



**CAMERON COUNTY  
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT  
REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS**

**RFQ NUMBER # 260102**

**RFQ TITLE: CAMERON COUNTY COURTHOUSE (DANCY BUILDING) ARCHITECTURAL  
CONDITION ASSESSMENT**

**DATE DUE: NOVEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup>, 2025**

**DUE NO LATER THAN 3:00 P.M.**

RFQ's will be opened at the Cameron County Courthouse, 1100 East Monroe Street, Brownsville, Texas in the Purchasing Department –Basement Floor – Room # B17 at 3:01 p.m. (per Purchasing Dept. time clock) on deadline due date. All participants are welcome to attend RFQ acknowledgment opening. RFQs received later than the date and time above will not be considered.

Please return RFQ **ORIGINAL (marked "ORIGINAL") AND ONE (1) COPY (marked "COPY") sets and an electronic (PDF format file only)** of your qualification statement for review by evaluation committee in a sealed envelope. Be sure that return envelope shows the RFP Number, Description and is marked "SEALED RFQ".

RETURN RFQ TO:

by U.S. mail or delivered to the office of Purchasing Dept., **County Courthouse (Dancy Bldg.)  
1100 E. Monroe St, Basement Floor, Room #B17, Brownsville, Texas 78520.**

**Questions/clarifications must be submitted by: Wednesday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, 2025, before 3:00 p.m. C.S.T.**  
(e-mail to [purchasing@co.cameron.tx.us](mailto:purchasing@co.cameron.tx.us) or fax to 956-550-7219, attention to Roberto C. Luna, Purchasing Agent)  
**Addendum to answer all questions/clarifications will be released on Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2025.**

For additional information, clarifications and/or questions or to request addendum please contact: Dalia Loera or Roberto Luna at (956) 544-0871, E-mail: [purchasing@co.cameron.tx.us](mailto:purchasing@co.cameron.tx.us)

**YOU MUST SIGN BELOW IN INK; FAILURE TO SIGN WILL DISQUALIFY THE OFFER.  
All prices must be typewritten or written in ink.**

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Historically Underutilized Business (State of Texas) Certification VID Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Fax No. \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

**SIGNATURE:** \_\_\_\_\_ Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

How did you find out about this RFQ? \_\_\_\_\_ (ex: Newspaper, Web, Mail)

**Is Proposer's principal place of Business within Cameron County?  Yes  No**

**If yes what City:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Your signature attests to your offer to provide the goods and/or services in this RFQ according to the published provision of this RFQ. When an award letter is issued, this RFQ becomes the contract. If RFQ required specific Contract is to be utilized in addition to this RFQ, this signed RFQ will become part of that contract. When an additional Contract is required RFQ award does not constitute a contract award and RFQ / Contract is not valid until contract is awarded by Commissioners Court (when applicable) signed by County Judge) and Purchase Order is issued.

**Responders must sign each page to ensure you have read each page's information, terms, conditions and/or required forms.  
Failure to sign or initial each page will disqualify the RFO offer**

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF RECEIPT**  
**CAMERON COUNTY COURTHOUSE (DANCY BUILDING)**  
**ARCHITECTURAL CONDITION ASSESSMENT**  
**RFQ # 260102**

**Please submit this page upon receipt**

For any clarifications, please contact Mr. Roberto C. Luna, Purchasing Agent and/or Dalia Loera, Assistant Purchasing Agent at the Cameron County Purchasing Department office at: (956) 544-0871 or e-mail at: [purchasing@co.cameron.tx.us](mailto:purchasing@co.cameron.tx.us)

Please fax or e-mail this page upon receipt of RFQ package no later than **Friday, November 14, 2025 before 3:00 p.m. CST**. All questions regarding this RFQ should also be submitted no later than the stated date and time on RFQ cover page.

Fax: (956) 550-7219 or E-mail: [purchasing@co.cameron.tx.us](mailto:purchasing@co.cameron.tx.us)

If you are unable to respond on this RFQ solicitation, kindly indicate your reason for **“Not Responding/No-Participation”** below and fax or e-mail back to Cameron County Purchasing Department. This will insure you remain active on our vendor list.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes, I will be able to submit a Statement of Qualifications submittal.**

**No, I will not be able to submit a Bid submittal for the following reason: *(Please check one or more reasons below)***

- Could not meet specifications.**
- Items or materials requested not manufactured by us or not available to our company.**
- Insurance requirements are too restricting.**
- Bond requirements are too restricting.**
- The scope of services is not clearly understood or applicable (too vague, too rigid, etc.)**
- The project is/was not suited to our organization.**
- Quantities are too small.**
- Insufficient time allowed for preparation of bid/proposal.**
- Other (please specify).**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_.

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Representative Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax #: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

# CHECK LIST

Respondents are asked to review the package to be sure that all applicable parts are included. If any portion of the package is missing, notify the Purchasing Department immediately. It is the Respondent's responsibility to be familiar with all the Requirements and Specifications. Be sure you understand the following before you return your RFQ packet.

- Cover Sheet**  
Your company name, address and your signature (**IN INK**) should appear on this page.
- Instructions to Proposers**  
You should be familiar with all of the Instructions to Responders.
- Special Requirements**  
This section provides information you must know in order to make an offer properly.
- Specifications / Scope of Work**  
This section contains the detailed description of the product/service sought by the County.

## Attachments

- Addendum Acknowledgment Form – Attachment No. 1 (Page 16)**  
Be sure to complete this form and return with packet.
- Attachments A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I & J**  
Be sure to complete these forms and return them with packet.
- Exhibit 1 – Purchasing Manual, Section XII Procurement Subject to Federal Funding**
- Minimum Insurance (Professional) Requirements**  
Included when applicable.
- Financial Statement**  
When this information is required, you must use this form.

## Other - Final reminders to double check before submitting RFQ

- Is your RFQ sealed with RFQ #, title, Responder's Name, & return address, on outside?
- Did you complete, sign and submit page 1?
- Did you provide the number of copies as required on the cover page?
- Did you visit our website for any addendums? <https://www.cameroncounty.us/purchasing-bids-rfpq-addms-tabs/>

If not interested in responding please let us know why e-mail to: [Purchasing@co.cameron.tx.us](mailto:Purchasing@co.cameron.tx.us)

**Thank you,**

**Purchasing Department  
Cameron County**

**INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING RFQ'S**  
**CAMERON COUNTY COURTHOUSE (DANCY BUILDING)**  
**ARCHITECTURAL CONDITION ASSESSMENT**  
**RFQ # 260102**

These General Instructions apply to all offers made to Cameron County, Texas (herein after referred to as "County") by all prospective vendors (herein after referred to as "Proposers") on behalf of Solicitations including, but not limited to, Invitations to RFQ and Requests for Quotes.

Carefully read all instructions, requirements and specifications. Fill out all forms properly and completely. Submit your RFQ with all appropriate supplements and/or samples. Prior to returning your sealed RFQ response / submittal, all Addendums - if issued - should be reviewed and downloaded by entering the County Purchasing web at:  
<https://www.cameroncounty.us/purchasing-bids-rfpq-addms-tabs/>

Addendums Column (updated Addendums). These Addendums must be signed and returned with your RFQ in order to avoid disqualification. All Tabulations can also be viewed and downloaded at this site. Annual award information can be accessed at:  
<https://www.cameroncounty.us/purchasing-bids-rfpq-addms-tabs/>

Review this document in its entirety. Be sure your RFQ is complete, and double check your RFQ for accuracy. Cameron County is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

Review this document in its entirety. Be sure your RFQ is complete, and double check your RFQ for accuracy. **GOVERNING FORMS:** In the event of any conflict between the terms and provisions of these requirements and the specifications, the specifications shall govern. In the event of any conflict of interpretation of any part of this overall document, Cameron County's interpretation shall govern. Where substitutions are used, they must be of equivalent value or service, and specified by the Proposer as such, in the columns to the right on the "Minimum Specifications' Forms". The County's specifications may be exceeded and should be noted by the Vendor as such. Any RFQ NOT MEETING the Minimum Requirements specified will be rejected.

**GOVERNING FORMS:** In the event of any conflict between the terms and provisions of these requirements and the specifications, the specifications shall govern. In the event of any conflict of interpretation of any part of this overall document, Cameron County's interpretation shall govern.

**GOVERNING LAW:** This invitation to RFQ is governed by the competitive RFQ requirements of the County Purchasing Act, Texas Local Government Code, §262.021 et seq., as amended. Offerors shall comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations. Offeror is further advised that these requirements shall be fully governed by the laws of the State of Texas and that Cameron County may request and rely on advice, decisions and opinions of the Attorney General of Texas and the County Attorney concerning any portion of these requirements.

Questions requiring only clarification of instructions or specifications will be handled verbally. If any questions result in a change or addition to this RFQ, the Change(s) and addition(s) will be forwarded to all vendors involved as quickly as possible in the form of an addendum. Verbal changes to Bids/RFP's/RFQ's must be backed-up by written addendum or written Q/A clarifications which would be posted on County Purchasing Web site. Without written Addendum or written Q / A clarification, verbal changes to RFQ will not apply.

Sign the Vendor's Affidavit Notice, **complete answers to Attachments A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, & J and return all with your RFQ.**

*The County of Cameron, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 U.S.C. §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.*

**MINORITY/WOMAN OWNED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (M/WBE), DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (DBE), AND HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESS (HUB):**

Cameron County encourages and strives towards an ever-increasing expansion in opportunities for M/WBE's & HUB's in assisting the County for its Purchasing needs. Cameron County's policy is to increasingly involve qualified M/WBE & HUBs to the greatest extent feasible in the County's procurement process.

Objectives of County HUB Program

- Ongoing increase in procurement opportunities for M/WBE's & HUB's
- Assisting M/WBE's & HUB's with registration to Bidders List and Bid opportunities that may be of interest
- Directing M/WBE's & HUB's to various beneficial web links giving them additional opportunities

Certification Process: Federal, state, and local regulations determine the type of certification(s) available. Attached below are links to various Certification agencies which are available to assist you in obtaining your M/WBE's & HUB's Certification.

HUB Certification Sources:

- [State of Texas HUB Certification Process](#)

- [Register with State as a HUB Vendor](#)
- [HUB Certification Agreements](#)
- [HUB Minority & Women Organizations](#)

M/WBE's & HUB's Questions Cameron County contact:  
Purchasing Department  
P: 956-544-0871 | Email: [purchasing@co.cameron.tx.us](mailto:purchasing@co.cameron.tx.us)

The County, its contractors, their suppliers and subcontractors, and vendors of goods, equipment services, and professional services shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, handicap, or sex in the award and/or performance of contracts. All vendors, suppliers, professionals, and contractors doing business or anticipating doing business with Cameron County shall support, encourage, and implement affirmative steps toward our common goal of establishing equal opportunity for all citizens of Cameron County.

REQUIREMENT OF ALL BIDDERS/PROPOSERS: Each firm responding to this solicitation shall be required to submit with their proposal information regarding minority/women business and HUB business participation in this project.

### **CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE:**

**For all persons and business entities doing business with Cameron County:**

**This questionnaire must be submitted with the response to this RFQ and filed in accordance with chapter 176 of the Local Government Code by a persons and business entities doing business with Cameron County. By law this questionnaire must be filed with the records administrator of the Cameron County Clerk's office not later than the 7th business day after the date the person becomes aware of facts that require the statement to be filed. See Section 176.006, Local Government Code.**

A person (or entity or both) commits an offense if the person violates Section 176.006, Local Govt. Code.

A vendor commits an offense if the vendor:

(1) is required to file a conflict of interest questionnaire under Section 176.006; and  
either:

(A) knowingly fails to file the required questionnaire with the appropriate records administrator not later than 5 p.m. on the seventh business day after the date on which the vendor becomes aware of the facts that require the filing of the questionnaire; or

(B) knowingly fails to file the required questionnaire with the appropriate records administrator not later than 5 p.m. on the seventh business day after the date on which the vendor becomes aware of an event that would make a statement in a questionnaire previously filed by the vendor incomplete or inaccurate.

Under Section 176.013, Local Government Code An offense under this section is (1) a Class C misdemeanor if the contract amount is less than \$1 million or if there is no contract amount for the contract; (2) a Class B misdemeanor if the contract amount is at least \$1 million but less than \$5 million; or (3) a Class A misdemeanor if the contract amount is at least \$5 million.

Please review this entire document, if for any reason there is any information to disclose, relative to any questions in this Conflict of Interest form, you must file with County Clerk's Office subject to above instructions.

**The form can be downloaded at the following web site:**

[https://www.cameroncounty.us/wp-content/uploads/Purchasing/docs/Conflict\\_of\\_Interest\\_Questionnaire\\_New\\_2015\\_.pdf](https://www.cameroncounty.us/wp-content/uploads/Purchasing/docs/Conflict_of_Interest_Questionnaire_New_2015_.pdf)

### **DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:**

This questionnaire must be filed with the records administrator (County Clerk's Office) of the local government and no later than the 7<sup>th</sup> business day after the person becomes aware of facts that require this statement to be filed. Cameron County, Texas requires all persons or firms seeking to do business with the County to **provide the following information if the person becomes aware of facts that require this statement to be filed.** Every question must be answered. If the question is not applicable, answer with "N/A."

Please review this entire document, if for any reason there is any information to disclose, relative to any questions in this disclosure of interest form, you must file with County Clerk's Office subject to above instructions.

