ☐ Yes ☐ No

If so, what percentage of the total value of the contract will be performed by a minority business certified by another governmental entity as a subcontractor? _____

If a certified Minority Business is participating in this contract, please indicate all categories for which the Business is certified:

- ☐ Traditional minority
- ☐ Traditional minority, but female
- ☐ Women (Caucasian females)
- ☐ Hispanic minorities
- ☐ DOT referral (Traditional minority)
- ☐ DOT referral (Caucasian female)
- ☐ Temporary certification
- ☐ SBA 8 (a) certification referral
- ☐ Other minorities (Native American, Asian, etc.)

(If more than one minority contractor will be utilized in the performance of this contract, please provide the information above for each minority business.)

For a list of certified minority firms, please consult the Minority Business Directory, which is available at the following URL: <http://osmba.sc.gov/directory.html>
[04-4015-2]

V. QUALIFICATIONS

QUALIFICATION OF OFFEROR (MAR 2015)

(1) To be eligible for award, you must have the capability in all respects to perform fully the contract requirements and the integrity and reliability which will assure good faith performance. We may also consider a documented commitment from a satisfactory source that will provide you with a capability. We may consider information from any source at any time prior to award. We may elect to consider (i) key personnel, any predecessor business, and any key personnel of any predecessor business, including any facts arising prior to the date a business was established, and/or (ii) any subcontractor you identify. (2) You must promptly furnish satisfactory evidence of responsibility upon request. Unreasonable failure to supply requested information is grounds for rejection. (3) **Corporate subsidiaries are cautioned that the financial capability of an affiliated or parent company will not be considered in determining financial capability;** however, we may elect to consider any security, e.g., letter of credit, performance bond, parent-company corporate guaranty, that you offer to provide. Instructions and forms to help assure acceptability are posted on procurement.sc.gov, link to "Standard Clauses & Provisions." [05-5005-2]

SUBCONTRACTOR -- IDENTIFICATION (FEB 2015)

If you intend to subcontract, at any tier level, with another business for any portion of the work and that portion either (1) exceeds 10% of your cost, (2) involves access to any "government information," as defined in the clause entitled "Information Security - Definitions," if included, or (3) otherwise involves services critical to your performance of the work (err on the side of inclusion), your offer must identify that business and the work which they are to perform. Identify potential subcontractors by providing the business name, address, phone, taxpayer identification number, **and point of contact**. In determining your responsibility, the state may contact and evaluate your proposed subcontractors. [05-5030-2]

VI. AWARD CRITERIA

AWARD CRITERIA -- BIDS (JAN 2006)

Award will be made to the lowest responsible and responsive bidder(s). [06-6020-1]

AWARD TO ONE OFFEROR (JAN 2006)

Award will be made to one Offeror. [06-6040-1]

COMPETITION FROM PUBLIC ENTITIES (JAN 2006)

If a South Carolina governmental entity submits an offer, the Procurement Officer will, when determining the lowest offer, add to the price provided in any offers submitted by non-governmental entities a percentage equivalent to any applicable sales or use tax. S.C. Code Ann. Regs 117-304.1 (Supp. 2004). [06-6057-1]

UNIT PRICE GOVERNS (JAN 2006)

In determining award, unit prices will govern over extended prices unless otherwise stated. [06-6075-1]

II. TERMS AND CONDITIONS -- A. GENERAL

ASSIGNMENT, NOVATION, AND CHANGE OF NAME, IDENTITY, OR STRUCTURE (FEB 2015)

(a) Contractor shall not assign this contract, or its rights, obligations, or any other interest arising from this contract, or delegate any of its performance obligations, without the express written consent of the responsible procurement officer. The foregoing restriction does not apply to a transfer that occurs by operation of law (e.g., bankruptcy; corporate reorganizations and consolidations, but not including partial asset sales). Notwithstanding the foregoing, contractor may assign monies receivable under the contract provided that the state shall have no obligation to make payment to an assignee until thirty days after contractor (not the assignee) has provided the responsible procurement officer with (i) proof of the assignment, (ii) the identity (by contract number) of the specific state contract to which the assignment applies, and (iii) the name of the assignee and the exact address or account information to which assigned payments should be made. (b) If contractor amends, modifies, or otherwise changes its name, its identity (including its trade name), or its corporate, partnership or other structure, or its FEIN, contractor shall provide the procurement officer prompt written notice of such change. (c) Any name change, transfer, assignment, or novation is subject to the conditions and approval required by Regulation 19-445.2180, which does not restrict transfers by operation of law. [07-7A004-2]

BANKRUPTCY - GENERAL (FEB 2015)

(a) Notice. In the event the Contractor enters into proceedings relating to bankruptcy, whether voluntary or involuntary, the Contractor agrees to furnish written notification of the bankruptcy to the Using Governmental Unit. This notification shall be furnished within two (2) days of the initiation of the proceedings relating to the bankruptcy filing. This notification shall include the date on which the bankruptcy petition was filed, the identity of the court in which the bankruptcy petition was filed, and a listing of all State contracts against which final payment has not been made. This obligation remains in effect until final payment under this Contract. (b) Termination. This contract is voidable and subject to immediate termination by the State upon the contractor's insolvency, including the filing of proceedings in bankruptcy. [07-7A005-2]

CHOICE-OF-LAW (JAN 2006)

The Agreement, any dispute, claim, or controversy relating to the Agreement, and all the rights and obligations of the parties shall, in all respects, be interpreted, construed, enforced and governed by and under the laws of the State of South Carolina, except its choice of law rules. As used in this paragraph, the term "Agreement" means any transaction or agreement arising out of, relating to, or contemplated by the solicitation. [07-7A010-1]

CONTRACT DOCUMENTS and ORDER OF PRECEDENCE (FEB 2015)

(a) Any contract resulting from this solicitation shall consist of the following documents: (1) a Record of Negotiations, if any, executed by you and the Procurement Officer, (2) the solicitation, as amended, (3) documentation of clarifications [11-35-1520(8)] or discussions [11-35-1530(6)] of an offer, if applicable, (4) your offer, (5) any statement reflecting the state's final acceptance (a/k/a "award"), and (6) purchase orders. These documents shall be read to be consistent and complimentary. Any conflict among these documents shall be resolved by giving priority to these documents in the order listed above. (b) The terms and conditions of documents (1) through (5) above shall apply notwithstanding any additional or different terms and conditions in any other document, including without limitation, (i) a purchase order or other instrument submitted by the State, (ii) any invoice or other document submitted by Contractor, or (iii) any privacy policy, terms of use, or end user agreement. Except as otherwise allowed herein, the terms and conditions of all such documents shall be void and of no effect. (c) No contract, license, or other agreement containing contractual terms and conditions will be signed by any Using Governmental Unit. Any document signed or otherwise agreed to by persons other than the Procurement Officer shall be void and of no effect. [07-7A015-2]

DISCOUNT FOR PROMPT PAYMENT (JAN 2006)

(a) Discounts for prompt payment will not be considered in the evaluation of offers. However, any offered discount will form a part of the award, and will be taken if payment is made within the discount period indicated in the offer by the offeror. As an alternative to offering a discount for prompt payment in conjunction with the offer, offerors awarded contracts may include discounts for prompt payment on individual invoices.

