

**SIERRA COUNTY
STATE OF NEW MEXICO**

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

**RFP# 2021-09-013
ANNUAL LEGAL SERVICES**



**SIERRA COUNTY PROCUREMENT
855 VAN PATTEN
TRUTH OR CONSEQUENCES, NM 87901**

Issue Date: August 27, 2021

Question Deadline: September 16, 2021 @ 2:00 PM MDT

Due Date: September 30, 2021 @ 2:00 PM MDT

**OTHER INFORMATION:
COMMODITY CODE REF: NIGP: 96149 NIGP:91784 NIGP: 918**

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I. INTRODUCTION

A. PURPOSE OF THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Failure to comply with the instructions, terms and conditions, and specifications of this Request for Proposal (RFP) may result in your proposal being classified as non-responsive. This Request for Proposal will result in a single source award. New Mexico criminal law prohibits bribes, gratuities and kickbacks.
(13-1-191 NMSA 1978)

B. SUMMARY SCOPE OF WORK

The scope of work is for Legal Services and shall consist of the following:

- Provide day to day legal services to the County Commission and Administration
- Experience with New Mexico Local Government
- Employment Laws
- Legal staff will provide legal opinion and guidance- but will ultimately leave final decisions to the County Commission and Administration- and continue to provide legal support based on these decisions
- Attend All County Commission Meetings and Administrative Hearings
- Advise Commission on all matters including Policies and Procedures, Open Meetings, Inspection of Public Records, Elections, Procurement, Administrative Proceedings and Hearings, Meetings Rules, Personnel Matters, Tort, and Criminal Litigations matters that may arise
- Draft and review Notices of Contemplated Actions
- Draft and Review Resolutions, Ordinances and other county departments
- Draft and review Contracts, Leases, Memorandums of Understandings, Joint Powers Agreements and as requested by departments as needed
- Subdivision, property and road experience
- Provide written legal opinions and advise county on methods to avoid civil litigation
- Advise Elected officials
- Timely Response to inquiries
- Shall notify appropriate staff of new laws, legislative mandatory requirements or other when knowledge of such changes are incurred
- Monthly Flat Rate
- Annual Fee
- Other Rates (Detailed)
- To be respectful and diplomatic to all staff

C. SCOPE OF PROCUREMENT

The scope of the procurement consists of Annual Legal Services for the County of Sierra. This Contract will automatically renew on an annual basis, for up to three (3) additional one (1) year terms unless terminated as provided by this Contract or law. In accordance with Section 13-1-150 NMSA 1978, no term for a professional services contract, including extensions and renewals, shall exceed four (4) years, except as set forth in Section 13-1-150 NMSA 1978. This procurement will result in a single source award. Contract award is expected on or about October 19, 2021.

D. CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER

The County of Sierra has designated a Chief Procurement Officer who is responsible for this procurement and whose name, address, and telephone number are listed below. Any inquiries or requests regarding this procurement should be submitted to the Chief Procurement Officer in writing. Offerors may contact ONLY the Chief Procurement Officer regarding the procurement. Other County employees do not have the authority to respond on behalf of the County of Sierra.

Jocelyn Holguin
Sierra County Chief Procurement Officer

| | |
|---|---|
| <u>Delivery Address (Including proposal delivery):</u> 855 Van Patten, Truth or Consequences, NM 87901 | <u>Mailing Address:</u> 855 Van Patten, Truth or Consequences, NM 87901 |
|---|---|

Phone : (575) 894-6215
Fax : (575) 894-9548
E-mail : jholguin@sierraco.org

NOTE: All deliveries via express carrier (INCLUDING PROPOSAL DELIVERY) should be addressed to Jocelyn Holguin's Delivery Address, above.

E. DEFINITION OF TERMINOLOGY

This section contains definitions that are used throughout this procurement document, including appropriate abbreviations.

“Board of County Commissioners” (also “BCC”) means the elected board in whom all powers of the County are vested and who are responsible for the proper and efficient administration of the County government.