**The form can be downloaded at the following web site:**

**TEXAS ETHICS COMMISSION FORM 1295**

All RFQs prior to award or award of Contract by Commissioner’s Court will require that the Texas Ethics Commission (TEC) Form 1295 Electronic (on line) Vendor filing procedure be completed by Vendor.

All Vendors being recommended to Commissioners Court for award or renewal of award on Agenda must register and obtain a TEC Certification for the specific award. This Certification Form 1295 must be electronically submitted, printed and notarized. Notarized form must be emailed or delivered to County Purchasing Department making the request for form. This process must be completed prior to Commissioners Court Agenda for approval consideration of RFQ award. There is no charge for this TEC online process.

Texas Ethics Commission (TEC) Form 1295 must be completed (by firm - on line “New Form 1295 Certificate of Interested Parties Electronic Filing Application” Site at: [https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/whatsnew/elf\\_info\\_form1295.htm](https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/whatsnew/elf_info_form1295.htm) )

If any Vendors have questions as to TEC Form 1295 visit the County Purchasing Web site left column tab “Vendor – TEC Form 1295” for more information. TEC Web site links can be found at this location including Question / Answers and Video instructions. tab Link: <https://www.cameroncounty.us/vendors-tec-form-1295/>

**Respondents** SHALL SUBMIT RESPONSES TO THIS RFQ ON THE FORM PROVIDED, SIGN THE VENDOR AFFIDAVIT, AND RETURN ENTIRE RFQ PACKET. In the event of inclement weather and County Offices are officially closed on a RFQs deadline day, RFQ’s will be received unit 2:00 p.m. of the next business day. Qualifications will be opened at the Cameron County Courthouse, 1100 East Monroe Street, Brownsville, Texas in the Purchasing Department – Basement Floor – Room #B17 (as per Purchasing Dept. time clock.

RFQs SUBMITTED AFTER THE SUBMISSION DEADLINE SHALL BE RETURNED UNOPENED AND WILL BE CONSIDERED VOID AND UNACCEPTABLE.

PROPOSERS MAY ATTEND PUBLICLY HELD COMM COURT MEETING FOR AWARD OF THIS SOLICITATION. All responding bidders/ proposers are welcome to attend the publicly held Commissioners Court meeting relative to the outcome / award of this solicitation. Court Meeting agenda date and times may be obtained at the following web site: <http://www.co.cameron.tx.us/judge/agenda.htm>

SUCCESSFUL VENDOR WILL BE NOTIFIED BY MAIL. All responding vendors will receive written notification regarding the outcome of the award.

**PLEASE NOTE CAREFULLY**

THIS IS THE ONLY APPROVED INSTRUCTION FOR USE ON YOUR RFQ. ITEMS BELOW APPLY TO AND BECOME A PART OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF RFQ. ANY EXCEPTIONS THERETO MUST BE IN WRITING.

1. **ORIGINAL (marked “ORIGINAL”) AND ONE (1) COPY (marked “COPY”) sets and an electronic (PDF format file only) MUST BE SUBMITTED** Each RFQ shall be placed in a separate envelope completely and properly identified with the name and number of the RFQ. RFQ’s must be in the Purchasing Department BEFORE the time/hour and date specified.
2. RFQ’s MUST give full firm name and address of the Proposer. Failure to manually sign RFQ will disqualify it. Person signing RFQ should show TITLE or AUTHORITY TO BIND THE FIRM IN A CONTRACT.
3. RFQ’s CANNOT be altered or amended after deadline time. Any alterations made before deadline time must be initiated by Proposer or his authorized agent. No RFQ can be withdrawn after opening time without approval by the Commissioners Court based on a written acceptable reason.
4. The County is exempt from State Sales Tax and Federal Excise Tax. DO NOT INCLUDE TAX IN RFQ. Cameron County claims exemption from all sales and/or use taxes under Texas Tax Code δ151.309, as amended. Texas Limited Sales Tax Exemption Certificates will be furnished upon written request to the Cameron County Purchasing Agent.
7. If RESPONDENT takes no exception to specifications or reference data, RESPONDENT will be required to provide details etc. as specified.
8. Written and verbal inquires pertaining to RFQ’s must give RFQ Number and Company.
9. NO substitutions or cancellations permitted without written approval of Purchasing Agent.
10. The County reserves the right to accept or reject all or any part of any RFQ, waiver minor technicalities. The County of Cameron reserves the right to award by item category or by total RFQ.
11. This is a RFQ inquiry only and implies no obligation on the part of Cameron County.

12. Partial or incomplete RFQ submittals will not be accepted. The County is seeking qualifications for the Respondent to write and administer a complete solution to the subject matter of this RFQ. All RFQ requests must be addressed in the Respondent's submittal.
13. It is expected that the RESPONDENT will meet all state and federal safety standards and laws in effect on the date of the
12. Acceptance of and final payment for the item will be contingent upon satisfactory performance of the product received by Cameron County.
13. Partial RFQ's will not be accepted unless awarded by category or line item. **To be awarded by total RFQ.**
14. It is expected that the Proposer will meet all state and federal safety standards and laws in effect on the date of the RFQ for the item(s) being specified, and the particular use for which they are meant.
15. **This RFQ procurement is subject to federal funding requirements and regulations. All participants must comply with "Exhibit XII PROCUREMENT SUBJECT TO FEDERAL FUNDING" PROCEDURES AS PER LANGUAGE IN CAMERON COUNTY PURCHASING MANUAL.**

**ALTERING RFQ:** Any interlineations alterations, or erasures made before opening time must be initialed by the Respondent, guaranteeing authenticity.

**WITHDRAWAL OF RFQ:** An RFQ may not be withdrawn or cancelled by the Respondent without the written acknowledgement of the County for a period of (60) days following the date designated for the receipt of RFQ, and Respondent so agrees upon submittal of Respondent's response to the RFQ.

**ORAL CHANGES:** No oral statement of any person shall modify or otherwise change, or affect the terms, conditions or specifications stated of this RFQ. All changes to this RFQ will be made in writing by the Cameron County Purchasing Department.

**CONFLICT OF INTEREST:** No public official shall have an interest in this RFQ except in accordance with Vernon's Texas Codes Annotated, Local Government Code Title 5, Subtitle C, Chapter 171.

**ETHICS:** The Respondent shall not offer or accept any gifts or anything of value nor enter into any business agreement with any employee or agent of Cameron County.

**ADDENDA:** Any interpretations, corrections or changes to this RFQ will be made by addenda. Sole issuing authority of addenda shall be vested in Cameron County Purchasing Department. Addenda will be posted to the purchasing Bids web site in the Adm column. Respondents shall acknowledge receipt of all addenda in writing.

**SUCCESSFUL RESPONDENTS, UPON ENTERING INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE COUNTY, SHALL BE REQUIRED TO DEFEND, INDEMNIFY AND SAVE AND HOLD HARMLESS CAMERON COUNTY AND ALL ITS OFFICERS, AGENT, EMPLOYEES FROM ALL SUITS, ACTIONS, OR OTHER CLAIMS OF ANY PERSON, PERSONS, OR PROPERTY ON ACCOUNT OF NEGLIGENT ACT OR FAULT OF THE SUCCESSFUL RESPONDENT.**

**NOTICE:** Any notice provided by this RFQ or required by Law to be given to the successful Respondent by Cameron County shall be conclusively deemed to have been given and received on the next day after such written notice has been deposited in the mail in Brownsville, Texas by Registered or Certified mail sufficient postage affixed thereto, addressed to the successful Respondent at the address so provided: this shall not prevent the giving of actual notice in any other manner.

**VENUE:** Any agreement arising out of this RFQ will be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas. The obligation and undertaking of each of the parties to this RFQ shall be performable in Cameron County, Texas.

**INVOICES AND PAYMENTS:** (a) Seller shall submit separate invoices, in duplicate, on each purchase order after each delivery or service is rendered. Invoices shall indicate the purchase order number, shall be itemized and transportation charges, if any, shall be listed separately. A copy of the bill of lading and the freight weigh bill when applicable, should be attached to the invoice. Mail to: Cameron County, ATTN: Auditor's Office, **1100 E. Monroe St, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor**, Brownsville, Texas 78520. Payment shall not be due until the above instruments are submitted after delivery. Suppliers should keep the Finance Department advised of any changes in your remittance addresses. (b) Buyer's obligation is payable only and solely from funds available for the purpose of the purchase. Lack of funds shall render this contract null and void to the extent funds are not available and any delivered buy unpaid for goods will be returned to Seller by Buyer. (c) Do not include Federal Excise, State or City Sales Tax. County shall furnish tax exemption certificate if required.

Any invoice, which cannot be verified by the contract price and/or is otherwise incorrect, will be returned to the offeror for correction. Under term contracts, when multiple deliveries and/or services are required, the offeror may invoice following each delivery and the County will pay on invoice. Contracts providing for a monthly charge will be billed and paid on a monthly basis only. Prior to any and all payments made for good and/or services provided under this contract, the offeror should provide his Taxpayer Identification Number or social security number as

applicable. This information must be on file with the Cameron County Auditor's office. Failure to provide this information may result in a delay in payment and/or back-up withholding as required by the Internal Revenue Services.

Proposer shall submit two (2) copies of an itemized invoice showing RFQ number and purchase order number to:

**CAMERON COUNTY AUDITOR  
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE  
1100 E. Monroe St, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor,  
BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS 78520**

Please note that any payment due under this RFQ award will be applied towards any debt, including but not limited to delinquent taxes that is owed to Cameron County.

**PAYMENT DISCOUNT:** Indicate the payment discount (s) available depending on the when invoices are paid. For example, 1/30 means a 1% discount if paid within 30 days, 2/15 means a 2% discount if paid within 15 days, etc.

Payment in full will be made within thirty (30) days of delivery, inspection, and receipt of invoice.

**Criminal Background Checks are Mandatory:**

Checks are mandatory for all personnel performing work on Cameron County sites. Contractors, consultants, and subcontractors are required to take all reasonable steps to ensure that their employees do not represent a threat to the County or Facilities. Failure to comply with this requirement may result in immediate termination of any award or contract. The selected contractor shall provide a complete list of names (including supervisors) that may be working on campus. The contractor(s) shall remove from the Cameron County workplace any of its employees who are found to be unacceptable by Cameron County. Such requests shall not be unreasonable, are the sole decision of Cameron County, and are not subject to negotiation. Contractor shall provide proper identification for all contractor employees. While on Cameron County premises, all contractor employees must wear attire that identifies them as contractor's employee with identification visible from both the front and the back. Vehicles shall be clearly identified as company vehicles and be maintained in a neat clean and sanitary condition. At least one person in each vehicle, preferably the driver, must be able to speak, read and write. It shall be the contractor's responsibility to see that employees render quiet and courteous service.

**Trade Secrets, Confidential Information and the Texas Public Information Act.**

If you consider any portion of your Bid/Proposal/Qualification Statement to be privileged or **confidential** by statute or judicial decision, including trade secrets and commercial or financial information, clearly identify those portions.

Bid/Proposal/Qualification Statement will be opened in a manner that avoids disclosure of the contents to competing offers and to keep the proposals secret during negotiations. All proposals are open for public inspection after the contract is awarded, but trade secrets and confidential information in the proposals are not open for inspection.

Cameron County will honor your negotiations of the trade secrets and confidential information and decline to release such information initially, but please note that the final determination of whether a particular portion of your proposal is in fact a trade secret or commercial or financial information that may be withheld from public inspection will be made by the Texas Attorney General or a court of competent jurisdiction. In the event a public information request is received for a portion of your proposal that you have marked as being confidential information, you will be notified of such request, and you will be required to justify your legal position in writing to the Texas Attorney General pursuant to Section §552.305 of the Government Code. In the event that it is determined by opinion or order of the Texas Attorney General or a court of competent jurisdiction that the information is in fact not privileged and confidential under Section §552.110 of the Government Code and Section §252.049 of the Local Government code, then such information will be made available to the requested.

Bid/Proposal/Qualification Statement are to be signed by an officer of the company authorized to bind the submitter to its provisions. Bid/Proposal/Qualification Statement are to contain a statement indicating the period during which the proposal will remain valid. A period of not less than ninety (90) days required. The Bid/Proposal/Qualification Statement submitted by the bidders/proposer/responders shall become an integral part of the contract between the County and the bidder/proposer/responder and the representations, covenants, and conditions therein contained shall be binding upon the person, firm or corporation executing the same.

**THE RESPONDENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR READING AND UNDERSTANDING ALL DOCUMENTS, FORMS, SPECIFICATIONS, AND INSTRUCTIONS WITHIN THIS ENTIRE DOCUMENT.** Follow all RFP package instructions; **you are responsible for obtaining any information needed in order to respond to this solicitation.** Further, the Respondent is responsible for providing any and all relevant information necessary to submit a response. Failure to do so will be at the Respondent's risk and may result in rejection of the response as non-conforming.

General Requirements apply to all advertised solicitations; however, these may be superseded, whole or in part, by OTHER DATA CONTAINED HEREIN. Be sure your proposal package is complete.