(b) In connection with any discount offered for prompt payment, time shall be computed from the date of the invoice. If the Contractor has not placed a date on the invoice, the due date shall be calculated from the date the designated billing office receives a proper invoice, provided the state annotates such invoice with the date of receipt at the time of receipt. For the

purpose of computing the discount earned, payment shall be considered to have been made on the date that appears on the payment check or, for an electronic funds transfer, the specified payment date. When the discount date falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday when Federal Government offices are closed and Government business is not expected to be conducted, payment may be made on the following business day. [07-7A020-1]

DISPUTES (JAN 2006)

(1) Choice-of-Forum. All disputes, claims, or controversies relating to the Agreement shall be resolved exclusively by the appropriate Chief Procurement Officer in accordance with Title 11, Chapter 35, Article 17 of the South Carolina Code of Laws, or in the absence of jurisdiction, only in the Court of Common Pleas for, or a federal court located in, Richland County, State of South Carolina. Contractor agrees that any act by the Government regarding the Agreement is not a waiver of either the Government's sovereign immunity or the Government's immunity under the Eleventh Amendment of the United States Constitution. As used in this paragraph, the term "Agreement" means any transaction or agreement arising out of, relating to, or contemplated by the solicitation. (2) Service of Process. Contractor consents that any papers, notices, or process necessary or proper for the initiation or continuation of any disputes, claims, or controversies relating to the Agreement; for any court action in connection therewith; or for the entry of judgment on any award made, may be served on Contractor by certified mail (return receipt requested) addressed to Contractor at the address provided as the Notice Address on Page Two or by personal service or by any other manner that is permitted by law, in or outside South Carolina. Notice by certified mail is deemed duly given upon deposit in the United States mail. [07-7A025-1]

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY (JAN 2006)

Contractor is referred to and shall comply with all applicable provisions, if any, of Title 41, Part 60 of the Code of Federal Regulations, including but not limited to Sections 60-1.4, 60-4.2, 60-4.3, 60-250.5(a), and 60-741.5(a), which are hereby incorporated by reference. [07-7A030-1]

FALSE CLAIMS (JAN 2006)

According to the S.C. Code of Laws Section 16-13-240, "a person who by false pretense or representation obtains the signature of a person to a written instrument or obtains from another person any chattel, money, valuable security, or other property, real or personal, with intent to cheat and defraud a person of that property is guilty" of a crime. [07-7A035-1]

FIXED PRICING REQUIRED (JAN 2006)

Any pricing provided by contractor shall include all costs for performing the work associated with that price. Except as otherwise provided in this solicitation, contractor's price shall be fixed for the duration of this contract, including option terms. This clause does not prohibit contractor from offering lower pricing after award. [07-7A040-1]

NO INDEMNITY OR DEFENSE (FEB 2015)

Any term or condition is void to the extent it requires the State to indemnify, defend, or pay attorney's fees to anyone for any reason. [07-7A045-2]

NOTICE (JAN 2006)

(A) After award, any notices shall be in writing and shall be deemed duly given (1) upon actual delivery, if delivery is by hand, (2) upon receipt by the transmitting party of automated confirmation or answer back from the recipient's device if delivery is by telex, telegram, facsimile, or electronic mail, or (3) upon deposit into the United States mail, if postage is prepaid, a return receipt is requested, and either registered or certified mail is used. (B) Notice to contractor shall be to the address identified as the Notice Address on Page Two. Notice to the state shall be to the Procurement Officer's address on the Cover Page. Either party may designate a different address for notice by giving notice in accordance with this paragraph. [07-7A050-1]

PAYMENT and INTEREST (FEB 2015)

(a) The State shall pay the Contractor, after the submission of proper invoices or vouchers, the prices stipulated in this contract for supplies delivered and accepted or services rendered and accepted, less any deductions provided in this

contract. Unless otherwise specified herein, including the purchase order, payment shall not be made on partial deliveries accepted by the Government. (b) Unless otherwise provided herein, including the purchase order, payment will be made by check mailed to the payment address on "Page Two." (c) Notwithstanding any other provision, payment shall be made in accordance with S.C. Code Section 11-35-45, or Chapter 6 of Title 29 (real property improvements) when applicable, which provides the Contractor's exclusive means of recovering any type of interest from the Owner. Contractor waives imposition of an interest penalty unless the invoice submitted specifies that the late penalty is applicable. Except as set forth in this paragraph, the State shall not be liable for the payment of interest on any debt or claim arising out of or related to this contract for any reason. (d) Amounts due to the State shall bear interest at the rate of interest established by the South Carolina Comptroller General pursuant to Section 11-35-45 ("an amount not to exceed fifteen percent each year"), as amended, unless otherwise required by Section 29-6-30. (e) Any other basis for interest, including but not limited to general (pre- and post-judgment) or specific interest statutes, including S.C. Code Ann. Section 34-31-20, are expressly waived by both parties. If a court, despite this agreement and waiver, requires that interest be paid on any debt by either party other than as provided by items (c) and (d) above, the parties further agree that the applicable interest rate for any given calendar year shall be the lowest prime rate as listed in the first edition of the Wall Street Journal published for each year, applied as simple interest without compounding. (f) The State shall have all of its common law, equitable and statutory rights of set-off. [07-7A055-3]

PUBLICITY (JAN 2006)

Contractor shall not publish any comments or quotes by State employees, or include the State in either news releases or a published list of customers, without the prior written approval of the Procurement Officer. [07-7A060-1]

PURCHASE ORDERS (JAN 2006)

Contractor shall not perform any work prior to the receipt of a purchase order from the using governmental unit. The using governmental unit shall order any supplies or services to be furnished under this contract by issuing a purchase order. Purchase orders may be used to elect any options available under this contract, e.g., quantity, item, delivery date, payment method, but are subject to all terms and conditions of this contract. Purchase orders may be electronic. No particular form is required. An order placed pursuant to the purchasing card provision qualifies as a purchase order. [07-7A065-1]

SURVIVAL OF OBLIGATIONS (JAN 2006)

The Parties' rights and obligations which, by their nature, would continue beyond the termination, cancellation, rejection, or expiration of this contract shall survive such termination, cancellation, rejection, or expiration, including, but not limited to, the rights and obligations created by the following clauses: Indemnification - Third Party Claims, Intellectual Property Indemnification, and any provisions regarding warranty or audit. [07-7A075-1]

TAXES (JAN 2006)

Any tax the contractor may be required to collect or pay upon the sale, use or delivery of the products shall be paid by the State, and such sums shall be due and payable to the contractor upon acceptance. Any personal property taxes levied after delivery shall be paid by the State. It shall be solely the State's obligation, after payment to contractor, to challenge the applicability of any tax by negotiation with, or action against, the taxing authority. Contractor agrees to refund any tax collected, which is subsequently determined not to be proper and for which a refund has been paid to contractor by the taxing authority. In the event that the contractor fails to pay, or delays in paying, to any taxing authorities, sums paid by the State to contractor, contractor shall be liable to the State for any loss (such as the assessment of additional interest) caused by virtue of this failure or delay. Taxes based on Contractor's net income or assets shall be the sole responsibility of the contractor. [07-7A080-1]

TERMINATION DUE TO UNAVAILABILITY OF FUNDS (JAN 2006)

Payment and performance obligations for succeeding fiscal periods shall be subject to the availability and appropriation of funds therefor. When funds are not appropriated or otherwise made available to support continuation of performance in a subsequent fiscal period, the contract shall be canceled. In the event of a cancellation pursuant to this paragraph, contractor will be reimbursed the resulting unamortized, reasonably incurred, nonrecurring costs. Contractor will not be reimbursed any costs amortized beyond the initial contract term. [07-7A085-1]

THIRD PARTY BENEFICIARY (JAN 2006)

This Contract is made solely and specifically among and for the benefit of the parties hereto, and their respective successors and assigns, and no other person will have any rights, interest, or claims hereunder or be entitled to any benefits under or on account of this Contract as a third party beneficiary or otherwise. [07-7A090-1]

WAIVER (JAN 2006)

The State does not waive any prior or subsequent breach of the terms of the Contract by making payments on the Contract, by failing to terminate the Contract for lack of performance, or by failing to strictly or promptly insist upon any term of the Contract. Only the Procurement Officer has actual authority to waive any of the State's rights under this Contract. Any waiver must be in writing. [07-7A095-1]

VII. TERMS AND CONDITIONS -- B. SPECIAL

CHANGES (JAN 2006)

(1) Contract Modification. By a written order, at any time, and without notice to any surety, the Procurement Officer may, subject to all appropriate adjustments, make changes within the general scope of this contract in any one or more of the following:

- (a) drawings, designs, or specifications, if the supplies to be furnished are to be specially manufactured for the [State] in accordance therewith;
- (b) method of shipment or packing;
- (c) place of delivery;
- (d) description of services to be performed;
- (e) time of performance (i.e., hours of the day, days of the week, etc.); or,
- (f) place of performance of the services. Subparagraphs (a) to (c) apply only if supplies are furnished under this contract. Subparagraphs (d) to (f) apply only if services are performed under this contract.