"Close of Business" means 5:00 P.M. Mountain Standard Time (MST) or Mountain Daylight Time (MDT), whichever is in effect on the date specified.

"Contract" or “Agreement” means a written agreement for the procurement of items of tangible personal property or services.

"Contractor" means a successful offeror who enters into a binding contract.

"County" means the County of Sierra, State of New Mexico.

"Determination" means the written documentation of a decision of the procurement manager including findings of fact required to support a decision. A determination becomes part of the procurement file to which it pertains.

"Desirable" refers to the terms "may", "can", "should", "preferably" or "prefers" which identify a desirable or discretionary item or factor. (As opposed to a “mandatory” item or factor.)

"Evaluation Committee" means a body appointed by County management to perform the evaluation of offeror proposals.

"Evaluation Committee Report" means a report prepared by the Procurement Manager and the Evaluation Committee for submission to appropriate approval authorities for contract award that contains all written determinations resulting from the conduct of a procurement requiring the evaluation of competitive sealed proposals.

"Finalist" is defined as an offeror who meets all the mandatory specifications of this Request for Proposal and whose score on evaluation factors is sufficiently high to merit further consideration by the Evaluation Committee.

"Mandatory" refers to the terms "must", "shall", "will", "is required" or "are required" which identify a mandatory item or factor. (As opposed to a “desirable” item or factor.) Failure to meet a mandatory item or factor will result in the rejection of the offeror's proposal.

"Offeror" is any person, corporation, or partnership who chooses to submit a proposal.

"Chief Procurement Officer" means the person or designee authorized by the County to manage or administer a procurement requiring the evaluation of competitive sealed proposals.

"Procuring agency of the County" means the department or other subdivision of the County of Sierra that is requesting the procurement of services or items of tangible personal property.

"Purchase Order" or "PO" means the document which directs a contractor to deliver items of tangible personal property or services pursuant to an existing, valid contract.

"Purchasing" means the County of Sierra Purchasing Office or the Sierra County Chief Procurement Officer.

"Purchasing Agent" or "PA" means the Purchasing Agent for the County of Sierra.

"Request for Proposals" or "RFP" means all documents, including those attached or incorporated by reference, used for soliciting proposals.

"Responsible Offeror" means an offeror who submits a responsive proposal and who has furnished required information and data to prove that their financial resources, production or service facilities, personnel, service reputation and experience are adequate to make satisfactory delivery of the services or items of tangible personal property called for in this proposal.

"Responsive Offer" or "Responsive Proposal" means an offer or proposal which conforms in all material respects to the requirements set forth in the request for proposals. Material respects of a request for proposals include, but are not limited to, price, quality, quantity and delivery requirements.

"Statement of Compliance" and "Statement of Concurrence" mean an express statement, by the offeror in their proposal, which they agree with or agree to the stated requirement(s). Possible examples of acceptable responses include "The [NAME HERE Company] agrees to comply with this requirement." and "The [NAME HERE Company] concurs with this requirement."

F. PROCUREMENT LIBRARY

The Procurement Library consists of the following documents which may be accessed by their associated Internet links:

- New Mexico Procurement Code

<http://www.nmonesource.com>

- Sierra county Procurement Department Website

<http://www.sierraco.org> Located in Vendor Registry- See All Active RFPs, ITBs, RFQs

- Sierra County Procurement Regulations

Standardized Classification Code Statute (*Effective July 1, 2016*)

In compliance with the requirements of legislation passed in 2015, and codified at Sections 13-1-95 D (8) and 13-1-30.1 NMSA 1978 (see attachment A), the State Purchasing Agent has developed for use by each state agency and local public body standard classification codes for all procurement expenditures being made by those entities. The National Institute of Governmental Purchasing (NIGP) 5-digit codes are currently available in excel format, attached to this correspondence (Attachment B), and may be obtained by visiting the State Purchasing Division website. The codes are available for immediate use by all state agencies and local public bodies under a statewide license agreement entered into by the State Purchasing Division. Under this contract, use of the code license is at no cost to New Mexico agencies and public bodies. For more information, or if you have questions regarding NIGP codes and their use under the new statute, please contact the State Purchasing Division at 505-827-0468.