**RFQ is subject to:**

GOVERNMENT CODE

TITLE 10. GENERAL GOVERNMENT

SUBTITLE F. STATE AND LOCAL CONTRACTS AND FUND MANAGEMENT

CHAPTER 2254. PROFESSIONAL AND CONSULTING SERVICES

SUBCHAPTER A. PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

Sec. 2254.002. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Governmental entity" means:

(B) a district, authority, county, municipality, or

(2) "Professional services" means services:

(A) within the scope of the practice, as defined by

state law, of:

(ii) architecture;

(vii) professional engineering;

(B) provided in connection with the professional employment or practice of a person who is licensed or registered as:

(ii) an architect;

(vii) a professional engineer;

[GOVERNMENT CODE CHAPTER 2254. PROFESSIONAL AND CONSULTING SERVICES](#)

**REQUEST FOR ARCHITECTURAL QUALIFICATIONS  
CAMERON COUNTY COURTHOUSE (DANCY BUILDING)  
ARCHITECTURAL CONDITION ASSESSMENT  
CAMERON COUNTY, TEXAS  
RFQ # 260102**

**GENERAL**

The County of Cameron, Texas is requesting statements of qualification (RFQ's) for an architectural assessment of certain repairs to the Cameron County Courthouse (a.k.a. the Dancy Building). The assessment will address deterioration of the Courthouse **interior and exterior elements**, to include windows, and terra cotta. Scope will result in plans and specifications for the repairs. The assessment will be funded by the County and Texas Historical Commission (THC). Funding for the actual repairs is pending budget appropriations. All plans, specifications, and repairs must comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Properties.

**BUILDING REPAIRS INCLUDED IN ASSESSMENT**

The architectural assessment will evaluate certain exterior building elements that are exhibiting visible signs of deterioration and will produce plans and specifications for any necessary repairs. The building elements to be addressed include the Courthouse terra cotta, and windows. A brief statement of the current condition of the building elements to be addressed follows.

Terra Cotta

The terra cotta elements on the exterior of the Dancy Building were evaluated and rehabilitated as needed as part of a total exterior restoration that was completed in 2001 and in 2014. Since completion in the restoration, further deterioration has occurred on some of those terra cotta elements. The terra cotta needs to be inspected, re-evaluated, and repaired as needed to address the following issues:

Spalling: observations made from the ground level of the building exterior clearly show cracking and dislodging of some of the terra cotta pieces. It appears that water is infiltrating through these areas which is exacerbating the problem and accelerating the deterioration of the terra cotta. As the building is currently serving as an active County Courthouse and is used daily by County employees and the general public, there is an urgent need to address the dislodging terra cotta as quickly as possible in order to avoid risk of injury.

Structural Support Members: the exterior restoration which was completed previously included the replacement of the original raw metal terra cotta support structures with new stainless steel support members at the areas where the terra cotta was repaired. Any terra cotta pieces that need to be addressed as part of this rehabilitation will need to have their support structures evaluated and replaced with stainless steel as needed. It is possible that areas with the original raw steel members still in place may have accumulated additional rust over the past ~~eleven~~ years which will contribute to spalling and damage to the terra cotta pieces that they support.

Coating/Sealant: the exterior restoration which was completed previously included the application of a sealant specifically designed for terra cotta. This coating/sealant material is now in need of reapplication in order to prevent water infiltration into the terra cotta and its structural support members.

Repointing of Grout: The exterior restoration which was completed previously included the repointing of all the grout at the terra cotta and stone elements. This grout is now in need of rehabilitation and repointing in order to prevent water infiltration into the terra cotta, its structural support members, and stone building elements.

Windows

All the windows of the Dancy Building were evaluated and rehabilitated as needed as part of the total exterior restoration that was previously completed. Since completion of that restoration, further deterioration has occurred on some of those windows, specifically to the bottom sashes, exterior sills, and interior sills. The windows need to be inspected, re-evaluated, and repaired as needed, specifically by repairing and/or replacing damaged sills and sashes, painting, staining, caulking, glazing, and sealing.

### **Interior Elements:**

1. Basement area damages to the walls, due to storm water drain.
2. Wood floors repairs and refinish (entire building)
3. Staircase repairs (interior and exterior)
4. Interior hardware
5. Main entrance door refinishes
6. Commission Chamber interior ceiling assessment
7. Interior wall plaster repairs and refinish (paint)
8. Interior windows

### **Exterior Elements:**

1. Exterior grading and grass replacement and irrigation system
2. Re-route storm water drain
3. Exterior flood lighting
4. Exterior windows
5. Terra Cotta

### **DESCRIPTION OF ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES REQUESTED**

This project requires that a qualified historical restoration architect and consultants with expertise in their specified fields be retained to perform and coordinate all inspections and evaluations and produce sealed contract documents. In addition, the architect will work with the County and THC to determine the best methods of proceeding with implementation of the work and will remain under contract to provide services as needed during construction.

The project includes an investigation of all terra cottas units, their attachment, interior and exterior elements as well as each window of the building. The team shall perform destructive physical testing as necessary. Proposals for repairs shall be developed by the architect and project team in consultation with the [Texas Historical Commission](#) in accordance with its Courthouse Preservation Program. Recommendations for preservation and protection actions shall comply with the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties. The purpose of the project is to develop bid documents for a comprehensive exterior repair program.

Architectural firms wishing to be considered should submit background materials indicating their preservation experience in the assessment and treatment of at least 5 historic buildings. Individual consultants for architectural terra cotta, structural engineering, historic window rehabilitation and historic interior/exterior restoration work must be included in the architectural team. The consultants must document their expertise in the specified area and should have appropriate and capable personnel to conduct field investigations, develop detailed plans, specifications, schedules and cost estimates for the work. The architectural team members should have prior experience working with the Texas Historical Commission.

It is understood that any RFQ award associated with this project is for inspection and assessment of the specified elements only and production of plans and specifications to address those elements as part of the initially authorized scope of work. It is further understood that the implementation of the bidding and negotiation and construction phases of this project are still subject to funding and contract execution parameters.

Nothing in the RFQ award shall be deemed to obligate the County to pursue the construction portion of the project in any order or in any particular time line. All such decisions shall be within the sole discretion of the County. The architect selected for this project shall not begin work on any phase of the construction portion of the RFQ award without written authorization from the County.

### **SCOPE OF WORK**

The scope of work for this project shall include the elements listed below.

1. Preparation of architectural condition assessment
2. Schematic Design/Physical Assessment
3. Design Development
4. Preliminary Construction Documents
5. Preparation of Final Construction Documents
6. Coordination with County and THC throughout the project
7. Full compliance of all plans and specifications will all applicable building code requirements, rules or regulations, including ADA, FEMA, windstorm guidelines, and the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Historic Properties

## CONTENTS TO BE INCLUDED WITH RFQ SUBMISSION

Respondents to this RFQ are asked to provide the information listed below. Incomplete submissions may be deemed unresponsive.

1. Description and history of firm, including work with federal, state, and local entities
2. Understanding of the project
3. List of at least **5 historic property projects** undertaken, with type of restoration or rehabilitation work implemented (*at least 5*)
4. List of client names, references, project dates, e-mail address and telephone numbers for references
5. Name and resume of lead project architect, including historic preservation experience
6. Names and resumes of key project consultants, including expertise in specified areas
7. Schedule of design process and project timeline
8. Description of firm's familiarity with and use of the Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties
9. Description of firm's prior experience working with the Texas Historical Commission, including list of specific projects
10. Firm's financial statements for the last three years

## STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS

The Architectural firm shall provide a description of the history and background of the firm, identification of the services currently being provided to federal, state and local government entities, districts and other political subdivisions in Texas and other information relevant to the provision of the requested services:

- 1) General information about the firm
  - a) Name, address, and telephone number of the firm
  - b) History of the firm
  - c) List names and titles of employees of the firm who are directly responsible for services under the Proposal
  - d) Information pertaining to the firm's compliance with licensing and other requirements
- 2) References: list of five (5) references to those listed in # 1 above.
- 3) Identify personnel to be assigned responsibility for administering the account (provide resume for the individual representative that the firm will assign to the account).

When preparing the RFQ please include the following:

1. Provision of certification documents to comply with Windstorm, FEMA, Building Code requirements, ADA guidelines, Texas Historical Commission and all applicable Rules or Regulations.
2. Development of a Conceptual Plan to fit within construction budget and for approval by Cameron County Commissioners' Court.
3. Development of preliminary construction schematics including Survey, Topographic data, utility location and easements, and support amenities.
4. Development of final design plans for site improvements as listed on the scope of work
5. Development of Specifications and Contract Documents for Construction RFP's.
6. Review of RFP's, award recommendation to Cameron County or value engineering if RFPs are over budget.
7. Project coordination and contract administration and project manager during construction.
8. Assist in the preparation and submittal of all local, state, federal and program specific permit and/or authorizations.

## CERTIFICATION OF ELIGIBILITY

In order for qualification statement(s) to be considered and evaluated a Responder must be eligible to work on Federal Government Aid Projects and State projects, and must be registered, or capable to be registered, to do business in the State of Texas. The Responder (including Sub Consultants) must certify they are currently not suspended, debarred, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participating in covered transactions by any Federal or State department or agency, including TxDOT as the State agency.

The Responder (first tier) and any Sub Consultants (lower tier) must complete the certification attached as **Attachment F** to the RFQ in order for their qualification statement to be considered for evaluation. In addition to the certification the County will further confirm through the Federal Government system of award management (SAM), and the Texas Comptroller, the representations made on certifications are accurate.

## **OPEN, PENDING, ONGOING, OR CLOSED LITIGATION**

The County reserves the right to consider ineligible any Proposal that includes as a Prime or Sub Consultant, in which there is open, pending, ongoing, or closed litigation with said Consultant resulting in an unfavorable judgement against the County.

### **GENERAL GUIDELINES FOR PREPARATION OF THE SOQ's**

Architectural Responder(s)/teams interested in performing the professional architectural/engineering services are required to submit ORIGINAL and one (1) copy of the response to the RFQ in the following format, utilizing numbered tabs for each of the sections.

#### **Letter of Transmittal from Authorized Consultant Representative**

#### **Table of Contents**

**Section 1: Executive Summary**

**Section 2: Statement of Qualifications**

**Section 4: Team Experience and Qualifications (Narrative)**

**Section 5: Similar Past Projects and Performance**

**Section 6: Project Approach (Narrative. Six (6) page limit)**

**Section 7: Quality Management/ Quality Control Plan (Narrative. Two (2) page limit.)**

**Section 8: Required Forms (Ref. Check List on page 3)**

**The Proposal is limited to 8½ x 11inch pages, single sided, using 12 pitch font size.**

**The Proposal must be submitted with a single staple in the upper left-hand corner. No other binding will be accepted.**

The RFQ's response must include the following:

A. **RFQ Number: 260102** (First page/RFQ cover page must be signed to avoid disqualification, also every page must include initials at the bottom of each page as well as to all required forms)

#### **B. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

*Format and Content: Please included in your RFQ's as part of your cover.*

#### ***Executive Summary (2 pages max.)***

Summary of RFQ as submitted

#### ***Introduction (2 pages max.)***

Qualification Statement must include confirmation that the firm will comply with all of the provisions in this RFQ. If exceptions will be made it should be so noted. Qualification Statement must be signed by a company officer empowered to bind the company. A participant's failure to include these items in their submittal may cause their qualification statement to be determined to be non-responsive and the submittal may be rejected. Include the following: *Firms Name, Address, Phone #, Contact Name, Phone #, Email address.*

#### ***Understanding of the Project (1-page max.)***

Applicants must provide a comprehensive narrative statement that illustrates their understanding of the requirements of the schedule.

#### ***Management Plan for the Project (1-page max.)***

Applicants must provide a comprehensive narrative statement that sets out the management plan they intend to follow and illustrates how their plan will serve to accomplish the work and meet Cameron County's project schedule.

#### ***Experience and Qualifications (2 pages max.)***

Provide list specific to the personnel assigned to accomplish the work called for in this RFQ; illustrate the lines of authority; designate the individual responsible and accountable for the completion of each component and deliverable of the RFQ.

Provide a narrative description of the organization of the project team.

Provide a personnel roster that identifies each person who will actually work on the contract and provide the following information about each person listed and Title;

***Evaluation Criteria (2 pages total max. for all criteria)***

Explain your firm's strengths/advantages as they pertain to each of the Evaluation Scoring criteria. Note each criteria separately with explanation for each.

**PROPOSAL ANALYSIS AND EVALUATION**

In determining the total system that is in the best interest of Cameron County, the following elements, among possible others including financial considerations, will be considered.

1. Respondent's record of past experience.
2. Completeness and thoroughness of qualification statement. Include any additional information that your company can provide to enhance this service.
3. Respondent's ability to provide the services required by this project.
4. Respondent's completed proposal based on evaluations that are in the best interest of the County, and that provide the best business decision for the County and help the needs of the County.

**THE COUNTY RESERVES THE RIGHT TO:**

1. Reject any and/or all RFQ's.
2. Accept any RFQ's or portion thereof most advantageous.
3. Revise the RFQ and/or issue addenda to the RFQ, in event it becomes necessary to revise any or part of the RFQ. Addenda will be provided to all those that receive the RFQ.
4. Cancel or re-issue the RFQ, in whole or in part, prior to execution of a contract.
5. Request reference when deemed necessary by Cameron County.
6. Conduct a post-award meeting with successful respondent when deemed necessary.
7. Negotiate with the respondent.
8. County will award RFQ by total **award.**

RFQ's MUST COMPLY with all federal, state, county and local laws.