(2) Adjustments of Price or Time for Performance. If any such change increases or decreases the contractor's cost of, or the time required for, performance of any part of the work under this contract, whether or not changed by the order, an adjustment shall be made in the contract price, the delivery schedule, or both, and the contract modified in writing accordingly. Any adjustment in contract price made pursuant to this clause shall be determined in accordance with the Price Adjustment Clause of this contract. Failure of the parties to agree to an adjustment shall not excuse the contractor from proceeding with the contract as changed, provided that the State promptly and duly make such provisional adjustments in payment or time for performance as may be reasonable. By proceeding with the work, the contractor shall not be deemed to have prejudiced any claim for additional compensation, or an extension of time for completion.

(3) Time Period for Claim. Within 30 days after receipt of a written contract modification under Paragraph (1) of this clause, unless such period is extended by the Procurement Officer in writing, the contractor shall file notice of intent to assert a claim for an adjustment. Later notification shall not bar the contractor's claim unless the State is prejudiced by the delay in notification.

(4) Claim Barred After Final Payment. No claim by the contractor for an adjustment hereunder shall be allowed if notice is not given prior to final payment under this contract.

[07-7B025-1]

COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS (JAN 2006)

During the term of the contract, contractor shall comply with all applicable provisions of laws, codes, ordinances, rules, regulations, and tariffs. [07-7B035-1]

CONTRACTOR PERSONNEL (JAN 2006)

The Contractor shall enforce strict discipline and good order among the Contractor's employees and other persons carrying out the Contract. The Contractor shall not permit employment of unfit persons or persons not skilled in tasks assigned to them. [07-7B060-1]

CONTRACTOR'S OBLIGATION -- GENERAL (JAN 2006)

The contractor shall provide and pay for all materials, tools, equipment, labor and professional and non-professional services, and shall perform all other acts and supply all other things necessary, to fully and properly perform and complete the work. The contractor must act as the prime contractor and assume full responsibility for any subcontractor's performance. The contractor will be considered the sole point of contact with regard to all situations, including payment of all charges and the meeting of all other requirements. [07-7B065-1]

DEFAULT - SHORT FORM (FEB 2015)

The state may terminate this contract, or any part hereof, for cause in the event of any default by the contractor, or if the contractor fails to comply with any material contract terms and conditions, or fails to provide the state, upon request, with adequate assurances of future performance. In the event of termination for cause, the state shall not be liable to the

contractor for any amount for supplies or services not accepted, and the contractor shall be liable to the state for any and all rights and remedies provided by law. If it is determined that the state improperly terminated this contract for default, such termination shall be deemed a termination for convenience. [07-7B080-2]

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION (NOV 2008)

(An overview is available at www.procurement.sc.gov) By signing your offer, you certify that you will comply with the applicable requirements of Title 8, Chapter 14 of the South Carolina Code of Laws and agree to provide to the State upon request any documentation required to establish either: (a) that Title 8, Chapter 14 is inapplicable to you and your subcontractors or sub-subcontractors; or (b) that you and your subcontractors or sub-subcontractors are in compliance with Title 8, Chapter 14. Pursuant to Section 8-14-60, "A person who knowingly makes or files any false, fictitious, or fraudulent document, statement, or report pursuant to this chapter is guilty of a felony, and, upon conviction, must be fined within the discretion of the court or imprisoned for not more than five years, or both." You agree to include in any contracts with your subcontractors language requiring your subcontractors to (a) comply with the applicable requirements of Title 8, Chapter 14, and (b) include in their contracts with the sub-subcontractors language requiring the sub-subcontractors to comply with the applicable requirements of Title 8, Chapter 14. [07-7B097-1]

INDEMNIFICATION - THIRD PARTY CLAIMS (NOV 2011)

Notwithstanding any limitation in this agreement, and to the fullest extent permitted by law, Contractor shall defend and hold harmless Indemnitees for and against any and all suits or claims of any character (and all related damages, settlement payments, attorneys' fees, costs, expenses, losses or liabilities) by a third party which are attributable to bodily injury, sickness, disease or death, or to injury to or destruction of tangible property arising out of or in connection with the goods or services acquired hereunder or caused in whole or in part by any act or omission of contractor, its subcontractors, their employees, workmen, servants, agents, or anyone directly or indirectly employed by them or anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable, regardless of whether or not caused in part by an Indemnitee, and whether or not such claims are made by a third party or an Indemnitee; however, if an Indemnitee's negligent act or omission is subsequently determined to be the sole proximate cause of a suit or claim, the Indemnitee shall not be entitled to indemnification hereunder. Contractor shall be given timely written notice of any suit or claim. Contractor's obligations hereunder are in no way limited by any protection afforded under workers' compensation acts, disability benefits acts, or other employee benefit acts. This clause shall not negate, abridge, or reduce any other rights or obligations of indemnity which would otherwise exist. The obligations of this paragraph shall survive termination, cancelation, or expiration of the parties' agreement. This provision shall be construed fairly and reasonably, neither strongly for nor against either party, and without regard to any clause regarding insurance. As used in this clause, "Indemnitees" means the State of South Carolina, its instrumentalities, agencies, departments, boards, political subdivisions and all their respective officers, agents and employees.

LICENSES AND PERMITS (JAN 2006)

During the term of the contract, the Contractor shall be responsible for obtaining, and maintaining in good standing, all licenses (including professional licenses, if any), permits, inspections and related fees for each or any such licenses, permits and /or inspections required by the State, county, city or other government entity or unit to accomplish the work specified in this solicitation and the contract. [07-7B115-1]

PRICE ADJUSTMENTS (JAN 2006)

(1) Method of Adjustment. Any adjustment in the contract price made pursuant to a clause in this contract shall be consistent with this Contract and shall be arrived at through whichever one of the following ways is the most valid approximation of the actual cost to the Contractor (including profit, if otherwise allowed):

- (a) by agreement on a fixed price adjustment before commencement of the pertinent performance or as soon thereafter as practicable;
- (b) by unit prices specified in the Contract or subsequently agreed upon;
- (c) by the costs attributable to the event or situation covered by the relevant clause, including profit if otherwise allowed, all as specified in the Contract; or subsequently agreed upon;
- (d) in such other manner as the parties may mutually agree; or,
- (e) in the absence of agreement by the parties, through a unilateral initial written determination by the Procurement Officer of the costs attributable to the event or situation covered by the clause, including profit if otherwise allowed, all as computed by the Procurement Officer in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, subject to the provisions of Title 11, Chapter 35, Article 17 of the S.C. Code of Laws.

(2) Submission of Price or Cost Data. Upon request of the Procurement Officer, the contractor shall provide reasonably

available factual information to substantiate that the price or cost offered, for any price adjustments is reasonable, consistent with the provisions of Section 11-35-1830.

[07-7B160-1]

PRICE ADJUSTMENT – LIMITED – AFTER INITIAL TERM ONLY (JAN 2006)

Upon approval of the Procurement Officer, prices may be adjusted for any renewal term. Prices shall not be increased during the initial term. Any request for a price increase must be received by the Procurement Officer at least ninety (90) days prior to the expiration of the applicable term and must be accompanied by sufficient documentation to justify the increase. If approved, a price increase becomes effective starting with the term beginning after approval. A price increase must be executed as a change order. Contractor may terminate this contract at the end of the then current term if a price increase request is denied. Notice of termination pursuant to this paragraph must be received by the Procurement Officer no later than fifteen (15) days after the Procurement Officer sends contractor notice rejecting the requested price increase.