Please visit the Sierra County website: <http://www.sierraco.org>- PROCUREMENT- FREE VENDOR REGISTRY LINK- For the opportunity to fill out and submit the Sierra County Vendor Registration form, which will allow you notifications of all addendums and future projects. **NOTE: You will be required to be a registered vendor in Vendor Registry to see any updates.**

II. CONDITIONS GOVERNING THE PROCUREMENT

This section of the RFP contains the schedule for the procurement, describes the major procurement events and contains the general requirements governing the procurement.

A. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

The Chief Procurement Officer will make every effort to adhere to the following schedule:

| ACTION | RESPONSIBILITY | DATE |
|---|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Issue RFP | Chief Procurement Officer (CPO) | August 27, 2021 |
| 2. Return of "Acknowledgment of Receipt" Form for Distribution List | Potential Offerors (PO) | September 24, 2021 |
| 3. Pre-Proposal Conference | Potential Offerors (PO) | N/a |
| 4. Deadline to Submit Questions | PO | September 16, 2021 |
| 5. Response to Written Questions/ RFP Amendments | PM | Pending |
| 6. Submission of Proposal | Offerors | September 30, 2021 2:00 PM MDT |
| 7. Proposal Evaluation | Evaluation Committee (EC) | Pending |
| 8. Notification of Finalists (If desired) | Chief Procurement Officer (CPO) | Pending |
| 9. Best & Final Offer (If requested) | Offerors | Pending |
| 10. Oral Presentations (If requested) | N/A | N/A |
| 11. Contract Negotiations (If needed) | Tentative winner/County | Pending |
| 12. Contract Award* | Chief Procurement Officer /BCC* | October 19, 2021 |
| 13. Protest Deadline | Offerors | 15 Days of NOA |

*Contract award is subject to approval of the Board of County Commissioners.

B. EXPLANATION OF EVENTS

The following paragraphs further detail the activities listed in the sequence of events shown in Section II, Paragraph A.

1. Issue RFP

This RFP is being issued by the Sierra County Chief Procurement Officer on behalf of the Board of County Commissioners of Sierra County.

2. Return of "Acknowledgment of Receipt" Form for Distribution List

Potential offerors should hand deliver or return by facsimile or e-mail or registered or certified mail the "Acknowledgement of Receipt" form that accompanies this document

(See Appendix A) to have their organization placed on the procurement distribution list. The form should be signed by an authorized representative of the organization, dated and returned by the close of business on the date indicated in Section II.A (Sequence of Events), above.

The procurement distribution list will be used to notify those that submitted the form of any written responses to questions and any RFP amendments. Failure to return this form shall constitute a presumption of receipt and rejection of the RFP, and the potential offeror's organization name shall not appear on the distribution list.

3. There is not a Pre-Proposal Conference associated with this procurement.

Pre-Proposal Conference, N/A

4. Deadline to submit written questions

Potential offerors may submit written questions as to the intent or clarity of this RFP until 5:00 PM MDT on the date indicated in Section II.A (Sequence of Events), above. All written questions must be sent by e-mail to the Chief Procurement Officer (See EXHIBIT B- RFP Question Submittal Form)

5. Response to written questions/RFP Amendments

Written responses to written questions and any RFP amendments will be provided to all potential offerors that have returned the "Acknowledgement of Receipt" Form found at Appendix A. A new "Acknowledgement of Receipt" Form will accompany the posted distribution package. The form should be signed by the offeror's representative, dated, and hand-delivered or returned by facsimile or e-mail or by registered or certified mail by the date indicated thereon. Failure to return this form shall constitute a presumption of receipt and withdrawal from the procurement process.