ANY QUESTIONS concerning this Request for Qualifications should be directed to:

Roberto C. Luna Jr. CPM, CTCD, CTCM  
Cameron County Purchasing Agent  
[purchasing@co.cameron.tx.us](mailto:purchasing@co.cameron.tx.us)  
Fax (956) 544-0871

## **EVALUATION AND SELECTION CRITERIA**

### **WEIGHTED QUANTITATIVE SCORING:**

Each Vendor will be assigned a score of 0 - 4 by each evaluator for each criteria

4 = Very good / Exceeds expectations

3 = Above expectations

2 = Meets expectations

1 = Does not meet expectations

0 = non-responsive

Evaluators score by category will be multiplied by the assigned weight for each criteria by vendor then totaled.

Once RFQ's Qualification Statements are reviewed and scored, a short list may be compiled. Interviews may be conducted with Vendors determined by total score rankings. Additional information may be required at that time. Negotiations will begin with the Vendors selected for the project. Commissioner's Court will make the final selection and possible approval of the contract.

The following criteria will be used to evaluate and grade qualification statements.

#### 1. Experience of Personnel-30 POINTS

To evaluate firm's background and experience with restoration or rehabilitation of historic properties, knowledge of the Secretary of Interior's Standards for the Treatment of Historic Properties, experience working with the Texas Historical Commission, and capacity of the firm to satisfy all project requirements.

#### 2. Team Members-30 POINTS

To identify and evaluate qualifications of team member consultants and their level of expertise for specific project areas, including historic building terra cotta, windows, and roofing.

#### 3. Understanding of the Historical Project and Project Development Schedule-20 POINTS

To evaluate firm's understanding of the project's scope of work, its complexities, commitment of adequate resources to satisfy all project elements, and sequence of steps and time that will be necessary to satisfactorily complete all tasks.

#### 6. References on previous related projects 20 Points

Provide a minimum of five (5) references from projects of similar scope of services from Cameron County related to Historic Preservation in the State of Texas.

For costs of architectural/engineering professional services, negotiations must occur after the initial selection of the engineer or architect as price cannot be used as a selection factor. (See 2 CFR 200.320(d)(5) and Texas Government Code § 2254.004)

Questions regarding the County's RFQ requirements and procedures should be referred in writing only to the County's Purchasing Department, attention Purchasing Agent, Roberto C. Luna via email at: [Roberto.luna@co.cameron.tx.us](mailto:Roberto.luna@co.cameron.tx.us)

### **PROCEDURAL NOTES TO RESPONDENTS**

Cameron County reserves the right to reject any, or all responses. RFQ's be held by Cameron County for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days from the date of the proposal opening for the purpose of reviewing the proposals and evaluating the proposers prior to the award.

Once RFQ's are reviewed, a short list may be compiled. Interviews may be conducted with respondents determined to be most qualified at the County's discretion. Additional information may be required at that time. Contract negotiations will begin with the respondent determined to be most qualified for the project upon approval by the Cameron County Commissioners Court. Final contract approval, upon successful negotiations, will also require approval by the Court.



**ADDENDUM  
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM**

**CAMERON COUNTY COURTHOUSE (DANCY BUILDING) ARCHITECTURAL ASSESSMENT**

Title of Project

**RFQ # 260102**

Receipt of the following Addendum is acknowledged:

***Failure to acknowledge an addendum may result in a Respondent being deemed non-responsive.***

Addendum no. \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Addendum no. \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Addendum no. \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Addendum no. \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Firm

***THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED WITH YOUR RFQ***

**HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESS (HUB) DECLARATION**

The primary objective of the Cameron County HUB Program is to ensure Historically Underutilized Businesses receive a fair and equal opportunity for participation in the County’s procurement process. This fact holds true for Services (Professional & Non-Professional), Commodities, and Construction contracts and any subcontracts thereto. The program strongly encourages Prime Contractors to provide subcontracting opportunities to Certified Hub Contractors/Vendors. Our goal for HUB contractor/vendor participation, as well as HUB subcontractor participation is 30%. To be considered as a “Certified HUB Contractor/Vendor” the contractor/vendor must have been certified by, and hold a current and valid certification with any of the three agencies listed below.

Have you been Certified as a HUB or an MBE/WBE source?:  Yes  No

If yes, by whom?:  Texas Building & Procurement Commission  Other \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate Certification No(s): \_\_\_\_\_ or Are Certificate(s) Attached?:  Yes  No

**LIST OF CERTIFIED HUB SUBCONTRACTORS**

(Attach additional pages if necessary)

What percentage of the Bid, RFP, or RFQ is to be subcontracted with Certified HUB sources?: \_\_\_\_\_ %  
(List HUB Subcontractor information below).

HUB Subcontractor Name: \_\_\_\_\_ HUB Status:  
Certifying Agency (Check all applicable):  Texas Building & Procurement Commission  Other  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No.: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Subcontract Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Description of Work to be Performed:

HUB Subcontractor Name: \_\_\_\_\_ HUB Status:  
Certifying Agency (Check all applicable):  Texas Building & Procurement Commission  Other  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No.: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Subcontract Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Description of Work to be Performed:

HUB Subcontractor Name: \_\_\_\_\_ HUB Status:  
Certifying Agency (Check all applicable):  Texas Building & Procurement Commission  Other  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone No.: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_  
Subcontract Amount: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Description of Work to be Performed:

***THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED WITH YOUR RFQ***

RFQ Title \_\_\_\_\_

Proposers Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**REFERENCES**

Please list three (3) references of current customers who can verify the quality of service your company provides. The County prefers customers of similar size and scope of work to this RFP/RFQ.

***THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED WITH YOUR RFP/RFQ.***

**REFERENCE ONE**

Government/Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contract Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Scope of Work \_\_\_\_\_

**REFERENCE TWO**

Government/Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contract Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Scope of Work \_\_\_\_\_

**REFERENCE THREE**

Government/Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contract Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Scope of Work \_\_\_\_\_

**REFERENCE FOUR**

Government/Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contract Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Scope of Work \_\_\_\_\_

<b>REFERENCE FIVE</b>
-----------------------

Government/Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Person and Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Contract Period: \_\_\_\_\_ Scope of Work \_\_\_\_\_

***THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED WITH YOUR RFQ***

**AFFIDAVIT**

The undersigned certifies that the RFP/RFQ prices contained in this RFP/RFQ have been carefully checked and are submitted as correct and final and if RFP/RFQ is accepted (within 90 days unless otherwise noted by vendor), agrees to furnish any and/or all items upon which prices are offered, at the price(s) and upon the conditions contained in the Specifications.

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF CAMERON

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, A Notary Public in and for the State of Texas, on this day personally appeared

\_\_\_\_\_ who, after having first been duly sworn, upon oath did depose and say;

That the foregoing RFP/RFQ submitted by \_\_\_\_\_ hereinafter called "Proposer" is the duly authorized agent of said company and that the person signing said proposal has been duly authorized to execute the same. Proposer affirms that they are duly authorized to execute this contract, that this company, corporation, firm, partnership or individual has not prepared this RFP/RFQ in collusion with any other Proposer. The Proposer is not a member of any trust, pool, or combination to control the price of products or services RFP/RFQ on, or to influence any person to RFP/RFQ or not to RFP/RFQ thereon. I further affirm that the Proposer has not given, offered to give, nor intends to give, at any time hereafter, any economic opportunity, future employment, gift, loan, gratuity, special discounts, trip, favor, or service to a public servant in connection with the submitted RFP/RFQ. The contents of this RFP/RFQ as to prices, terms or conditions of said RFP/RFQ have not been communicated by the undersigned nor by any employee or agent to any other person engaged in this type of business prior to the official opening of this RFP/RFQ.

Name and Address of Proposer :

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone number \_\_\_\_\_

Fax number \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBE BEFORE ME THIS \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20 \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public in and for the State of Texas

***THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED WITH YOUR RFQ***

**RESIDENCE CERTIFICATION**

Pursuant to Texas Government Code §2252.001 *et seq.*, as amended, Cameron County requests Residence Certification. §2252.001 *et seq.* of the Government Code provides some restrictions on the awarding of governmental contracts; pertinent provisions of §2252.001 are stated below:

- (3) “Nonresident Proposer ” refers to a person who is not a resident.
- (4) “Resident Proposer ” refers to a person whose principal place of business is in this state, including a contractor whose ultimate parent company or majority owner has its principal place of business in this state.

I certify that \_\_\_\_\_ is a Resident  
 (Company Name)  
 Proposer of Texas as defined in Government Code §2252.001.

I certify that \_\_\_\_\_ is a Nonresident  
 (Company Name)  
 Proposer as defined in Government Code §2252.001 and our principal place of business is  
 \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (City and State)

***THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED WITH YOUR RFQ***

NON-COLLUSION STATEMENT

CAMERON COUNTY EXPRESSLY REQUESTS THAT BIDDERS / PROPOSERS NOT DISCUSS THIS ENGAGEMENT OR THIS BIDDER'S / PROPOSER'S PLANS, EXPERIENCE OR CREDENTIALS WITH OTHER BIDDERS / PROPOSERS OR ANY MEMBER OF COMMISSIONERS' COURT, ANY COUNTY OFFICIAL, OR ANY EVALUATION COMMITTEE MEMBER APPOINTED BY COMMISSIONERS COURT. EXCLUDED ARE PRE-BID OR PRE-PROPOSAL CONFERENCES, EVALUATION COMMITTEE SCHEDULED VENDOR PRESENTATIONS OR VENDOR INTERVIEWS, OR EVALUATION COMMITTEE SCHEDULED EQUIPMENT OR SERVICES DEMONSTRATIONS. YOU MAY CONTACT THE PURCHASING AGENT /PURCHASING DEPARTMENT AT ANY TIME.

FROM RFQ OPENING DATE THROUGH COMMISSIONERS COURT MEETING FOR SELECTION, VENDORS WILL NOT APPROACH THE COUNTY JUDGE OR COMMISSIONERS TO DISCUSS MATTERS PERTAINING TO THIS RFQ.

- 01. Has any individual with the firm submitting this Proposal/Bid/Response made any contact with any member of Commissioners Court, any County Official, or an Evaluation Committee member concerning this Invitation to Bid/RFP/RFQ, other than questions to the Assistant County Auditor/Purchasing Officer?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- 02. Has any individual with the firm submitting this Proposal/Bid/Response made any contact with any other Bidder or Proposer concerning this Invitation to Bid/RFP/RFQ?

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of person submitting this Bid

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

***THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED WITH YOUR RFQ***

ORDER NO. 2007O2005

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF CAMERON §

ORDER ADOPTING CONTRACTING RULES FOR PERSONS INDEBTED TO COUNTY

WHEREAS, pursuant to V.T.C.A., Local Government Code, Section 262.0276, a commissioners court is authorized to adopt rules permitting a county to refuse to enter into a contract or other transaction with a person indebted to the county;

WHEREAS, the Commissioners Court of Cameron County finds it is in the best interest of Cameron County to adopt such rules;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDERED by the Commissioners Court of Cameron County, that the following rules be adopted regarding Cameron County and persons interested in doing business with Cameron County:

- 1. Cameron County may refuse to enter into a contract or other transaction with a person with a past due debt to Cameron County, including delinquent ad valorem taxes, even if the person is the lowest bidder or successful proposer; and
2. For purposes of this Order, a debt is past due if it is not received in the County Treasurer's Office by the due date in a written agreement or notice, and ad valorem taxes are past due if not received in the County Tax Assessor/Collector's Office by February 1st following the January 1st on which the ad valorem taxes are due.
3. For purposes of this Order, a person includes an individual, sole proprietorship, corporation, nonprofit corporation, partnership, joint venture, limited liability company, and any other entity that proposes or otherwise seeks to enter into a contract or other transaction with Cameron County requiring approval by the Commissioners Court.

ADOPTED this 13 day of March, 2007.

Taxpayer Identification Number (T.I.N.):

Cameron County Acct #'s : Real Estate Personal Property

01. Is the person or the firm submitting this RFQ current with all local and State taxes?

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of person submitting this RFQ

Date

THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED WITH YOUR RFQ

**Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension Ineligibility**

As is required by the Federal Regulations Implementing Executive Order 12549, Debarment and Suspension, 45 CFR Part 76, Government-wide Debarment and Suspension, in the applicant certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that both it and its principals:

- a. Are not presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, declared ineligible, or voluntarily excluded from participation in this transaction by any federal department or agency;
- b. Have not within a three-year period preceding this bid/proposal and/or application 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) transaction or contract under a public transaction, violation of federal or state antitrust statutes or commission of embezzlement, theft, theory, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, or receiving stolen property;
- c. Are not presently indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by a government entity with commission of any of the offenses enumerated herein; and
- d. Have not within a three-year period preceding this bid/proposal and/or application had one or more public transactions terminated of cause or default.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If the Bidder / Proposer is unable to certify to all of the statements in this Certification, such Bidder / Proposer should attach an explanation to this Bid / Proposal.

***THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED WITH YOUR RFQ***

SWORN STATEMENT ON DEBARMENT

This SWORN statement is submitted with project number \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
(PRINT INDIVIDUALS NAME AND TITLE)

For: \_\_\_\_\_  
(PRINT NAME OF ENTITY SUBMITTING SWORN STATEMENT)

whose business address is:  
\_\_\_\_\_

CITY STATE ZIP VOICE PHONE

and if applicable its Federal Employee Identification Number (FEIN) is: \_\_\_\_\_

(INDICATE WHICH STATEMENTS APPLY)

\_\_\_\_\_ Neither the entity submitting this SWORN statement, nor any of its officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members or agents who are active in the management of the entity, nor any affiliate of the entity has been charged with and convicted of a public entity crime.