[07-7B175-1]

PRICE ADJUSTMENTS – LIMITED BY CPI “OTHER GOODS and SERVICES” (JAN 2006)

Upon request and adequate justification, the Procurement Officer may grant a price increase up to, but not to exceed, the unadjusted percent change for the most recent 12 months for which data is available, that is not subject to revision, in the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for all urban consumers (CPI-U), “Other Goods & Services” for services, as determined by the Procurement Officer. The Bureau of Labor and Statistics publishes this information on the web at www.bls.gov

[07-7B175-1]

RELATIONSHIP OF THE PARTIES (JAN 2006)

Neither party is an employee, agent, partner, or joint venturer of the other. Neither party has the right or ability to bind the other to any agreement with a third party or to incur any obligation or liability on behalf of the other party. [07-7B205-1]

RESTRICTIONS ON PRESENTING TERMS OF USE OR OFFERING ADDITIONAL SERVICES (FEB 2015)

(a) Citizens, as well as public employees (acting in their individual capacity), should not be unnecessarily required to agree to or provide consent to policies or contractual terms in order to access services acquired by the government pursuant to this contract (hereinafter “applicable services”) or, in the case of public employees, to perform their job duties; accordingly, in performing the work, contractor shall not require or invite any citizen or public employee to agree to or provide consent to any end user contract, privacy policy, or other terms of use (hereinafter “terms of use”) not previously approved in writing by the procurement officer. Contractor agrees that any terms of use regarding applicable services are void and of no effect.

(b) Unless expressly provided in the solicitation, public contracts are not intended to provide contractors an opportunity to market additional products and services; accordingly, in performing the work, contractor shall not – for itself or on behalf of any third party – offer citizens or public employees (other than the procurement officer) any additional products or services not required by the contract.

(c) Any reference to contractor in items (a) or (b) also includes any subcontractor at any tier. Contractor is responsible for compliance with these obligations by any person or entity that contractor authorizes to take any action related to the work.

(d) Any violation of this clause is a material breach of contract. The parties acknowledge the difficulties inherent in determining the damage from any breach of these restrictions. Contractor shall pay the state liquidated damages of \$1,000 for each contract with a citizen or end user that violates this restriction.

[07-7B212-1]

TERM OF CONTRACT -- EFFECTIVE DATE / INITIAL CONTRACT PERIOD (JAN 2006)

The effective date of this contract is the first day of the Maximum Contract Period as specified on the final statement of award. The initial term of this agreement is 1years, 0months, 0days from the effective date. Regardless, this contract expires no later than the last date stated on the final statement of award. [07-7B240-1]

TERM OF CONTRACT -- OPTION TO RENEW (JAN 2015)

(a) At the end of the initial term, and at the end of each renewal term, this contract shall automatically renew for a period of 4year(s), 0month(s), and 0day(s), unless contractor receives notice that the state elects not to renew the contract at least thirty (30) days prior to the date of renewal. Regardless, this contract expires no later than the last date stated on the final statement of award. (b) Contractor acknowledges that, unless excused by Section 11-57-320, if the contractor is on the

then-current Iran Divestment Act List as of the date of any contract renewal, the renewal will be void ab initio.
[07-7B245-2]

TERM OF CONTRACT -- TERMINATION BY CONTRACTOR (JAN 2006)

Contractor may terminate this contract at the end of the initial term, or any renewal term, by providing the Procurement Officer notice of its election to terminate under this clause at least 90 days prior to the expiration of the then current term.
[07-7B250-1]

TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE -- SHORT FORM (JAN 2006)

The Procurement Officer may terminate this contract in whole or in part, for the convenience of the State. In such a termination, the Procurement Officer may require the contractor to transfer title and deliver to the State in the manner and to the extent directed by the Procurement Officer: (a) any completed supplies; and (b) such partially completed supplies and materials, parts, tools, dies, jigs, fixtures, plans, drawings, information, and contract rights (hereinafter called "manufacturing material") as the contractor has specifically produced or specially acquired for the performance of the terminated part of this contract. Upon such termination, the contractor shall (a) stop work to the extent specified, (b) terminate any subcontracts as they relate to the terminated work, and (c) be paid the following amounts without duplication, subject to the other terms of this contract: (i) contract prices for supplies or services accepted under the contract, (ii) costs incurred in performing the terminated portion of the work, and (iii) any other reasonable costs that the contractor can demonstrate to the satisfaction of the State, using its standard record keeping system, have resulted from the termination. The contractor shall not be paid for any work performed or costs incurred that reasonably could have been avoided. As a condition of payment, contractor shall submit within three months of the effective date of the termination a claim specifying the amounts due because of the termination. The absence of an appropriate termination for convenience clause in any subcontract shall not increase the obligation of the state beyond what it would have been had the subcontract contained such a clause. [07-7B260-1]

VII. TERMS AND CONDITIONS – C. DHEC’S SPECIAL CLAUSES

PREVENTING AND REPORTING FRAUD, WASTE AND ABUSE (DHEC MAR-2014)

DHEC has procedures and policies concerning the prevention and reporting of fraud, waste and abuse (FWA) in agency-funded programs, including but not limited to those funded by federal grants such as Medicaid. No agency employee, agent, or contractor shall direct, participate in, approve, or tolerate any violation of federal or State laws regarding FWA in government programs.

Federal law prohibits any person or company from knowingly submitting false or fraudulent claims or statements to a federally funded program, including false claims for payment or conspiracy to get such a claim approved or paid. The False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. §3729-3733, and other “whistleblower” statutes include remedies for employees who are retaliated against in their employment for reporting violations of the Act or for reporting fraud, waste, abuse, or violations of law in connection with federal contracts or grants, or danger to public health or safety. Under State law, persons may be criminally prosecuted for false claims made for health care benefits, for Medicaid fraud, for insurance fraud, or for using a computer in a fraud scheme or to obtain money or services by false representations. Additional information regarding the federal and State laws prohibiting false claims and SCDHEC’s policies and procedures regarding false claims may be obtained from the agency’s Contracts Manager or Bureau of Business Management.

Any employee, agent, or contractor of SCDHEC who submits a false claim in violation of federal or State laws will be reported to appropriate authorities.

If Contractor, Contractor’s agents or employees have reason to suspect FWA in agency programs, this information should be reported in confidence to the agency. A report may be made by writing to the Office of Internal Audits, DHEC, 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, SC 29201; or by calling the Agency Fraud, Waste and Abuse Hotline at 803-896-0650 or toll-free at 1-866-206-5202. Contractor is required to inform Contractor’s employees of the existence of DHEC’s policy prohibiting FWA and the procedures for reporting FWA to the agency. Contractor must also inform Contractor’s employees, in writing, of their rights and remedies under 41 U.S.C. §4712 concerning reporting FWA or violations of law in connection with federal contracts or grants, or danger to public health or safety, in the predominant native language of the workforce.
[Reference: False Claims Act, 31 U.S.C. §3729-3733; 41 U.S.C. §4712]

DHEC’s CONFIDENTIALITY POLICY (DHEC – MAR 2014)

Confidential information includes information known or maintained in any form, whether recorded or not, consisting of protected health information, other health information, personal information, personal identifying information, confidential

business information, and any other information required by law to be treated as confidential, designated as confidential by DHEC, or known or believed by contractor or contractor's employee or agent to be claimed as confidential or entitled to confidential treatment.

- (a) Contractor will not:
 - (i) access, view, use, or disclose confidential information without written authorization from DHEC, unless required to perform its responsibilities under this contract or required by law (as determined by a court or other governmental body with authority);
 - (ii) discuss confidential information obtained in the course of its relationship with DHEC with any other person or in any location outside of its area of responsibility in DHEC; or
 - (iii) make any unauthorized copy of confidential information, or remove or transfer this information to any unauthorized location or media.
- (a) If contractor discloses confidential information pursuant to a properly completed authorization or legal process, order, or requirement, contractor must document the disclosure and make the documentation and authorization available for DHEC inspection and audit. Contractor will direct any request it receives for confidential information obtained through performance of services under this contract, including a subpoena, litigation discovery request, court order, or Freedom of Information Act request, to the DHEC Contracts Manager and DHEC Office of General Counsel as soon as possible, and in every case within one business day of receipt.
- (c) Contractor must ensure that its employees, agents, and subcontractors who may have access to DHEC confidential information are aware of and comply with these confidentiality requirements. Contractor must ensure that any release of confidential information is limited to the minimum necessary to meet its obligations under this agreement and applicable law. If contractor will or may have access to any Protected Health Information (PHI) under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), Public Law 104-92, as amended, and regulations (45 CFR Parts 160 and 164), DHEC may require the contractor to sign and comply with DHEC's Business Associate Agreement (DHEC Form 0854, attached) and protect PHI in compliance with the referenced HIPAA laws.
- (d) Unauthorized use or disclosure of confidential information may result in termination of this agreement and may be grounds for fines, penalties, imprisonment, injunctive action, damages, civil suit, or debarment from doing business with the State. The contractor must immediately notify the DHEC Compliance Officer and the DHEC Contracts Manager of any unauthorized use or disclosure of confidential information received under this contract.
- (e) The obligations of this provision shall survive termination, cancellation, or expiration of the contract.

BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT (DHEC – JAN 2011)

Prior to any work being done on any contract resulting from this solicitation, the contractor will be required to sign DHEC's Business Associate Agreement (Form 0854) to safeguard the privacy and security of Protected Health Information (PHI) and Electronic Protected Health Information (ePHI) pursuant to requirements of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1995 (HIPAA). A copy of the Business Associate Agreement is included in the Appendix of this solicitation. By submission of an offer, you are agreeing to sign DHEC's Business Associate Agreement, if awarded.

RECORDS RETENTION (DHEC – MAR 2014)

Records with respect to all matters covered by this contract shall be retained by the contractor for six (6) years after the end of the contract period, and shall be available for audit at any time such audit is deemed necessary by DHEC. If audit has begun but is not completed at the end of the six-year period, or if audit findings have not been resolved at the end of the six-year period, the records shall be retained until resolution of the audit findings.

VIII. BIDDING SCHEDULE / PRICE-BUSINESS PROPOSAL

BIDDING SCHEDULE (NOV 2007)

Item	Quantity	Unit of Measure	Unit Price	Extended Price
1	1	Month		
Product Catg.: 91505 - Answering/Paging Services				
Item Description: Telephone Answering Service – Monthly Base Fee				
Tendering Text: Monthly Fee = Based on 75 calls per month				
Question	Mandatory / Optional	Multiple Responses Accepted?	Response	
The vendor has read the terms and conditions of this solicitation. This offer is in accordance with all of the terms and conditions of this solicitation.	Mandatory	No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

2	1	each		
Product Catg.: 91505 - Answering/Paging Services				
Item Description: Telephone Answering Service – Overage – Calls over 75				
Tendering Text: Unit Price = per call				
Question	Mandatory / Optional	Multiple Responses Accepted?	Response	
The vendor has read the terms and conditions of this solicitation. This offer is in accordance with all of the terms and conditions of this solicitation.	Mandatory	No	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	

IX. ATTACHMENTS TO SOLICITATION

- A. Business Associate Agreement
- B. Nonresident Taxpayer Registration Affidavit Income Tax Withholding
- C. Offeror's Checklist

DHEC'S BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT (DHEC – MAR 2013)

BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL

AND

I. PURPOSE

The South Carolina Department of Health and Environmental Control (hereafter referred to as "Covered Entity") and [REDACTED] (hereafter referred to as "Business Associate") desire to enter into this Business Associate Agreement (hereafter, "BA Agreement" or "the Agreement") for the purpose of protecting the privacy and security of clients' health information under the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA), including all pertinent regulations (45 CFR Part 160 and Part 164), as amended by Subtitle D of the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act (HITECH), Title XIII of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (Pub. L. 111-5).

II. DEFINITIONS

Terms used, but not otherwise defined, in this Agreement shall have the same meanings as set forth in HIPAA and HITECH. A change to HIPAA or HITECH which modifies any defined term, or which alters the regulatory citation for the definition, shall be deemed incorporated into this Agreement.

- a. Breach. "Breach" shall have the meaning given under HITECH Section 13400, 42 U.S.C § 17921, and 45 CFR §164.402.
- b. Data Aggregation. "Data Aggregation" shall have the meaning given under the Privacy Rule, including, but not limited to, 45 CFR §164.501.
- c. Designated Record Set. "Designated Record Set" shall have the same meaning as the term "designated record set" in 45 CFR §164.501.
- d. Disclose and Disclosure. "Disclose" and "Disclosure" shall have the meaning given in 45 CFR §160.103.
- e. Electronic Protected Health Information. "Electronic Protected Health Information" (referred to below as EPHI) shall have the same meaning as the term "electronic protected health information" in 45 CFR § 160.103.
- f. HIPAA. "HIPAA" shall mean the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, Public Law 104-91, as amended, and related HIPAA regulations (45 CFR Parts 160-164.)
- g. HITECH. "HITECH" shall mean the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act, found in Title XIII of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, Public Law 111-005.
- h. Individual. "Individual" shall have the same meaning as the term "individual" in 45 CFR § 160.103 and shall include a person who qualifies as a personal representative in accordance with 45 CFR § 164.502(g).
- i. Privacy Rule. "Privacy Rule" shall mean the Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information codified at 45 CFR Part 160 and Part 164, Subparts A and E and any other applicable provisions of HIPAA, or amendments thereto, including HITECH.
- j. Protected Health Information. "Protected Health Information" (referred to below as PHI) shall have the same definition contained in 45 CFR §160.103. For purposes of this Agreement, PHI is limited to the information created or received by Business Associate from or on behalf of Covered Entity. "Protected Health Information" includes, without limitation, "Electronic Protected Health Information," as defined below.
- k. Required By Law. "Required By Law" shall have the meaning given to the term under the Privacy Rule, including but not limited to, 45 CFR §164.103, and any additional requirements created under HITECH.
- l. Secretary. "Secretary" shall mean the Secretary of the U. S. Department of Health and Human Services or his/her designee.
- m. Security Incident. "Security Incident" shall have the meaning given in 45 CFR §164.304.

- n. Security Standards. “Security Standards” shall mean the Standards for the Protection of Electronic Protected Health Information that are codified at 45 CFR Part 160 and Part 164, Subparts A and C, and any other applicable provision of HIPAA, or amendments thereto, including HITECH.
- o. Unsecured PHI. “Unsecured PHI” shall mean PHI that is not secured through the use of a technology or methodology specified by the Secretary in guidance or as otherwise defined in Section 13402 of HITECH.
- p. “Use” or “Uses” shall have the meaning given in 45 CFR §160.103.

III. USE OR DISCLOSURE OF PHI BY BUSINESS ASSOCIATE

- a. Except as otherwise limited in this Agreement, Business Associate may use or disclose PHI to perform functions, activities, or services for, or on behalf of, Covered Entity as specified in Contract # [REDACTED], or as otherwise provided by law, if such use or disclosure would not violate the Privacy Rule or the Security Standards if done by Covered Entity.
- b. Except as otherwise limited in this Agreement, Business Associate may use PHI for the proper management and administration of the Business Associate or to carry out the legal responsibilities of the Business Associate, and may disclose PHI for those purposes provided that as to any such disclosure: 1) the disclosure is required by law; or 2) Business Associate obtains reasonable assurances from the person to whom the information is disclosed that it will remain confidential and will be used or further disclosed only as required by law or for the purpose for which it was disclosed to the person, and the person notifies the Business Associate of any instances of which the person is aware in which the confidentiality of the information has been breached.
- c. Business Associate will notify the Covered Entity of any breach of confidentiality or security by a person to whom the Business Associate has disclosed PHI pursuant to this Section, and will mitigate and/or assist the person and the Covered Entity in mitigating any harmful effects resulting from the breach of information.
- d. Except as otherwise limited in this Agreement, Business Associate may use PHI to provide Data Aggregation services to Covered Entity as permitted by 42 CFR § 164.504(e)(2)(i)(B).
- e. Business Associate may use PHI to report violations of law to appropriate Federal and State authorities, consistent with § 164.502(j)(1).
- f. Business Associate may disclose PHI to any of its subcontractors for use in fulfilling the obligations of this Agreement as long as the subcontractor agrees in writing to the restrictions and conditions in this Agreement with respect to PHI.
- g. Business Associate may disclose PHI to another entity as authorized by the Covered Entity in a separate written agreement or amendment to this agreement, if such disclosure of PHI would not violate the Privacy Rule or HITECH if done by Covered Entity itself.
- h. Business Associate, upon entering into an agreement using PHI for any of its functions and activities on behalf of the Covered Entity or in its general operations, will make available that agreement to the Covered Entity upon request.