6. Submission of Proposal

OFFEROR PROPOSALS MUST BE RECEIVED FOR REVIEW AND EVALUATION BY THE CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER OR DESIGNEE NO LATER THAN 2:00 PM MDT ON THE DATE INDICATED IN SECTION II.A (SEQUENCE OF EVENTS), ABOVE. PROPOSALS RECEIVED AFTER THIS DEADLINE FOR ANY REASON WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED OR CONSIDERED.

The date and time of receipt will be recorded on each proposal. Proposals must be addressed and delivered to the Chief Procurement Officer at the delivery address listed in Section I, Paragraph D. Proposals must be sealed and labeled on the outside of the package to clearly indicate that they are in response to the "LEGAL SERVICES" Request For Proposals and should reference "RFP #2021-09-013." Proposals submitted by facsimile or other electronic means **WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

A public log will be kept of the names of all offerors submitting proposals. Pursuant to Section 13-1-116 NMSA 1978, the contents of any proposal shall not be disclosed to competing offerors prior to contract award.

7. Proposal Evaluation

The evaluation of proposals will be performed by an Evaluation Committee appointed by County management. This process will take place during the time period indicated in Section II.A (Sequence of Events), above. During this time, the Procurement Manager may at his option initiate discussions with offerors who submit responsive or potentially responsive proposals for the purpose of clarifying aspects of the proposals, but proposals may be accepted and evaluated without such discussion. Discussions SHALL NOT be initiated by the Offerors.

8. Notification of Finalists

The Evaluation Committee may select and the Chief Procurement Officer may notify finalist offerors on the date indicated in Section II.A (Sequence of Events), above. Only finalists will be invited to participate in the subsequent steps of the procurement. The Evaluation Committee reserves the right not to utilize the finalist process if they deem it in the best interest of the County.

9. Best and Final Offers

Finalists may be asked to submit revisions to their proposals for the purpose of obtaining best and final offers on the date indicated in Section II.A (Sequence of Events), above.

10. Oral Presentations

Finalist Offerors may be required to make an oral presentation to the Evaluation Committee. If so required, the Chief Procurement Officer will schedule the time for each Offeror's presentation. All presentations will be made in a location to be specified in Truth or Consequences, NM 87901. Each presentation will be limited to a fixed amount of time as designated by the Chief Procurement Officer in the Oral Presentation requirement notification.

11. Contract Negotiations

If necessary, contract negotiations shall commence with the most advantageous offeror no later than the date indicated in Section II.A (Sequence of Events), above. In the event that mutually agreeable terms cannot be reached within the time specified, the County reserves the right to finalize a contract with the next most advantageous offeror without undertaking a new procurement process.

12. Contract Award

After review of the Evaluation Committee Report and the tentative contract, the Purchasing Agent anticipates the Board of County Commissioners will award the contract on the date indicated in Section II.A (Sequence of Events), above. This date is subject to change at the discretion of the Chief Procurement Officer or the Board of County Commissioners.

Any contract awarded shall be awarded to the offeror whose proposal is most advantageous to the County, taking into consideration the evaluation factors set forth in this RFP. The most advantageous proposal may or may not have received the most points.

13. Protest Deadline

Any protest by an offeror must be timely, in conformance with, and will be governed by Sections 13-1-172 through 13-1-176 NMSA 1978 and the Sierra County Procurement Policy. The fifteen (15) day protest period for timely offerors shall begin on the day following the contract award and will end at 5:00 PM MDT on the date indicated in Section II.A (Sequence of Events), above. Protests must be written and must include the name and address of the protestor and the Request for Proposals number. It must also contain a statement of grounds for protest including appropriate supporting exhibits, and it must specify the ruling requested from the Chief Procurement Officer. The protest must be delivered to the Certified Purchasing Agent.

Sierra County
Attn. Jocelyn Holguin, Chief Procurement Officer
855 Van Patten
Truth or Consequences, NM 87901

NOTE: Protests received after the deadline will not be accepted.

C. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

This procurement will be conducted in accordance with the New Mexico Procurement Code (13-1-28 NMSA 1978) and the Sierra County Procurement Policy.