\_\_\_\_\_ The entity submitting this SWORN statement, or one or more of its officers, directors, executives, partners, shareholders, employees, members, or agents who are active in the management of the entity, or an affiliate of the entity **HAS BEEN CHARGED WITH AND CONVICTED OF A PUBLIC ENTITY CRIME.**

\_\_\_\_\_ The entity submitting this SWORN statement is not present on any Federal list of debarred contractors, nor been debarred from any other type of contracting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Printed Name) (Title)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

Personally known \_\_\_\_\_ OR Produced identification \_\_\_\_\_  
SHOW TYPE OF IDENTIFICATION

Notary Public State of \_\_\_\_\_, County of \_\_\_\_\_ My commission expires \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(PRINTED/TYPED/ OR STAMPED COMMISSIONED NAME OF NOTARY PUBLIC)

**THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED WITH YOUR RFQ**

Architects & Engineers

The applicant certifies, to the best of his or her knowledge and belief, that the information noted below for it and its principals are accurate:

- a. List all previous law suits with Public entities and the results of such suits over the past 7 years.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- b. List all projects that have exceeded Budget, what % over budget and why – over the past 5 years.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

- c. List all projects that have exceeded the project completion due date, how many days over and why – over the past 5 years.

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If the Respondent is unable to certify to all of the statements in this Certification, such Respondent should attach an explanation to this RFQ.

***THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED WITH YOUR RFQ***

*(attach pages if necessary due to space limitations)*

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please answer each individual question. If it does not pertain to your company, please write "N/A" and sign at the bottom of page

# CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE

# FORM CIQ

For vendor doing business with local governmental entity

This questionnaire reflects changes made to the law by H.B. 23, 84th Leg., Regular Session.

This questionnaire is being filed in accordance with Chapter 176, Local Government Code, by a vendor who has a business relationship as defined by Section 176.001(1-a) with a local governmental entity and the vendor meets requirements under Section 176.006(a).

By law this questionnaire must be filed with the records administrator of the local governmental entity not later than the 7th business day after the date the vendor becomes aware of facts that require the statement to be filed. See Section 176.006(a-1), Local Government Code.

A vendor commits an offense if the vendor knowingly violates Section 176.006, Local Government Code. An offense under this section is a misdemeanor.

### OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received

1 Name of vendor who has a business relationship with local governmental entity.

2  Check this box if you are filing an update to a previously filed questionnaire. (The law requires that you file an updated completed questionnaire with the appropriate filing authority not later than the 7th business day after the date on which you became aware that the originally filed questionnaire was incomplete or inaccurate.)

3 Name of local government officer about whom the information is being disclosed.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Officer

4 Describe each employment or other business relationship with the local government officer, or a family member of the officer, as described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A). Also describe any family relationship with the local government officer. Complete subparts A and B for each employment or business relationship described. Attach additional pages to this Form CIQ as necessary.

A. Is the local government officer or a family member of the officer receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from the vendor?

Yes       No

B. Is the vendor receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from or at the direction of the local government officer or a family member of the officer AND the taxable income is not received from the local governmental entity?

Yes       No

5 Describe each employment or business relationship that the vendor named in Section 1 maintains with a corporation or other business entity with respect to which the local government officer serves as an officer or director, or holds an ownership interest of one percent or more.

6  Check this box if the vendor has given the local government officer or a family member of the officer one or more gifts as described in Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding gifts described in Section 176.003(a-1).

7 \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of vendor doing business with the governmental entity

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED WITH YOUR RFQ**

**Attachment G-2**

# CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE

## For vendor doing business with local governmental entity

A complete copy of Chapter 176 of the Local Government Code may be found at [http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/ Docs/LG/htm/LG.176.htm](http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/LG/htm/LG.176.htm). For easy reference, below are some of the sections cited on this form.

**Local Government Code § 176.001(1-a):** "Business relationship" means a connection between two or more parties based on commercial activity of one of the parties. The term does not include a connection based on:

- (A) a transaction that is subject to rate or fee regulation by a federal, state, or local governmental entity or an agency of a federal, state, or local governmental entity.
- (B) a transaction conducted at a price and subject to terms available to the public; or
- (C) a purchase or lease of goods or services from a person that is chartered by a state or federal agency and that is subject to regular examination by, and reporting to, that agency.

**Local Government Code § 176.003(a)(2)(A) and (B):**

(a) A local government officer shall file a conflicts disclosure statement with respect to a vendor if:

\*\*\*

(2) the vendor:

(A) has an employment or other business relationship with the local government officer or a family member of the officer that results in the officer or family member receiving taxable income, other than investment income, that exceeds \$2,500 during the 12-month period preceding the date that the officer becomes aware that

- (i) a contract between the local governmental entity and vendor has been executed; or
- (ii) the local governmental entity is considering entering into a contract with the vendor;

(B) has given to the local government officer or a family member of the officer one or more gifts that have an aggregate value of more than \$100 in the 12-month period preceding the date the officer becomes aware that:

- (i) a contract between the local governmental entity and vendor has been executed; or
- (ii) the local governmental entity is considering entering into a contract with the vendor.

**Local Government Code § 176.006(a) and (a-1)**

(a) A vendor shall file a completed conflict of interest questionnaire if the vendor has a business relationship with a local governmental entity and:

- (1) has an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer of that local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A);
- (2) has given a local government officer of that local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, one or more gifts with the aggregate value specified by Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding any gift described by Section 176.003(a-1); or
- (3) has a family relationship with a local government officer of that local governmental entity.

(a-1) The completed conflict of interest questionnaire must be filed with the appropriate records administrator not later than the seventh business day after the later of:

(1) the date that the vendor:

- (A) begins discussions or negotiations to enter into a contract with the local governmental entity; or
- (B) submits to the local governmental entity an application, response to a request for proposals or bids, correspondence, or another writing related to a potential contract with the local governmental entity; or

(2) the date the vendor becomes aware:

- (A) of an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer, or a family member of the officer, described by Subsection (a);
- (B) that the vendor has given one or more gifts described by Subsection (a); or
- (C) of a family relationship with a local government officer.

Form provided by Texas Ethics Commission

[www.ethics.state.tx.us](http://www.ethics.state.tx.us)

Revised 1/1/2021

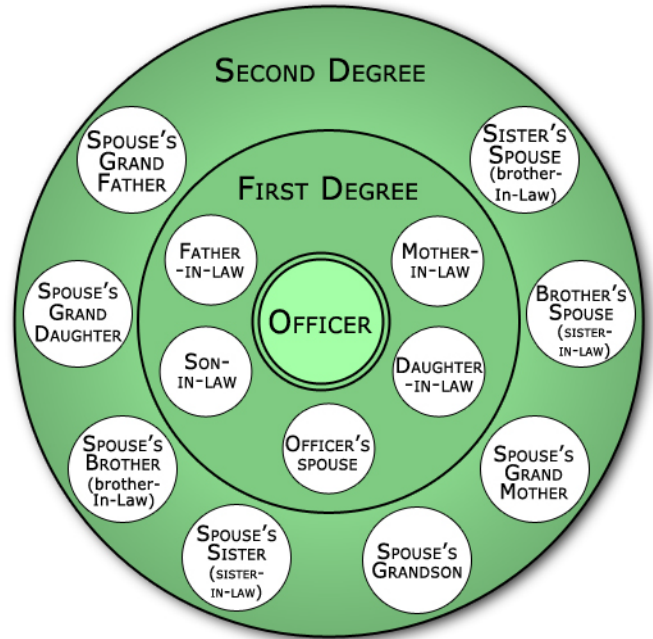
***THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED WITH YOUR RFQ***

# NEPOTISM CHART

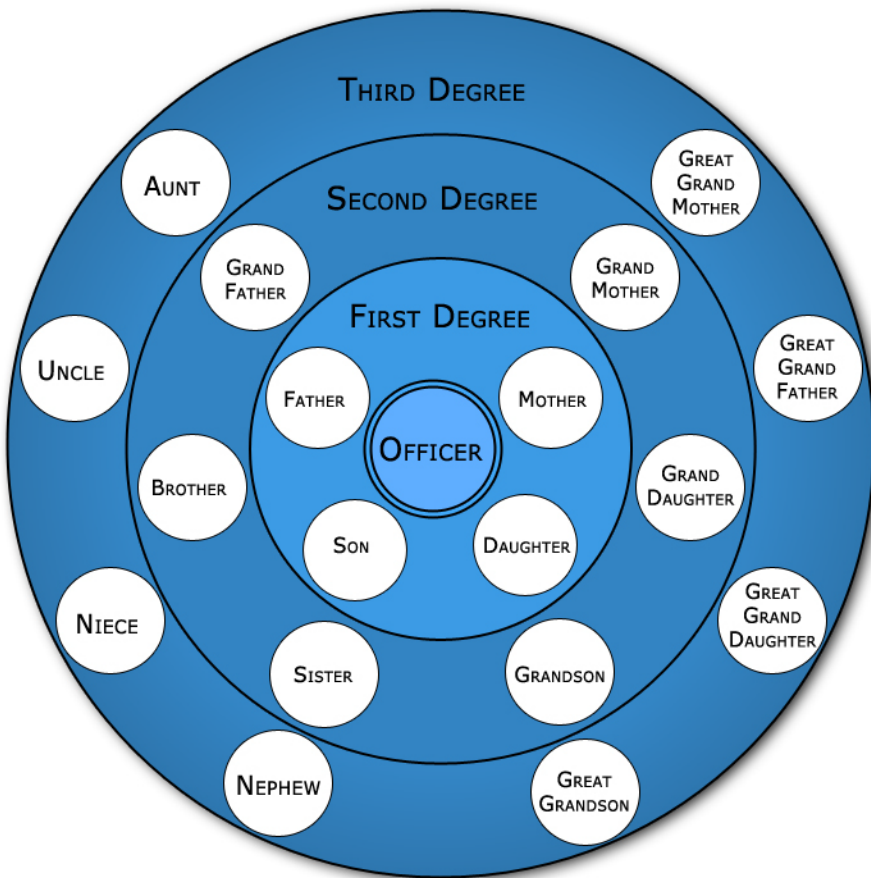
The chart below shows

- **Affinity Kinship** (relationship by marriage)
- **Consanguinity Kinship** (relationship by blood) for purposes of interpreting nepotism as defined in VTCA Government Code, Chapter 573, §§573.021 - .025

## AFFINITY KINSHIP Relationship by Marriage



## CONSANGUINITY KINSHIP Relationship by Blood



**DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS**

**MUST BE FILLED OUT AND SUBMITTED WITH THE BID/RFP/RFQ**  
**IF DISCLOSING: BIDDER / PROPOSER MUST ALSO FILE WITH THE COUNTY CLERK’S OFFICE**  
**THE PURCHASING DEPT. WILL NOT BE FILING ON THE BIDDER’S BEHALF**

Cameron County, Texas requires all persons or firms seeking to do business with the County to provide the following information. Every question must be answered. If the question is not applicable, answer with “N/A.” By law this questionnaire must be filed with the records administrator (County Clerk’s Office) of the local government.

Date \_\_\_\_\_

FIRM NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

FIRM is: 1. Corporation ( )      2. Partnership ( )      3. Sole Owner ( )  
 4. Association ( ) 5. Other ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

**DISCLOSURE QUESTIONS**

If additional space is necessary, please use the reverse side of this page or attach separate sheet.

1. State the names of each “employee, elected official, or member of Commissioners Court” of Cameron County having Substantial Interest in Business Entity Local Govt. Code §171.002 (use box below)
  - a) For purpose of this chapter, a person has a substantial interest in a business entity if :
    - (1) the person owns 10 percent or more of the voting stock or shares of the business entity or owns either 10 percent or more or \$15,000 or more of the fair market value of the business entity; or
    - (2) funds received by the person from the business entity exceeds 10 percent of the person's gross income for the previous year.
  - b) A person has a substantial interest in real property if the interest is an equitable or legal ownership with a fair market value of \$2,500 or more.
  - c) A local public official is considered to have a substantial interest under this section if a person related to the official in the first degree by consanguinity or affinity, as determined under Chapter 573, Government Code, has a substantial interest under this section. *Please write “N/A” in the boxes if non-applicable*

Name	Title	Department

**CERTIFICATE**

I certify that all information provided is true and correct as of the date of this statement, that I have not knowingly withheld disclosure of any information requested; and that supplemental statements will be promptly submitted to the Cameron County as changes occur.

Certifying Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_ (Type or Print)

Signature of Certifying Person: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

***THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED WITH YOUR RFQ***



**HOUSE BILL 89 VERIFICATION (REVISED)**

I, \_\_\_\_\_,  
*[Person Name]*

the undersigned representative of \_\_\_\_\_  
*[Company or Business Name]*

(hereafter referred to as Company) being an adult over the age of eighteen (18) years of age, does hereby depose and verify that the Company named above, under the provisions of Subtitle F, Title 10, Texas Government Code Chapter 2270:

1. Does not currently boycott the country of Israel; and
2. Will not boycott the country of Israel during the term of the contract with Cameron County, Texas.