IV. DUTIES OF BUSINESS ASSOCIATE RELATIVE TO PHI

- a. Business Associate shall comply with the Confidentiality provision contained in Contract # [REDACTED] and any Confidentiality Agreement signed by the Business Associate pursuant to that Contract for so long as this BA Agreement remains in effect.
- b. Business Associate shall not use or disclose PHI other than as permitted or required by this Agreement or as required by law. Business Associate will not use PHI in any manner that would constitute a violation of the Privacy Rule, Security Standards, HIPAA, or HITECH if so used by Covered Entity.
- c. Business Associate shall develop, implement, maintain, and use appropriate safeguards to prevent any use or disclosure of PHI or EPHI other than as provided by this Agreement, and shall implement administrative, physical, and technical safeguards to comply with the Security Standards as required by 45 CFR Sections 164.308, 164.310, 164.312 and 164.316 in order to protect the confidentiality, integrity, and availability of EPHI or PHI that Business Associate creates, receives, maintains, or transmits, to the same extent as if

Business Associate were a Covered Entity, pursuant to HITECH Section 13401, 42 U.S.C. § 17931. These safeguards are required regardless of the mechanism used to transmit the information.

- d. Business Associate shall adopt the effective and appropriate technical safeguards and technology and methodology standards provided in any guidance issued by the Secretary pursuant to HITECH Sections 13401-13402, 42 U.S.C. §§ 17931-17932.
- e. Business Associate agrees to mitigate, to the extent practicable, any harmful effect that is known to Business Associate of a use or disclosure of PHI by Business Associate in violation of the requirements of this Agreement or of a Breach of Unsecured PHI, pursuant to 45 CFR § 164.530(f) and HITECH § 13402.
- f. Business Associate shall notify Covered Entity by the most expedient manner within one business day of any use or disclosure of PHI or EPHI not authorized by this Agreement or in violation of any applicable federal or state laws or regulations of which Business Associate becomes aware, or of any suspected or actual Security Incident or Breach, unless delayed in accordance with 45 CFR § 164.412. Business Associate shall notify Covered Entity immediately upon the law enforcement delay being lifted.
- g. In addition to the notification required by IV.f, Business Associate will provide written notification of a Breach of Unsecured PHI to Covered Entity without unreasonable delay and in no event later than 5 calendar days after discovery of the Breach. A Breach of Unsecured PHI shall be treated as discovered by the Business Associate as of the first day on which such breach is known to Business Associate or, by exercising reasonable diligence, would have been known to the Business Associate. Notification of a Breach of Unsecured PHI required by this paragraph shall comply with HITECH Section 13402, 42 U.S.C. § 17932, and 45 CFR § 164.410. The Breach notice shall include, to the extent possible, the identification of each individual whose Unsecured PHI has been, or is reasonably believed by the Business Associate to have been, accessed, acquired, or disclosed during the Breach. Business Associate shall provide Covered Entity with the following information at the time of the Breach notification or promptly thereafter as soon as information becomes available:
 - 1. A brief description of what happened, including the date of the Breach and the date of the discovery of the Breach, if known, and the nature of the non-permitted use or disclosure;
 - 2. A description of the unsecured PHI that was involved in the Breach (such as whether full name, social security number, date of birth, home address, account number, diagnosis, disability code, or other types of information were involved);
 - 3. Who made the non-permitted use or disclosure;
 - 4. Who received the non-permitted use or disclosure;
 - 5. Any steps individuals should take to protect themselves from potential harm resulting from the Breach; and
 - 6. What Business Associate is doing to investigate the Breach, to mitigate harm to individuals, and to protect against any further breaches.
- h. Business Associate shall ensure that any agent or subcontractor to whom it provides PHI received from Covered Entity, or that creates, receives, maintains, or transmits PHI on behalf of Business Associate, agrees to the same restrictions and conditions that apply through this Agreement to Business Associate with respect to such information, including this paragraph, and agrees to implement reasonable and appropriate safeguards to protect such PHI, including the safeguards required by paragraph IV.c and IV.d above with respect to PHI. Business Associate shall implement and maintain sanctions against agents and subcontractors that violate such restrictions and conditions and shall mitigate the effects of such violation.
- i. Business Associate shall provide access, at the request of Covered Entity, and in the time and manner designated by Covered Entity, to PHI in a Designated Record Set, to Covered Entity or, as directed by Covered Entity, to an Individual in order to fulfill the requirements of 45 CFR § 164.524 if the Business Associate has PHI in a designated record set. If Business Associate receives a request directly from an Individual, Business Associate will direct the Individual to the Covered Entity.

- j. Business Associate shall make any amendment(s) to PHI in a Designated Record Set that the Covered Entity directs or agrees to pursuant to 45 CFR § 164.526 at the request of Covered Entity or an Individual, and in the time and manner designated by Covered Entity, if Business Associate has PHI in a Designated Record Set. Business Associate shall not amend PHI received from the Covered Entity or created and/or provided to the Business Associate on behalf of the Covered Entity unless the amendment is directed by or consented to by the Covered Entity. If an Individual requests an amendment of PHI directly from Business Associate or any of its agents or subcontractors, Business Associate will direct Individual to Covered Entity. The Business Associate shall provide a copy of the amended PHI to the Covered Entity.
- k. Business Associate agrees to document such disclosures of PHI and information related to such disclosures as would be required for Covered Entity to respond to a request by an Individual for an accounting of disclosures of PHI in accordance with 45 CFR § 164.528. Business Associate agrees to collect and maintain disclosure information as it relates to PHI including: (i) the date of disclosure; (ii) the name of the entity or person who received the PHI and, if known, the address of the entity or person; (iii) a brief description of the PHI disclosed; and (iv) a brief statement of purpose of the disclosure that reasonably informs the Individual of the basis for the disclosure, or a copy of the written request for disclosure under 45 CFR § 164.502(a)(2)(ii) or 164.512, if any. Business Associate will maintain records related to disclosures of PHI for at least six (6) years after the date of the disclosure. The provisions of this subparagraph shall survive termination of this Agreement.
- l. Business Associate will provide to Covered Entity or an Individual, in the time and manner designated by Covered Entity, information collected in accordance with Section IV.k of this Agreement, to permit Covered Entity to respond to a request by an Individual for an accounting of disclosures of PHI in accordance with 45 CFR § 164.528. In addition, Business Associate agrees to make PHI available for purposes of accounting of disclosures as required by Section 164.528 of the Privacy Rule and Section 13405(c)(3) of HITECH, 42 U.S.C. § 17935(c)(3). If the request for an accounting is delivered directly to Business Associate or its agents or subcontractors, Business Associate shall within five (5) days of a request forward it to Covered Entity in writing.
- m. Business Associate shall comply with any requests for restrictions on certain disclosures of PHI pursuant to Section 164.522 of the Privacy Rule to which Covered Entity has agreed and of which Business Associate is notified by Covered Entity
- n. Business Associate shall comply, pursuant to HITECH and its implementing regulations, with all additional requirements of the Privacy Rule, including those contained in 45 CFR 164.502(e) and 164.504(e)(1)(ii) at such time as the requirements are applicable to Business Associate, pursuant to HITECH Section 13404, 42 U.S.C. § 17934.
- o. If applicable, and if requested by Covered Entity, Business Associate will provide a copy of Covered Entity's Notice of Privacy Practices to the client at the time of first contact, and maintain documentation of the client's receipt of the Notice.
- p. Business Associate shall make its internal practices, books, and records, including policies and procedures and PHI, relating to the use and disclosure of PHI received from, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of, Covered Entity available to the Secretary for purposes of the Secretary determining compliance with the Privacy Rule. Business Associate shall comply and cooperate with any request for documents or other information from the Secretary directed to Covered Entity that seeks documents or other information held by Business Associate. Business Associate shall provide to Covered Entity a copy of any PHI that Business Associate provides to the Secretary concurrently with providing such PHI to the Secretary.
- q. Business Associate and its agents and subcontractors may only request, use, or disclose the minimum amount of PHI necessary to accomplish the purpose of the request, use, or disclosure pursuant to this agreement and consistent with Covered Entity's minimum necessary policies and procedures. Except as otherwise permitted by HIPAA standards, until the effective date on which the Secretary issues guidance on what constitutes "minimum necessary," when using or disclosing PHI or responding to a request for PHI, Business Associate and its agents or subcontractors must limit such PHI, to the extent practicable, to a Limited Data Set, or if more information than a Limited Data Set is required, to the minimum necessary to accomplish the intended purpose of such use, disclosure or request. After the effective date on which the Secretary issues guidance on what constitutes "minimum necessary," Business Associate and its agents or subcontractors shall only request, use, and disclose the minimum amount of PHI necessary to accomplish the purpose of the request, use or disclosure, and shall comply with the Secretary's guidance on what constitutes "minimum necessary." See HITECH Section 13405, 42 U.S.C. § 17935.