1. Acceptance of Conditions Governing the Procurement

Offerors must indicate their acceptance of the Conditions Governing the Procurement in the letter of transmittal form (see Exhibit A). Submission of a proposal constitutes acceptance of the Evaluation Factors contained in Section V of this RFP.

2. Incurring Cost

Any cost incurred by the offeror in preparation, transmittal, presentation of any proposal or material or negotiation associated with their response to this RFP shall be borne solely by the offeror.

3. Prime Contractor Responsibility

Any contract that may result from this RFP shall specify that the prime contractor is solely responsible for fulfillment of the contract with the County. The County will only make contract payments to the prime contractor.

4. Subcontractors

Use of subcontractors must be clearly explained in the proposal and each must be identified by name. The prime contractor shall be wholly responsible for contract performance whether or not subcontractors are used. Substitution of subcontractors, after contract award, must receive prior written approval of the County Purchasing Office.

5. Amended Proposals

An offeror may submit an amended proposal before the deadline for receipt of proposals. Such amended proposals must be complete replacements for a previously submitted proposal and must be clearly identified as such in the transmittal letter. County personnel will not merge, collate, or assemble proposal materials.

6. Offerors' Rights to Withdraw Proposal

Offerors will be allowed to withdraw their proposals at any time prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals. The offeror must submit a written withdrawal request signed by the offeror's duly authorized representative addressed to the Procurement Manager. The approval or denial of withdrawal requests received after the deadline for receipt of the proposals is governed by the applicable procurement regulations.

7. Proposal Offer Firm

Responses to this RFP, including proposal prices, will be considered firm for ninety (90) days after the due date for receipt of proposals or sixty (60) days after the due date for the receipt of a best and final offer, if one is solicited.

8. Disclosure of Proposal Contents

The proposals will be kept confidential until a contract is awarded by the awarding authority. At that time, all proposals and documents pertaining to the proposals will be open to the public, except for material which is proprietary or confidential. The Chief

Procurement Officer will not disclose or make public any pages of a proposal on which the offeror has stamped or imprinted "proprietary" or "confidential" subject to the following requirements.

Proprietary or confidential data shall be readily separable from the proposal in order to facilitate eventual public inspection of the remaining portions of the proposal. Confidential data is normally restricted to confidential financial information concerning the offeror's organization and data that qualifies as a trade secret in accordance with the Uniform Trade Secrets Act, 57-3A-I to 57-3A-7 NMSA 1978. The price of products offered or the cost of services proposed shall not be designated as proprietary or confidential information.

If a request is received for disclosure of data for which an offeror has made a written request for confidentiality, the Purchasing Agent shall examine the offeror's request and make a written determination that specifies which portions of the proposal should be disclosed. Unless the offeror takes legal action to prevent the disclosure, the proposal will be so disclosed. The proposal shall be open to public inspection subject to any continued prohibition on the disclosure of confidential data.

9. No Obligation

This procurement in no manner obligates Sierra County or any of its departments or other subdivisions to the eventual lease, purchase, etc., of any tangible personal property offered or services proposed until a valid written contract is approved by the Purchasing Agent and other required approval authorities.

10. Termination

This RFP may be canceled at any time and any and all proposals may be rejected in whole or in part when the County determines such action to be in the best interest of the County.

11. Sufficient Appropriation

Any contract awarded as a result of this RFP process may be terminated if sufficient appropriations or authorizations do not exist. Such termination will be effected by sending written notice to the contractor. The County's decision as to whether sufficient appropriations and authorizations are available will be accepted by the contractor as final.

12. Legal Review

The County requires that all offerors agree to be bound by the General Requirements contained in this RFP. Any offeror concerns must be promptly brought to the attention of the Chief Procurement Officer.

13. Governing Law

This procurement and any agreement with offerors that may result shall be governed by the laws of the State of New Mexico.

14. Basis for Proposal

Only information supplied by the County in writing through the Chief Procurement Officer or in this RFP should be used as the basis for the preparation of offeror proposals.