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Pursuant to Section 2270.001, Texas Government Code:*

1. *“Boycott Israel” means refusing to deal with, terminating business activities with, or otherwise taking any action that is intended to penalize, inflict economic harm on, or limit commercial relations specifically with Israel, or with a person or entity doing business in Israel or in an Israeli-controlled territory, but does not include an action made for ordinary business purposes; and*
2. *“Company” means a for-profit sole proprietorship, organization, association, corporation, partnership, joint venture, limited partnership, limited liability partnership, or any limited liability company, including a wholly owned subsidiary, majority-owned subsidiary, parent company or affiliate of those entities or business associations that exist to make a profit.*

***THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED WITH YOUR RFQ***

**Please attach the 1295 Form**

**See link below to login to  
Texas Ethics Commission website**

**[1295 Filing Info](#)**

***THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED WITH YOUR RFQ***

## TEXAS OPEN RECORDS ACT AND CONFIDENTIALITY

All materials submitted to Cameron County, Purchasing Department pursuant to this Invitation for Bid/Request for Proposals/Statement of Qualifications become subject to the mandates of the Texas Open Records Act, Government Code, Chapter 552, Subchapter A, §§552.009; Subchapter D, §§552.205; and Subchapter F, §§552.261 through 552.274. The purpose of this Act is to ensure and facilitate the public's right of access to and review of government records so they may efficiently and intelligently exercise their inherent political power. Almost all "records," as that term is defined in the Act, may be disclosed to the public upon request. Except where specific state or federal statutes create a confidential privilege, persons who submit information to public bodies have no right to keep this information from public access or reasonable expectation that this information will be kept from public access.

If you believe that any of the information you have submitted to the County pursuant to this Request for Proposals is **confidential** under a specific state or federal statute and therefore not subject to the public access, *you must comply with the following:*

- A. Place said documents/records in a separate envelope marked "**Confidential**" **DO NOT** label your entire response to the Bid/Request for Proposals/Statement of Qualifications as "Confidential" – label only those portions of the response that you feel are made confidential by state or federal law as "Confidential." If only a portion of a document is confidential, please identify specifically the portions of the document you are claiming are confidential. Under the State of Texas Open Records Act, the County is obligated to produce documents for public inspection even if the documents contain a portion which is confidential but can redact the confidential parts.
- B. For each such document for which you are claiming a confidential privilege, identify the federal and/or state law that creates said privilege, e.g., for trade secrets.

Should an Open Records request be presented to the County requesting information you have identified as "Confidential," you will be responsible for defending your position in the Court where the proceeding is filed, if needed.

***If you fail to identify any records submitted as part of your Bid/Request for Proposals/Statement of Qualifications as "Confidential" by placing them in the "Confidential" envelope AND you fail to identify the specific state or federal law creating said privilege, you are irrefutably agreeing that said records are not confidential and are subject to public access.***

## **GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS (RFQ)**

**ADDENDA:** If RFQ specifications, terms or conditions are revised, the Cameron County Purchasing Department will issue an addendum addressing the nature of the changes and notify interested potential respondents. Respondents must acknowledge receipt and consideration of any such changes by signing the addendum and including it in the RFQ package containing the Respondent's submittal.

**ADVERTISING:** Unless otherwise required by law, respondents to County RFQs shall not publish and shall keep confidential their intentions and actions respecting any response to the RFQ.

**AWARD:** Cameron County may hold RFQ responses for a period of sixty (60) days. Cameron County reserves the right to reject any or all responses to RFQs. Cameron County reserves the right to award a contract, if any, based on the Respondent's response when compared to the EVALUATION CRITERIA (AS STATED IN RFQ) and, in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas, reserves the right to waive any formality or irregularity, to make awards to more than one Respondent. Commissioners Court reserves the right to determine the method and procedures for the final award of all RFQs at any time they so choose, regardless of the Point System used by the Evaluation Committee.

**BONDS:** If the contract that may be entered into between an RFQ respondent and the County will likely require a performance guarantee or bond, the Purchasing Department will attach a separate page to the RFQ explaining those requirements.

**CANCELLATION AND TERMINATION:** In any contract resulting from the RFQ, the County shall have the right to cancel all or any part of the undelivered portion of the contract if Respondent breaches any of the terms hereof, including, but not limited to warranties, and/or Respondent becomes insolvent or files for bankruptcy. Such right of cancellation is in addition to, and not in lieu of, any other remedies which the County may have in law or equity. Cancellation of work hereunder shall be affected by the delivery to the Respondent of a "Notice of Cancellation of Undelivered Work" specifying the extent to which performance of work under the contract is or cancelled and the date upon which such cancellation becomes effective.

The performance of work under any resulting contract may be terminated in whole, or in part, by the County in accordance with this provision. The County shall have the right to cancel all or any part of the contract if Respondent breaches any of the terms hereof, including, but not limited to warranties, and/or Respondent becomes insolvent or files for bankruptcy. Such right of termination is in addition to, and not in lieu of, any other remedies which the County may have in law or equity. Termination of work hereunder shall be affected by the delivery to the Respondent of a "Notice of Termination" specifying the extent to which performance of work under the contract is terminated and the date upon which such termination becomes effective.

**CHANGE ORDERS:** No oral statement of any person shall modify or otherwise change, or affect the terms, conditions or specifications stated in the resulting contract. All change orders to the contract will be made in writing by mutual consent of the Respondent and the County.

**CONTRACT RENEWALS:** Contract Renewals must receive Commissioners Court approval. For contract renewal status and information, please contact Elisa Cisneros at 956-982-5405 e-mail: [Elisa.Cisneros2@co.cameron.tx.us](mailto:Elisa.Cisneros2@co.cameron.tx.us) Cameron County Purchasing Dept. or Dylbia Jeffries 956-550-1340 [djefferies@co.cameron.tx.us](mailto:djefferies@co.cameron.tx.us) at the Cameron County Civil Legal Division. Any price escalations are limited to those stated by the original contract terms. All contracts with a one (1) year renewal option requires that the Respondent must notify Cameron County of any anticipated price increases in writing at least three months (90 calendar days) prior to the annual renewal award date unless otherwise specified within the specific provisions of the contract up for renewal. This allows the County sufficient time to find an alternative vendor if possible. Respondent fails to notify the County within time noted it shall be assumed that there will be no price increase for the following year's award period if renewed. This procedure does not apply to any contract which allows for Open Market Price increases or Cost allowance increases.

**DISCRIMINATION:** In order to encourage fair employment practices, the Respondent agrees as follows: 1.) Respondent will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, sex, color, age, religion, handicap, or national origin; 2) in all solicitations or advertisements for employees, the Respondent will state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, color, sex, age, religion, handicap or national origin; 3) the Respondent will furnish such relevant information and reports as requested by the County for the purpose of determining compliance with these regulations; and 4) failure of the Respondent to comply with these laws will be deemed a breach of contract and it may be cancelled, terminated or suspended in whole or in part.

**DISQUALIFICATION OF RESPONDENT:** Upon submitting a response to this RFQ, Respondent certifies that the Respondent has not violated the antitrust laws of this state codified in Texas Business and Commerce Code 15.01, *et seq.*, as amended, or the federal antitrust laws, and has not communicated directly or indirectly its RFQ considerations, plan or response to any competitor or any other person engaged in such line of business. Any and all responses may be rejected if the County believes that collusion exists among the respondents. If multiples are submitted by a respondent and, after all responses to the RFQs are opened, one or more of the responses are withdrawn, the result will be that all of the responses submitted by that respondent will be withdrawn; however, nothing herein prohibits a respondent from submitting multiples for different products or services.

**EVALUATION:** All responses will be evaluated in accordance with law and reviewed to assure they are in the best interest of Cameron County. Evaluations shall be based on criteria bearing on performance in the user environment. Any specific criteria section or sections identified elsewhere in this RFQ may be evaluated by one or more evaluators once the basis and details of this process have been approved by the Purchasing Officer and acknowledged by the Evaluation Committee. Detailed information pertaining to this selective evaluation process is available to respondents and the Commissioners Court upon request. Evaluation sheets and summary of all responses are subject to review by the Cameron County Purchasing Department and Evaluation Committee's recommendation to Cameron County Commissioners Court. Compliance with all RFQ requirements, delivery and needs of the using department are considerations in evaluating responses. The Cameron County Purchasing Department reserves the right to contact any Respondent, at any time, to clarify, verify or request information with regard to that Respondent's response. The Cameron County Purchasing Department further reserves the right to hold negotiation discussions with any responsible Respondent's response determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award in accordance with law.

**PROTEST PROCEDURES:** Procedure - This protest procedure is available to Respondents responding to this RFQ and requesting a debriefing conference.

Debriefing Conference – A debriefing conference must be requested in writing to the Purchasing Department within five (5) business days from the date of the RFQ award by the Cameron County Commissioners Court. Debriefing questions must be submitted (in writing - to the Purchasing Department) no later than two (2) business days before the scheduled date for the Debriefing Conference. These questions will be answered at the debriefing conference. Follow-up questions must be submitted (in writing) no later than one (1) business day after the date of the Debriefing Conference and answered no later than two (2) business days after the date of the Debriefing Conference. Follow-up answers will be sent via e-mail or fax (if e-mail not available). For RFQs, Respondents are given the opportunity to ask questions of the Evaluation Committee relative to their responses and scores received by the Respondent.

Protests are made:

1. To the Purchasing Department after the debriefing conference. Respondent protests shall be received, in writing, by the Purchasing Department within five (5) business days after the debriefing conference.
2. To the Protest Committee, only after the protest to the Purchasing Department was not satisfactorily resolved. Protests to the Protest Committee shall be made within five (5) business days after the Respondent has received notification from the County Purchasing Department of the decision.

Grounds for protest:

1. Errors were made in computing the score.
2. The County failed to follow procedures established in the RFQ, the Purchasing policy on acquisitions or applicable state or federal laws or regulations.
3. Bias, discrimination or conflict of interest on the part of an evaluator. Protests not based on these criteria shall not be considered.

Format and Content - Protesting Respondents shall include, in their written protest to the Cameron County Purchasing Department, all facts and arguments upon which they rely. Respondents shall, at a minimum, provide:

1. Information about the protesting vendor; name of firm, mailing address, phone number and name of individual responsible for submission of the protest.
2. Information about the acquisition and the acquisition method.

3. Specific and complete statement of the County's action(s) protested.
4. Specific reference to the grounds for the protest.
5. Description of the relief or corrective action requested.
6. For protests to the Protest Committee, a copy of the Purchasing Department's written decision on the protest.

Review Process:

1. Upon receipt of a Respondent protest, the Purchasing Department shall postpone further steps in the acquisition process until the Respondent protest has been resolved.
2. The Department's internal protest review procedures consist of the following: a) The Purchasing Department shall perform an objective review of the protest by individuals not involved in the acquisition protested. The review shall be based on the written protest material submitted by the Respondent. b) A written decision will be delivered to the Respondent within five business days after receipt of the protest, unless more time is needed. The protesting Respondent shall be notified if additional time is necessary.

Final Determination - The final determination shall:

1. Find the protest lacking in merit and uphold the agency's action; or
2. Find only technical or harmless errors in the agency's acquisition process conduct, determine the agency to be in substantial compliance, and reject the protest; or
3. Find merit in the protest and provide the agency options which may include a) Correct its errors and reevaluate all proposals, and/or b) Reissue the Respondent solicitation document; or c) Make other findings and determine other courses of action as appropriate.

Protest Committee Review Process: Protests to the Protest Committee may be made only for Protest Committee approved acquisitions and only after review by County Purchasing Department. Protests of the decisions of County Purchasing Department shall be made by letter to the Protest Committee, who may establish procedures to resolve the protest. Protests shall be received by the Protest Committee within five business days after the decision of Purchasing Department in order to be considered. The resulting decision is final with no further administrative appeal available.

**FISCAL FUNDING:** A multi-year lease or lease/purchase arrangement (if requested by the Special Requirements/Instructions), or any contract continuing as a result of an extension option, must include a fiscal funding "out" clause. If, for any reason, funds are not appropriated to continue the lease or contract, said lease or contract shall become null and void on the last day of the current appropriation of funds. After expiration of the lease, leased equipment shall be removed by the Respondent from the using department without penalty of any kind or form to Cameron County. All charges and physical activity related to delivery, installation, removal and redelivery shall be the responsibility of the Respondent.

**GRATUITIES AND PROHIBITION AGAINST PERSONAL INTEREST IN CONTRACTS:** Any elected or appointed official who has any substantial interest, either direct or indirect, in any business entity seeking to contract with the County, shall, before any vote or decision on any matter involving the business entity, file an affidavit stating the nature and extent of interest and shall abstain from any participation in the matter. This is not required if the vote or decision will not have any special effect on the entity other than its effect on the public. However, if a majority of the governing body is also required to file, and do file similar affidavits, then the member is not required to abstain from further participation. Attached and included is a disclosure of all of this Company's business or pecuniary financial relationships with officers or employees of Cameron County or County entities (if any such relationships exist) must be attached and included with RFQ submitted. The County may, by written notice to the Respondent, cancel this contract without liability to Respondent if it is determined by County that gratuities, in the form of entertainment, gifts, or otherwise, were offered or given by the Respondent, or any agent, or representative of the Respondent, to any officer or employee of Cameron County with a view toward securing a contract or securing favorable treatment with respect to the awarding or amending or the making or any determinations with respect to the performance of such a contract. In the event this contract is cancelled by County pursuant to this provision, County shall be entitled, in addition to any other rights and remedies, to recover or withhold the amount of the cost incurred by Respondent in providing such gratuities. Consistent and continued tie RFQ responses could cause rejection of an RFQ response by the County and/or investigation for Anti-Trust violations. Respondent guarantees that he has not retained a person to solicit or secure any contract upon an agreement or

understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, except for retention of bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial selling agencies maintained by the Respondent for the purpose of securing business.