- r. Business Associate shall provide Covered Entity reasonable access to its premises for review and demonstration of its internal practices and procedures for safeguarding PHI of Covered Entity for purposes of determining that Business Associate has complied with this Agreement and HITECH; provided that 1) the Parties mutually agree in advance upon the scope, location and timing of such access, and 2) Covered Entity shall protect confidential and proprietary information of Business Associate to which Covered Entity has access.
- s. Business Associate acknowledges that Business Associate has no ownership rights with respect to the PHI.
- t. If Business Associate knows of a pattern of activity or practice of Covered Entity that constitutes a material breach or violation of Covered Entity's obligations under the Agreement or other arrangement, Business Associate must take reasonable steps to cure the breach or end the violation. If the steps are unsuccessful, Business Associate must terminate the Agreement or other arrangement if feasible, or, if termination is not feasible, report the problem to the Secretary. Business Associate shall provide written notice to Covered Entity of any pattern of activity or practice of the Covered Entity that Business Associate believes constitutes a material breach or violation of the Covered Entity's obligations under the Agreement within five (5) days of discovery and shall meet with Covered Entity to discuss and attempt to resolve the problem as one of the reasonable steps to cure the breach or end the violation.
- u. Business Associate acknowledges that if it violates any of the requirements provided under this Business Associate Agreement, Business Associate will be subject to the same civil and criminal penalties that a Covered Entity would be subject to if such Covered Entity violated the same requirement.
- v. The additional requirements of HITECH that relate to privacy and security and that are made applicable with respect to covered entities shall also be applicable to Business Associate and shall be and by this reference are incorporated into this Agreement.
- w. Business Associate will contact the Covered Entity's Privacy Officer at (803) 898-3318 at any time clarification or guidance is needed regarding compliance with the terms of this Agreement.
- x. Business Associate shall not use or disclose PHI for fundraising or marketing purposes.
- y. Business Associate may not enter into any agreements with its agents or subcontractors pertaining to its obligations under this Agreement without the express written consent of Covered Entity.

V. DUTIES OF COVERED ENTITY

- a. If applicable, Covered Entity shall provide the Business Associate with a copy of its policies and procedures implementing the Privacy Rule, including the Notice of Privacy Practices.
- b. Covered Entity shall notify Business Associate of any limitation(s) in Covered Entity's Notice of Privacy Practices in accordance with 45 CFR § 164.520, to the extent that such limitation may affect Business Associate's use or disclosure of PHI.
- c. Covered Entity shall notify Business Associate of any changes in, or revocation of, permission by an Individual to use or disclose PHI, to the extent that such changes may affect Business Associate's use or disclosure of PHI, within a reasonable period of time after Covered Entity becomes aware of such changes to or revocation of permission.
- d. Covered Entity shall notify Business Associate of any restriction to the use or disclosure of PHI that Covered Entity has agreed to or must comply with in accordance with 45 CFR § 164.522 and HITECH § 13405(a), 42 USC § 17935(a), to the extent that such restriction may affect Business Associate's use or disclosure of PHI.
- e. Covered Entity will not request Business Associate to use or disclose PHI in any manner that would not be permissible under the Privacy Rule if done by Covered Entity.

VI. TERM AND TERMINATION

- a. Term. The Term of this Agreement shall be effective as of [REDACTED], and shall terminate when all of the PHI provided by Covered Entity to Business Associate, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity, is destroyed or returned to Covered Entity, or, if it is infeasible to return or destroy

PHI, protections are extended to such information, in accordance with the termination provisions in this Section.

b. Termination for Cause. Upon Covered Entity's knowledge of a material breach of this Agreement by Business Associate, Covered Entity shall do any of the following:

1. Provide an opportunity for Business Associate to cure the breach or end the violation, and terminate this Agreement and Contract # [REDACTED] if Business Associate does not cure the breach or end the violation within the time specified by Covered Entity;
2. Immediately terminate this Agreement and Contract # [REDACTED] if Business Associate has breached a material term of this Agreement and cure is not feasible;
3. If neither termination nor cure is feasible, Covered Entity shall report the violation to the Secretary;
4. Immediately stop all further disclosures of PHI to Business Associate pursuant to each agreement between Covered Entity and Business Associate that is the subject of such breach, until the breach is cured.

c. Effect of Termination.

1. Except as provided in paragraph (2) of this section, upon termination of this Agreement for any reason or upon written demand from Covered Entity, Business Associate shall return or destroy all PHI received from Covered Entity, or created or received by Business Associate on behalf of Covered Entity. This provision shall apply to PHI that is in the possession of subcontractors or agents of Business Associate. Business Associate shall retain no copies, including backups, of the PHI. If the return or destruction of PHI held by the Business Associate is not permissible pursuant to South Carolina law, the Business Associate will extend the protections of this Agreement to the PHI and limit further uses and disclosures to those purposes that make the return or destruction of the PHI infeasible.
2. In the event that Business Associate determines that returning or destroying the PHI is infeasible, Business Associate shall provide to Covered Entity notification of the conditions that make return or destruction infeasible. Upon mutual agreement of the parties that return or destruction of PHI is infeasible, Business Associate shall extend the protections of this Agreement to such PHI and limit further uses and disclosures of such PHI to those purposes that make the return or destruction infeasible, for so long as Business Associate maintains such PHI.

d. Continuing Privacy Obligation. Business Associate's obligation to protect the privacy of PHI is continuous and survives any termination, cancellation, expiration, or other conclusion of this Agreement or any other agreement between Business Associate and Covered Entity.

VII. INDEMNIFICATION (the following does not apply to other government agencies or political subdivisions)

Business Associate agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Covered Entity from any claims, demand, suit, loss, liability, or administrative penalties that the Covered Entity may sustain as a result of the Business Associate's breach of this Agreement, including any breach of confidentiality by a person to whom the Business Associate has disclosed information pursuant to this Agreement; provided, however, that the Business Associate shall not hold the Covered Entity harmless from any claims, demands or causes of action arising or resulting directly or indirectly from negligence of the Covered Entity, its officers, agents, representatives or employees, or any person or entity not subject to the Business Associate's supervision or control. This indemnification shall include reasonable expenses including attorney's fees incurred by defending such claims and damages incurred by reason of the Business Associate's failure to comply with applicable laws and regulations or for damages caused by the Business Associate, its employees and/or agents, including subcontractors. As a condition precedent to asserting a right of indemnity, the Covered Entity shall provide timely written notice to the Business Associate of the assertion of the claim to which the right of indemnification is claimed to exist.