15. Contract Terms and Conditions

The contract between the County the contractor will follow the format specified by the County and contain the terms and conditions set forth in Appendix B, Sample Contract. However, the County reserves the right to negotiate with a successful offeror provision in addition to those contained in this RFP. The contents of this RFP, as revised or supplemented, and the successful offeror's proposal will be incorporated into and become part of the contract.

Should an offeror object to any of the County's terms and conditions, as contained in this Section or in Appendix B, that offeror must propose specific alternative language. The County may or may not accept the alternative language, at the County's sole discretion. General references to the offeror's terms and conditions or attempts at complete substitutions are not acceptable to the County and could lead to disqualification of the offeror's proposal.

Offerors must provide a brief discussion of the purpose and impact, if any, of each proposed change followed by the specific proposed alternate wording in order for the proposed alternate wording to be considered.

16. Offeror's Terms and Conditions

Offeror's must submit with their proposal a complete set of any additional terms and conditions which they request be included in a contract negotiated with the County. The County may or may not accept the additional language, at the County's sole discretion.

17. Contract Deviations

Any additional terms and conditions, which may be the subject of negotiation, will be discussed only between the County and the selected offeror and shall not be deemed an opportunity to amend the Offeror's proposal.

18. Offeror Qualifications

The Evaluation Committee may make such investigations as necessary to determine the ability of the offeror to adhere to the requirements specified within this RFP. The Evaluation Committee will reject the proposal of any offeror who is not a responsible offeror or fails to submit a responsive offer as defined in Sections 13-1-83 and 13-1-85 NMSA 1978.

19. Right to Waive Minor Irregularities

The Evaluation Committee reserves the right to waive minor irregularities. The Evaluation Committee also reserves the right to waive mandatory requirements provided that all of the otherwise responsive proposals failed to meet the same mandatory requirements or doing so does not otherwise materially affect the procurement. This right is at the sole discretion of the Evaluation Committee.

20. Change in Contractor Representatives

The County reserves the right to require a change in contractor representatives if the assigned representatives are not, in the opinion of the County, meeting its needs adequately.

21. Notice

The Procurement Code, Sections 13-1-28 through 13-1-199 NMSA 1978, imposes civil and misdemeanor criminal penalties for its violation. The State of New Mexico criminal statutes also impose felony penalties for bribes, gratuities and kick-backs.

22. County Rights

The County reserves the right to accept all or a portion of an offeror's proposal.

23. Right to Publish

Throughout the duration of this procurement process and contract term, potential offerors and contractors must secure from the County written approval prior to the release of any information that pertains to the potential work or activities covered by this procurement or the subsequent contract. Failure to adhere to this requirement may result in disqualification of the Offeror's proposal or termination of the contract.

24. Ownership of Proposals

All documents submitted in response to the RFP shall become the property of the County. However, any technical or user documentation submitted with the proposals of non-selected offerors may be returned after the expiration of the protest period, by request, at the expense of the Offeror.

25. Ambiguity, Inconsistency or Errors in RFP

Offerors shall promptly notify the Chief Procurement Officer in writing, of any ambiguity, inconsistency or error which they discover upon examination of the RFP.

26. Competition

By submitting a proposal, offeror certifies that they have not, either directly or indirectly, entered into any action in restraint of full competition in connection with the proposal submitted to the County.

27. Use by Other Government Entities

By submitting a proposal, offeror indicates that they understand and agree that other government entities within the State of New Mexico, or as otherwise allowed by their governing directives, may contract for the goods or services included in this procurement document with the awarded contractor(s). Contractual engagements accomplished under this provision shall be solely between the awarded vendor and the contracting government entity with no obligation or liability by Sierra County.

28. Confidentiality

Any confidential information provided to, or developed by, the contractor in the performance of any agreement resulting from this RFP shall be kept confidential and shall not be made available to any individual or organization by the contractor without the prior written approval of the County of Sierra.

29. Electronic mail address required

A large part of the communication regarding this procurement will be conducted by electronic mail (e-mail). Offeror must have a valid e-mail address to receive this correspondence.