**HISTORICALLY UNDERUTILIZED BUSINESS (HUB) CERTIFICATION:** If Respondent is a Certified Historically Underutilized Business (HUB), please include a copy of your HUB Certificate with your response. This information will assist Cameron County in the percentage tracking of HUB utilization.

**INSURANCE:** The Respondent shall secure and maintain, throughout the duration of the Contract, insurance of such types and in such amounts as may be necessary to protect the Respondent and the interests of the County against all hazards or risks of loss as hereinafter specified. The form and limits of such insurance, together with the insurer, must be acceptable to the County. It shall be the responsibility of the Respondent to maintain adequate insurance coverage at all times. Failure of the Respondent to maintain adequate coverage shall not relieve the Respondent of any contractual responsibility or obligation.

**SCANNED RE-TYPED RESPONSE - FLOPPY DISK:** If in its RFQ response, Respondent either electronically scans, re-types, or in some way reproduces the County's published RFQ package, then, in event of any conflict between the terms and provisions of the County's published RFQ specifications or any portion thereof, and the terms and provisions of the RFQ response made by Respondent, the County's RFQ specifications as published shall control. Furthermore, if an alteration of any kind to the County's published RFQ specifications is only discovered after the contract is executed and is or is not being performed, the contract is subject to immediate cancellation.

**SILENCE OF SPECIFICATIONS:** The apparent silence of specifications as to any detail, or the apparent omission from it of a detailed description concerning any point, shall be regarded as meaning that only the best commercial practices are to be used.

**SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS:** Respondents are responsible for including all pertinent data in the returned RFQ package. Literature, brochures, data sheets, specification information, completed forms requested as part of the RFQ package and any other facts which may affect the evaluation and subsequent contract award should be included. Materials such as legal documents and contractual agreements, which the respondent wishes to include as a condition of the RFQ, must also be in the returned RFQ package. Failure to include all necessary and proper supplemental materials may be cause to reject the entire RFQ.

**USAGE REPORTS:** Cameron County reserves the right to request, and receive at no additional cost up to two (2) times during the contract period, a usage report detailing services furnished to date under a contract resulting from this RFQ. The reports must be furnished no later than five (5) working days after written request and itemize all purchases to date by the Cameron County department using the services with a description of services rendered, the unit and total price.

**WARRANTY:** Respondents may not limit or exclude any implied warranties. **Respondent warrants that services provided to the County shall conform to the highest commercial and/or professional standards in the industry.**

#### APPLICABLE LAW

**ASSIGNMENT DELEGATION:** No right or interest in this contract shall be assigned or delegation of any obligation made by Respondent without the written permission of the County. Any attempted assignment or delegation by Respondent shall be wholly void and totally ineffective for all purposes unless made in conformity with this paragraph. Any contract entered into pursuant to this request is not assignable, nor the duties thereunder, by either party, without the written consent of the other party, the Commissioners Court, and County Auditor.

**CONTRACT OBLIGATION:** Cameron County Commissioners Court must award any resulting contract and the County Judge or other person authorized by the Cameron County Commissioners Court must sign the contract before it becomes binding on Cameron County or the Respondent. Department heads are NOT authorized to sign agreements for Cameron

County. Binding agreements shall remain in effect until the contract requirements have been satisfied.

**ERRORS AND OMISSIONS:** Errors and Omissions in the RFQ of any provision herein described will not be construed as to relieve the Respondent of any responsibility or obligation requisite to the complete and satisfactory implementation, operation, and support of all obligations under any resulting contract.

**FORCE MAJEURE:** If, by reason of Force Majeure, either party hereto shall be rendered unable wholly, or in part, to carry out its obligations under this RFQ and any resulting contract, then such party shall give notice and full particulars of Force Majeure in writing to the other party within a reasonable time after occurrence of the event or cause relied upon, and the obligation of the party giving such notice, so far as it is affected by such Force Majeure, shall be suspended during the continuance of the inability

then claimed, except as hereinafter provided, but for no longer period, and such party shall endeavor to remove or overcome such inability with all reasonable dispatch. The term "Force Majeure" as employed herein, shall mean acts of God, strikes, lockouts, or other industrial disturbances, act of public enemy, orders of any kind of government of the United States or the State of Texas or any civil or military authority, insurrections, riots, epidemics, landslides, lightening, earthquakes, fires, hurricanes, storms, floods, washouts, droughts, arrests, restraint of government and people, civil disturbances, explosions, breakage or accidents to machinery, pipelines or canals, or other causes not reasonably within the control of the party claiming such inability. It is understood and agreed that the settlement of strikes and lockouts shall be entirely with the discretion of the party having the difficulty, and that the above requirement that any Force Majeure shall be remedied with all reasonable dispatch shall not require the settlement of strikes and lockouts by acceding to the demands of the opposing party or parties when such settlement is unfavorable in the judgment of the party having the difficulty.

**HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT:** The successful Respondent, shall indemnify and hold Cameron County harmless from all claims for personal injury, death and/or property damage resulting directly or indirectly from Respondent's performance. Respondent shall procure and maintain, with respect to the subject matter of this RFQ, appropriate insurance coverage including, as a minimum, public liability and property damage with adequate limits to cover Respondent's liability as may arise directly or indirectly from work performed under terms of this RFQ. Certification of such coverage must be provided to the County upon request.

**INTERPRETATION PAROLE EVIDENCE:** Unless a separate contract or addendum hereof is prepared and entered into following the award of this RFQ to a successful respondent, this writing is intended by the parties as a final expression of the terms of this RFQ and the general terms of any resulting contract with the selected Respondent. No course of prior dealings between the parties and no usage of the trade shall be relevant to supplement or explain any term. Acceptance or acquiescence in a course of performance rendered under this RFQ and any resulting contract shall not be relevant to determine meaning even though the accepting or acquiescing party has knowledge of the performance and opportunity for objection.

**LATE RESPONSES:** RFQ responses must be received by the County before the hour and date specified. Responses received after the time and date specified will be disqualified and may be returned to sender. The County is not responsible for lateness or non-delivery of mail, delivered to wrong office, carrier, etc.

**REMEDIES:** The successful Respondent and County agree that both parties have all rights, duties, defenses and remedies available under law.

**RIGHT TO ASSURANCE:** During the RFQ process and any resulting contract, whenever a respondent or the County in good faith has reason to question the other's intent to perform, demand may be made that the other party give written assurance of intent. In the event that a demand is made, and no assurance is given within five (5) days, such failure may be treated as an anticipatory repudiation of the RFQ and any resulting contract.

**SEVERABILITY:** If any section, subsection, paragraph, sentence, clause, phrase or word of these requirements or the specifications shall be held invalid, such holding shall not affect the remaining portions of these requirements and the specifications and it is hereby declared that such remaining portions would have been included in these requirements and the specifications as though the invalid portion had been omitted.

**VENUE:** Both parties agree that venue for any litigation arising from this contract shall lie in Cameron County, Texas. These General Terms and Conditions shall be incorporated in the response to the RFQ and any resulting contract. The Respondent shall specifically state acceptance of these terms and conditions as a basis for providing the County with a response. The Respondent shall state any exceptions desired to these terms and conditions and may suggest alternate wording that addresses the intent of the term or condition. The County may accept or reject any suggestions in accordance with law.

# **EXHIBIT 1**

## **CAMERON COUNTY PURCHASING MANUAL SECTION XII PROCUREMENTS SUBJECT TO FEDERAL FUNDING**

## XII PROCUREMENTS SUBJECT TO FEDERAL FUNDING

**12.01 Additional Standards.** In addition to the procedures specified elsewhere in this Purchasing Manual, which are incorporated herein by reference, the County shall abide by the following purchasing procedures applicable to procurements that are subject to federal funding as referenced in 2 CFR 200: Uniform Administrative Requirements, Costs Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards (Uniform Guidance), which is hereby incorporated by reference. These procedures are in addition to all other relevant procedures in this Purchasing Manual, except that in the event of a conflict these procedures will control if a purchase is made using federal funds.

**12.2 Background.** The United States Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Issued the Uniform Guidance, which reforms rules applicable to entities receiving federal grant funding by streamlining and superseding eight OMB circulars (A-21, A-87, A-122, A-110, A-102, A-133, A-50 and A-89). The new procurement standards are found in Subpart D: Post Federal Award Requirements: 2 CFR §200.317 through §200.327

**12.3 Compliance Requirements -Procurement.** The following is an overview of the procurement standards and procedures applicable when procuring property and services under a Federal award in accordance with 1 CFR §200.317 through §200.327, which are hereby incorporated by reference.

*12.03.1* The County, as a non-Federal entity other than a State, will follow §§ 200.318 General procurement standards through 200.327 Contract provisions. [See §200.317].

*12.3.2 Procurement Procedures:* The County will use its own documented procurement procedures which reflect applicable State and local laws and regulations, provided that the procurement conform to applicable Federal statutes and the procurement requirements identified in 2 CFR part 200. [See §200.318(a)] When preparing a federally funded contract, the County Purchasing Dept, Planning Dept., and County Attorney will review the required federal clauses in Appendix I and make sure that all clauses required for the contract is included.

*12.3.3 Conflicts of Interest/Standards of Conduct:* The County will maintain written standards of conduct covering conflicts of interest and governing the actions of its employees engaged in the selection, awarded and administration of contracts. In addition to the following the County incorporates standards referenced above and Standards of Conduct in applicable County Personnel Manuals. [See §200.318(c)].

a No employee, officer, or agent may participate in the selection, award, or administration of contracts supported by Federal award if he or she has a real or apparent conflict of interest. Such a conflict of interest would arise when the employee, officer, or agent, any member of his or her immediate family, his or her partner, or an organization which employs or is about to employ any of the parties indicated herein, has a financial or other interest in or a tangible personal benefit from a firm considered for a contract. Addressed in County's Bids, RFP's, RFQ's (Attachment B-No\* Collusion Affidavit), (Attachment G-Conflict of Interest Questionnaire) Purchasing Manual (Ethics Policy) [See §200.318(c)(J)].

b Officers, employees, and agents of the County may neither solicit nor accept gratuities, favors, or anything of monetary value from contractors or parties to subcontracts. However, the County may set standards for situations in which the financial interest is not substantial or the gift is an unsolicited item of nominal value. If this is done these standards will be promulgated like other County policies and procedures. Addressed in County's Bids, RFP's, RFQ's (Attachment B -Non-Collusion Affidavit), (Attachment G-Conflict of Interest Questionnaire, Attachment H-Disclosure of Interest Questionnaire) Purchasing Manual (Ethics Policy) {See §200.318(c)(I)}.

c If the County has an affiliate or subsidiary organization that is not a government entity, the County will also maintain written standards of conduct concerning organizational conflicts of interest arising from its relationship with the affiliate or subsidiary.

d The County will disclose any potential conflicts of interest in writing to the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity in accordance with applicable Federal awarding agency policy. [See 2 CFR §200.112]. Additionally, the County will disclose in a timely manner, in writing to the Federal awarding agency or pass-through entity all violations of Federal criminal law involving fraud, bribery, or gratuity violations potentially affecting the Federal award. Further, if applicable, the County will make post-award reports as provided by Appendix XII to Part 200.

e. Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action consistent with County disciplinary policy, including but not limited to dismissal. Further, violations may be referred to the appropriate law enforcement agency for investigation and possible prosecution.

12.3.2 **Oversight:** Once the Contract is awarded, oversight must be maintained to ensure that contractors perform in accordance with the terms, conditions, and specifications of their contracts or purchase orders. County Contract monitor will be utilized to track and perform quantity and quality control responsibilities in monitoring role towards compliance verification. [See §200.318(b)].

12.3.3 All proposed procurement actions shall be reviewed to avoid the purchase of unnecessary or duplicative items as stated in Independent Procedure IP "Prevention of Unnecessary and Duplicative Purchases".

Where applicable, consideration will be given to consolidating or breaking out procurements to obtain a more economical purchase. Review of all potentially related consolidation in sourcing of items towards economy of scale.

Where appropriate, an analysis will be made of lease versus purchase alternatives, and any other appropriate analysis to determine the most economical approach. County will consider leasing of items whenever determined to be more cost effective versus purchase of items which are not necessarily required beyond the immediate or project related intended use. [See §200.318M]

12.3.6 The County may enter into state and local intergovernmental agreement, or inter-entity agreements where appropriate for procurement or use of common shared goods and services. County will explore interlocal agreement option with other entities towards sharing of goods and services in an effort to reduce overall cost. The County also approved Resolution 20/9R2007 on February 5, 2019. [See §200.318(e)]

12.3.7 Federal excess and surplus property may be used in lieu of purchasing new equipment and property whenever such use is feasible and reduces project costs. State and Federal Surplus sites will be reviewed for potential adaptations to meet project needs. [See §200.318(f)]

12.3.8 Deliberately omitted.

12.3.9 Contracts should be awarded only to responsible contractors possessing the ability to perform successfully under the terms and conditions of a proposed procurement. Consideration will be given to such matters as contractor integrity, compliance with public policy, record of past performance, and financial and technical resources, as well as whether the contractor is suspended or debarred from receiving federal funds. (See Bids, RFP's, RFQ's Attachment F- Certificate Regarding Debarment, Suspension Ineligibility, Attachment F-2-Sworn Statement of Debarment, Attachment F-3-Architects, Engineers, Construction Performance, Attachment I-House Bill 89 Verification, Texas Ethics Commission Form 1295) [See §200.318(h)].