VIII. MISCELLANEOUS

- a. Regulatory References. A reference in this Agreement to a section in the Privacy Rule or the Security Standards means the section as in effect or as amended.
- b. Amendment. The Parties agree to take such action as is necessary to amend this Agreement to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Rule, the Security Standards, HIPAA, HITECH, or any other state or federal law affecting this Agreement. If a Party believes in good faith that any provision of this Agreement fails to comply with the then-current requirements of HITECH or its regulations, such Party shall notify the other Party in writing. For a period of thirty days, the Parties shall address such concern in good faith and amend the terms of the Agreement if necessary to bring it into compliance. If, after such thirty day period, the Agreement fails to comply with HIPAA, the Privacy Rule, the Security Standards or HITECH, then either Party has the right to terminate upon written notice to the other Party.
- c. Survival. The respective rights and obligations of Business Associate under Section VI.c and VI.d of this Agreement shall survive termination of this Agreement.
- d. Interpretation. Any ambiguity in this Agreement shall be resolved to permit Covered Entity to comply with the Privacy Rule and the Security Standards.
- e. All notices pursuant to this Agreement must be given in writing and shall be effective when received if hand-delivered or upon dispatch if sent by reputable overnight delivery service, facsimile, or U.S. Mail to the appropriate address or facsimile number. Notification of any unauthorized use or disclosure of PHI or of a Breach of Unsecured PHI under paragraphs IV.f and IV.g shall be made to the DHEC Privacy Officer at 2600 Bull Street, Columbia, SC 29201, 803-898-0707 (phone), 803-898-0476 (fax).
- f. Business Associate and Covered Entity agree that Individuals who are the subject of PHI are not third-party beneficiaries of this Agreement.
- g. The parties acknowledge that state and federal laws relating to electronic data security and privacy are evolving and that amendment of this Agreement may be required to provide for procedures to ensure compliance with such developments. The parties specifically agree to take such action as is necessary to implement the standards and requirements of HIPAA and HITECH and other applicable laws relating to the security or confidentiality of PHI. The parties understand and agree that Covered Entity must receive satisfactory written assurance from Business Associate that Business Associate will adequately safeguard all PHI that it receives or creates pursuant to this Agreement. Upon Covered Entity's request, Business Associate agrees to promptly enter into negotiations with Covered Entity concerning the terms of any amendment to the Agreement embodying written assurances consistent with the standards and requirements of HIPAA and HITECH or other applicable laws. Covered Entity may terminate this Agreement and Contract # _____ upon thirty (30) days written notice if (i) Business Associate does not promptly enter into negotiations to amend this Agreement when requested by Covered Entity pursuant to this Section, or (ii) Business Associate does not enter into an amendment to this Agreement providing assurances regarding the safeguarding of PHI that Covered Entity, in its sole discretion, deems sufficient to satisfy the standards and requirements of HIPAA and HITECH.
- h. If any provision of this Agreement violates any applicable statute, ordinance, or rule of law in any jurisdiction that governs this Agreement, such provision shall be ineffective to the extent of such violation without invalidating any other provision of this Agreement.
- i. This Agreement may not be amended, altered, or modified except by written agreement signed by Business Associate and Covered Entity.
- j. No provision of this Agreement may be waived except by an agreement in writing signed by the waiving party. A waiver of any term or provision shall not be construed as a waiver of any other term or provision.
- k. The persons signing below have the right and authority to execute this Agreement for their respective entities and no further approvals are necessary to create a binding Agreement.
- l. Neither Covered Entity nor Business Associate shall use the names or trademarks of the other party or of any of the respective party's affiliated entities in any advertising, publicity, endorsement, or promotion unless prior written consent has been obtained for the particular use contemplated.
- m. All references to specific statutes, codes, or regulations shall be deemed to be references to those statutes, codes or regulations as they may be amended from time to time.

- n. Neither party is an employee, agent, partner, or joint venturer of the other. Neither party has the right or authority to control or direct the activities of the other or the right or authority to bind the other to any agreement with a third party or to incur any obligation or liability on behalf of the other party, unless expressly authorized in this or another agreement between the parties.

AS TO DHEC

BY: _____
Amber Kerr, Procurement Officer
Division of Procurement Services
Bureau of Business Management

DATE: _____

AS TO THE CONTRACTING PARTY

BY: _____
(NAME)

Its: _____
(TITLE)

DATE: _____

MAILING ADDRESS:

DHEC 0854 (Revised 3/06/13)

IMPORTANT TAX NOTICE - NONRESIDENTS ONLY

Withholding Requirements for Payments to Nonresidents: Section 12-8-550 of the South Carolina Code of Laws requires persons hiring or contracting with a nonresident conducting a business or performing personal services of a temporary nature within South Carolina to withhold 2% of each payment made to the nonresident. The withholding requirement does not apply to (1) payments on purchase orders for tangible personal property when the payments are not accompanied by services to be performed in South Carolina, (2) nonresidents who are not conducting business in South Carolina, (3) nonresidents for contracts that do not exceed \$10,000 in a calendar year, or (4) payments to a nonresident who (a) registers with either the S.C. Department of Revenue or the S.C. Secretary of State and (b) submits a Nonresident Taxpayer Registration Affidavit - Income Tax Withholding, Form I-312 to the person letting the contract.

The withholding requirement applies to every governmental entity that uses a contract ("Using Entity"). Nonresidents should submit a separate copy of the Nonresident Taxpayer Registration Affidavit - Income Tax Withholding, Form I-312 to every Using Entity that makes payment to the nonresident pursuant to this solicitation. Once submitted, an affidavit is valid for all contracts between the nonresident and the Using Entity, unless the Using Entity receives notice from the Department of Revenue that the exemption from withholding has been revoked.

Section 12-8-540 requires persons making payment to a nonresident taxpayer of rentals or royalties at a rate of \$1,200.00 or more a year for the use of or for the privilege of using property in South Carolina to withhold 7% of the total of each payment made to a nonresident taxpayer who is not a corporation and 5% if the payment is made to a corporation. Contact the Department of Revenue for any applicable exceptions.

For information about other withholding requirements (e.g., employee withholding), contact the Withholding Section at the South Carolina Department of Revenue at 803-898-5383 or visit the Department's website at: www.sctax.org

This notice is for informational purposes only. This agency does not administer and has no authority over tax issues. All registration questions should be directed to the License and Registration Section at 803-898-5872 or to the South Carolina Department of Revenue, Registration Unit, Columbia, S.C. 29214-0140. All withholding questions should be directed to the Withholding Section at 803-896-1420.

PLEASE SEE THE "NONRESIDENT TAXPAYER REGISTRATION AFFIDAVIT INCOME TAX WITHHOLDING" FORM (FORM NUMBER I-312) LOCATED AT: <http://www.sctax.org/forms/withholding/i-312-form>

[09-9005-2]

OFFEROR'S CHECKLIST (JUN 2007)

OFFEROR'S CHECKLIST -- AVOID COMMON BID/PROPOSAL MISTAKES

Review this checklist prior to submitting your bid/proposal.

If you fail to follow this checklist, you risk having your bid/proposal rejected.

- Do not include any of your standard contract forms!
- Unless expressly required, do not include any additional boilerplate contract clauses.
- Reread your entire bid/proposal to make sure your bid/proposal does not take exception to any of the state's mandatory requirements.
- Make sure you have properly marked all protected, confidential, or trade secret information in accordance with the instructions entitled: SUBMITTING CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION. **DO NOT mark your entire bid/proposal as confidential, trade secret, or protected! Do not include a legend on the cover stating that your entire response is not to be released!**
- Have you properly acknowledged all amendments? Instructions regarding how to acknowledge an amendment should appear in all amendments issued.
- Make sure your bid/proposal includes a copy of the solicitation cover page. Make sure the cover page is signed by a person that is authorized to contractually bind your business.
- Make sure your Bid/proposal includes the number of copies requested.
- Check to ensure your Bid/proposal includes everything requested!
- If you have concerns about the solicitation, do not raise those concerns in your response! **After opening, it is too late! If this solicitation includes a pre-bid/proposal conference or a question & answer period, raise your questions as a part of that process!** Please see instructions under the heading "submission of questions" and any provisions regarding pre-bid/proposal conferences.

[09-9010-1]