30. Use of Electronic Versions of this RFP

This RFP is being made available by electronic means. If accepted by such means, the offeror acknowledges and accepts full responsibility to ensure that no changes are made to the RFP. In the event of conflict between a version of the RFP in the offeror's possession and the version maintained by the County, the version maintained by the County shall govern.

III. RESPONSE FORMAT AND ORGANIZATION

A. NUMBER OF RESPONSES

Offeror's may submit only one (1) response to this RFP.

B. NUMBER OF COPIES

Offerors shall deliver five (5) identical copies of their proposal to the location specified in Section I, Paragraph D on or before the closing date and time for receipt of proposals. Identical copies are defined as the original plus the number of additional copies needed to fulfill the requirement. For example, a requirement for five (5) identical copies would be fulfilled by submitting the Original and four [4] copies of the original. The original copy should be clearly marked "ORIGINAL" on the front cover and shall contain original signatures. (An exception to this requirement is made for the "Cost Response Form" and the "Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form". See Section III.C.1, immediately below.)

C. PROPOSAL FORMAT

All proposals must be typewritten on standard 8 1/2 x 11 paper (larger paper is permissible for charts, spreadsheets, etc.) and placed within a binder with tabs delineating each section.

1. Proposal Organization

The proposal must be organized and indexed in the following format and must contain, as a minimum, all listed items in the sequence indicated.

- i. Table of Contents
- ii. Conflict of Interest *(Mandatory- See Appendix-C)
- iii. Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form* (Mandatory- See Appendix D)
in a sealed and labeled envelope
- iv. Resident Veterans/Local Preference (Mandatory- See Appendix E)
- v. Letter of Transmittal Form (Mandatory-See Exhibit-A)
- vi. Proof of Insurance
- vii. License
- viii. Proof of Insurance
- ix. Capability and Agreement to Perform

- x. Requirements of Offeror Submitting Proposals
- xi. References
- xii. Resume
- xiii. Cost Response Form* (Mandatory- See Exhibit-C) in a sealed and labeled envelope
- xiv. Other Supporting Material**

*Only the single original needs to be provided and must be secured in the binder marked “Original” in the required sealed and labeled envelope.

**See also Section III.C.3., immediately below.

Within each section of their proposal, offerors should address the items in the order in which they appear in this RFP. Any forms provided in the RFP must be thoroughly completed and included in the appropriate section of the proposal. Unless otherwise specified in this RFP, all discussion of proposed costs, rates or expenses must occur only on the Cost Response Form, Exhibit-C.

Any proposal that does not adhere to these requirements may be deemed non-responsive and rejected on that basis.

A proposal summary may be included by offerors to provide the Evaluation Committee with an overview of the technical and business features of the proposal; however, this material will not be used in the evaluation process unless specifically referenced from other portions of the offeror's proposal.

2. Letter of Transmittal Form

The Letter of Transmittal Form at Exhibit A **must** be completed, signed and included with the offeror's proposal.

3. Other Supporting Materials

Offerors may attach other materials which they feel may improve the quality of their responses. However, these materials may not be reviewed by members of the Evaluation Committee and **will not** be scored.

IV. SPECIFICATIONS

A. INFORMATION

1. Background

This RFP is to secure Annual Legal Services. All potential Offerors are to read, understand and accept the requirements of this Request for Proposal. Failure to comply with the instructions, terms and conditions, and specifications of this Request for Proposal may result in your proposal being classified as non-responsive. This Request for Proposal will result in a single source award. New Mexico criminal law prohibits bribes, gratuities and kickbacks. (13-1-191 SA 1978)

B. MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

Pass/Fail

1. Conflict of Interest (0* Points – Pass/Fail Only)

APPENDIX C

Sierra County Conflict of Interest-Debarment/Suspension Certification Form

2. Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form (0* Points-Pass/Fail Only)

APPENDIX D

Offeror must complete and sign the Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form

3. Letter of Transmittal Form (0* Points – Pass/Fail Only)

EXHIBIT A

Offeror must complete and submit the “Letter of Transmittal Form”

4. Resident Veterans Preference Certification (0* Points – Pass/Fail Only)

APPENDIX E-

Offeror must complete and submit Resident Veterans Preference

5. Insurance (0* Points – Pass/Fail Only)

Offeror must submit a certificate of insurance.