12.3.10 The County will maintain records sufficient to detail the history of procurement. The County's Records Retention Policy as adopted by Commissioners Court and presented by the County Clerks Dept. (Official Records Manager for the County) - Purchasing Bids, RFP's, RFQ's, and contracts is five (5) years (in accordance with §200.318(i)).

12.3.11 The County may not enter a contract with time and materials based pricing unless there is a not-to-exceed clause and the Purchaser determines that other fee structures are not suitable.

12.3.12 The County alone shall be responsible for all contractual and administrative issues arising out of procurements in accordance with good administrative practice and sound business judgment. County Civil legal Division will coordinate these matters as they arise. County protest procedures apply to Bid, RFP's, RFQ's and written quotations. Once a contract has been executed, any disputes are dealt with at the time they arise. County Civil legal Department addresses contract disputes on behalf of the County.

12.3.13 Discounts, transportation costs, or lifecycle costs will only be considered when they are specified in the bidding documents. These will only be considered when specified in the bidding documents. These are not considered if not specified in the Bid/RFP documents.

**12.04 Competition.** All procurement transactions will be conducted in a manner providing full and open competition consistent with the standards of 2 CFR §200.319. Note 12.06 below identifies sources towards maximizing competitive solicitations. Purchasers will review all Bid specifications and requirements towards eliminating unduly restrictive requirements.

12.4.1.1 In order to ensure objective contractor performance and eliminate unfair competitive advantage, contractors that develop or draft specifications, requirements, statements of work, or invitations for bids or requests for proposals will be excluded from competing for such procurements.

12.4.1.2 The County will avoid the following actions in procurement of goods and services:

- (1) Placing unreasonable requirements on firms in order for them to qualify to do business;
- (2) Requiring unnecessary experience and excessive bonding;
- (3) Noncompetitive pricing practices between firms or between affiliated companies;
- (4) Noncompetitive contracts to consultants that are on retainer contracts;

- (5) Organizational conflicts of interest;
- (6) Except where required and justified as a sole source purchase. Specifying only a "brand name" product instead of allowing "an equal" product to be offered and describing the performance or other relevant requirements of the procurement; and
- (7) Any arbitrary action in the procurement process. §200.319(a)

**12.04.02 Geographical Limitation:** Unless specifically excepted as provided in 2 CFR §200.319(b), the County will not impose state or local geographical preferences in the evaluation of bids or proposals for federally funded contracts.

12.04.03.01 Contract solicitations: Purchaser shall incorporate a clear and accurate description of the technical requirements for the material, product, or service to be procured. Detailed specifications and materials product description must be clearly identified.

12.04.03.02 Contract solicitations shall specify all requirements which the potential vendors must fulfill to submit bids or proposals, and identify all other factors to be used in evaluating bids or proposals. Scoring criteria shall be utilized in evaluation and analysis of Proposals.

12.04.04 All prequalified lists of persons, firms, or products which are used in acquiring goods and services shall be kept current and include enough qualified sources to ensure minimum open and free competition, and potential bidders will not be precluded from qualifying during the solicitation period [See §200.319(d)]. County Purchasing Department are 1// and updated Bidders /list See 12.06 below.

**12.05 Methods of Procurement with Federal Funds.** The County will use one of the following five procurement methods as discussed in 2 CFR §200.320 when making purchases with federal funds. Should State or local procurement requirements applicable to a purchase being made with federal funds be more restrictive than Federal requirements, the more restrictive requirements or methods will be followed. The type of procurement process to use will depend on the cost and type of services or item(s) being purchased.

Micro-purchase = County under \$3,000. -No quotations | competitive process required – Vendors for purchases under \$3,000 shall be rotated – requisition and Purchase Order required. (Travel regulations and Gas purchases included..

Small purchase procedures - informal Bids = County \$3,000 to \$14,999 and Commissioners Court approval \$15,000 to \$24,999 - Three written quotations required, requisition, Purchase Order.

Sealed Formal Bids = \$25,000 and more unless exception applies

Competitive proposals = County proposal process for Professional Services, IT & High Tech and Commissioners Court approved instances of projects not suitable for detailed specifications.

Request for Qualifications = Qualifications based no price proposals (Engineering & Architecture, Land Surveying, Professional services. Cameron County follows the Professional Services Procurement Act Govt. Code ch 2254 Subch A

Non-competitive proposals Sole Source -under \$15,000 Sole Source letter Department Head, Vendor, Purchasing Agent. Commissioners Court approval required \$15,000 to include Sole Source feller Department Head, Vendor, Purchasing Agent.

Emergency Purchases over \$15,000 requires Commissioners Court approval/ratification whenever time is crucial in preventing an escalating health and safety concern or preventing a crucial incident as per Texas State Statute 262.024

Special & Discretionary Purchases as per Texas State Statute 262.024. For procurement of Federally funded land surveying Cameron County will contact the federal awarding agency or pass-through entity (TCEQ), for RESTORE projects to request authorization for noncompetitive procurement under 2 CFR 200.320(c)(4).

Personal service -as per

Under the Micro-Purchase dollar threshold rotation of available vendors will be utilized

Over the Micro-Purchase dollar threshold will comply with State of Texas, Local Government Code Ch 262.024 (a) (4).

**12.6 Contracting with Small and Minority Businesses, Women's Business Enterprises, and Labor Surplus Area Firms.** The County takes all necessary affirmative steps (and will include in all related contracts language towards Contractor Certification of Small, Minority, or Women Business ownership- when possible) as described in §200.321 to assure minority businesses, Women's Business Enterprises, and labor surplus are used when possible. The County utilizes the following sites towards outreach for County Bidding opportunities for Small, Minority, Women Businesses: U.S. Small Business Administration, ESBD State of Texas Bid Posting Site, Associated General Contractors, Dodge Reports, Reed Construction Data, Texas Smart Buy Electronic State Business Daily Search (ESBD), Bk/Net, [MWBE@texas.agriculture.gov](mailto:MWBE@texas.agriculture.gov), Coop Vendors list, County Current Bidders list. (County will require Prime Contractors to follow all of the affirmative steps when Prime Contractor will be letting subcontracts. The requirements for Prime Contractors as laid out by the County will be targeted towards creating maximum participation for small, minority, and women's business enterprises as follows: will be on the solicitation list and will be notified when they are potential sources, will divide total requirements when economically feasible into smaller tasks or quantities, establish delivery schedules as requirements permit, contact the agencies as listed above as an outreach network towards attracting these types of businesses. This information will also be included in all contracts.) County utilization of Section 3/HUD (see Purchasing Website) addresses Davis-Bacon, Equal Employment, Vicinity Hiring Preference, Economic Opportunities, HUB, SBA, Local Vendor, and MWBE requirements.

**12.5 Procurement of Recovered Materials.** The County and (where applicable) its contractors will comply with section 6002 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act, as amended by the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act. {See §200.322}.

County will (as per EPA 40CFR part 247) procure only items containing highest percentage of recovered materials practicable and allow for satisfactory competition based on the \$10,000 year threshold. County will establish affirmative procurement program for recovered materials.

**12.6 Contract Cost and Price.** The County will abide by the provisions of §200.324 (as required under County Resolution #20/90R2009), including, but not limited to performing a cost or price analysis and negotiating profit as discussed therein

*12.8.1 Negotiation Based on Cost Estimates; Negotiation of Profit.* In negotiating a contract price based on a cost analysis, the County will require that all estimated costs used to develop the negotiated price must be allowable costs under 2 CFR Part 200. Subpart E. A comparison between estimated costs and current customary market pricing will be analyzed in an effort to establish allowable cost and ultimately establish negotiated pricing. The County will also require that the profit element be negotiated separately, whether it is included as a separate price element or whether it is rolled into a lump sum price (or similar fixed price). Profit margin will also be compared relative to comparable current market rates to assess potential variances. This cost analysis will be achieved through verification of previous similar purchases, comparison with other public entities, recommendations from professional consultants or project Engineer, or data research (ie: Smart Procure) similar to the specific type of procurement. In addition and in order to establish a fair and reasonable profit, the County will also consider the contractor's risk and investment, complexity of work to be performed at a level of subcontracting, quality and track record of previous performance, and industry profit rates in the approximate SMSA /geographic area/or similar work. At the outset independent estimates will be obtained by the County before receiving Bids or Proposal this also applies to all sole source purchases. All estimates must be allowable subject to analysis as per conditions noted above.

*12.8.2 Cost Plus Percentage of Cost Prohibited.* The County will not enter into a cost plus percentage of cost contract, or a cost plus percentage of construction cost contract. (as per 200.324 d) Engineer and County will examine all Change order pricing as submitted. Profit margin will not be determined based on a percentage of cost and percentage of construction cost methods of contracting must not be used. Costs based on estimated costs of contracts under Federal award are allowable only to the extent that costs incurred or cost estimates included in negotiated prices would be allowable for the non-Federal entity under Subpart E Cost Principles of this part. County will reimburse Contractor's Direct and indirect Costs plus a Fixed fee for the project.

**12.9 Contract Provisions.** Pursuant to §200.327 the County will include in all federally-funded contracts, the applicable provisions described in Appendix I 1 to 2 CFR Part 200-Contract Provisions for non-Federal Entity Contracts under Federal Awards. When preparing a federally funded contract the County Purchasing Dept., Planning Dept., and County Attorney will review the required federal clauses in Appendix ff and make sure that all clauses required/or the contract is included.

**12.10 Personnel Cost Calculation** Pursuant to 2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, Subpart E the County adopted Resolution # 2019R02008 on February 5, 2019 -Policy and Procedure to Ensure Accurate Completion of Personnel Cost Calculation.

**12.11 Cost Price Analysis** Pursuant to 2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200, the County adopted Resolution # 2019R02009 on February 5, 2019 -Policy and Procedure to Ensure Cost Price Analysis requirement.

**12.12 Debarment Check** Pursuant to 2 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 200.318, the County adopted Resolution # 2019R02010 on February 5, 2019 -Policy and Procedure to Ensure Debarment Check is adequately performed.

**12.13 Single Proposal requirements** Proposal is reviewed for compliance. Determination is made by County as to benefit of resolution or RFP towards a more competitive solicitation. Pricing is reviewed relative to current market costs for comparison. If all is determined to be cost effective and advantageous to County, recommendation is made by Evaluation Committee to Commissioners Court for award. Commissioners Court must make a determination that price is fair and reasonable prior to awarding RFP. Prior to Court award of sole Bid, RFP, or RFQ County Purchasing Dept. will contact the federal awarding agency or pass-through entity (TCEQ for RESTORE projects) to request authorization for noncompetitive procurement under 2 CFR 200.320(c)(2) to proceed towards Commissioners Court approval. Informal Bids not exceeding \$14,999 will require at least 3 informal Bids for comparative competitive purposes. If the County is unable to obtain at least 3 competitive Bids or Proposals, I unable to obtain more than one (1) Bid or Proposal the County Purchasing Dept. will review pricing relative to current market costs for comparison purposes (utilizing comparable bid results, engineer recent historic data, Smart Procure comparable data) will contact the federal awarding agency or pass-through entity (TCEQ, for RESTORE projects) to request authorization for noncompetitive procurement under 2 CFR 200.320(c)(2) prior to proceeding with Agenda towards Commissioners Court approval.

**12.13 Domestic Preferences for Procurement** County will (in awards of iron, aluminum, steel, cement and other goods / manufactured products produced in the United States) utilize and purchase from these suppliers and subawards with a preference towards purchases from these Companies. (see 200.322)

**12.14 Bid Bonds** Will always be required for construction contracts:

County Purchasing Act: Required

Payment Bond - \$25,000 + (2253.21)

Performance Bond - \$100,000 + (2253.21)

**Bid Bond-a** If the contract is for the construction of public works or is under a contract exceeding \$100,000, the bid specifications or request for proposals may require the bidder to furnish a good and sufficient bid bond in **the amount of five percent of the total contract (262.032)**

Federal funded projects: exceeding \$150,000 (on exception sought from the federal awarding agency. For all Federal funded projects \$150,000 and over Bid Bonds will be mandatory equivalent to five percent of the bid price. A performance bond and payment bond will also be required - both at 100 percent of contract price.

**12.15 Telecommunications and Surveillance Services or Equipment** Proposal is reviewed for compliance with 2 CFR Appendix II (K) 200-216 prior to proceeding with Agenda towards Commissioners Court approval. Determination is made by County as to ensure that neither loan or grant funds will be utilized for the purchase or obtaining Telecommunications and Surveillance Services or Equipment from one of the following Vendors or any of their subsidiaries or affiliates :

Huawei Technologies Co.

ZTE Corp.

Hytera Communications Corp.

Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Co.

Dahua Technology Co.

as well as related services (Telecomm. or Video Surveillance provided by entities or using these Companies equipment. Additional Companies determined as by the Secretary of Defense, FBI, National Intelligence are to also be added to the restricted list of firms.

In addition, the vendors listed above will be identified to verify that these firms will not be utilized for contract extension/ renewal, essential components, critical technology, or components of a system.

Proposals will be reviewed for compliance with 2 CFR 200-471 prior to proceeding with Agenda towards Commissioners Court approval prior to obligating or expending funds. County will review all proposals related to Telecommunication and/or video surveillance equipment or service related costs in order to verify that costs associated with procuring, obtaining, extending, entering into, or renewing a contract for equipment, services, or systems are not utilized.

**END OF RFQ # 260102**