6. License (0* Points – Pass/Fail Only)

Offeror must submit a valid business license with their submittals

Mandatory Requirements Points

7. Capability and Agreement to Preform (200 Points)

Offeror certifies that they are capable and qualified to provide the products or services.

8. Requirements of Offeror Submitting Proposals (200 Points)

Offeror must at a minimum hold a Juris Doctor Degree or Doctor of Jurisprudence from an American Bar Association recognized Law School and must be a member in good standing with the New Mexico Bar Association. Supporting documentations required.

9. Offeror (Offeror Team) Qualifications and Experience (200 Points)

Offer must describe, in narrative form, their qualifications to accomplish the activities cited within this Section IV.B as well as relevant experience and past record of successful performance. Legal services for County Government, Municipalities and Colonia's.

10. References (100 Points)

Offeror must provide references of at least three (3) public entity.

11. Resume (s) (100 Points)

Offeror must provide a resume (s) provided based on the background and knowledge of each attorney who will be directly associated with the County.

12. Cost Response Form (200 Points)

EXHIBIT C- Cost to be tabulated and formatted into final score sheet.

13. TOTAL POSSIBLE SCORED POINTS: 1000

V. EVALUATION

A. EVALUATION POINT SUMMARY

The following is a summary of evaluation factors with point value assigned to each or a Pass/Fail evaluation. These, along with the general requirements, will be used in the evaluation of individual offeror proposals.

| REF. | MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS | POINTS AVAIL. |
|-------------------------|--|---------------|
| | PASS/FAIL ONLY | |
| V.B.1 | Conflict of Interest- Appendix C | 0* |
| V.B.2 | Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form- Appendix D | 0* |
| V.B.3 | Letter of Transmittal Form- Exhibit A | 0* |
| V.B.4 | Resident Veterans Preference Certification- Appendix E | 0* |
| V.B.5 | Insurance | |
| V.B.6 | License | 0* |
| | POINTS | |
| V.B.7 | Capability and Agreement to Perform | 200 |
| V.B.8 | Requirements of Offeror Submitting Proposal | 200 |
| V.B.9 | Offeror (Offeror Team) Qualifications and Experience | 200 |
| V.B.10 | References | 100 |
| V.B.11 | Resume | 100 |
| V.B.12 | Cost Response Form- Exhibit C | 200 |
| V.B.13 TOTAL | Total Possible Awarded Points | 1,000 |

*Pass/Fail only.

B. EVALUATION FACTORS

Points will be awarded based on the evaluation factors found in V.B.7 through V.B.12, as indicated.

C. MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS

PASS/FAIL

1. Conflict of Interest (0* Points)

Pass/Fail only.

APPENDIX C

Sierra County Conflict of Interest-Debarment/Suspension Certification Form

2. Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form (0* Points)

Pass/Fail only.

APPENDIX D

Offeror must complete and sign the Appendix E, Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form – whether any applicable contribution has been made or not. This form must be submitted with your proposal whether an applicable contribution has been made or not. Note that there are two (2) different signature sections within the form. (For purposes of this requirement, the applicable elected public officials within the County of Sierra are BCC Chair James E. Paxon; BCC Vice-Chair Travis Day; Commissioner Hank Hopkins).

3. Letter of Transmittal Form (0* Points)

Pass/Fail only.

EXHIBIT A

Offeror must complete and submit the “Letter of Transmittal Form”, found in EXHIBIT A, with their proposal. The form must be signed and dated by an individual authorized to contractually bind the firm.

4. Resident Veterans Preference Certification (0* Points)

Pass/Fail only.

APPENDIX E

Offeror must provide a copy signed copy of the “Resident Veterans Preference Certification”, found in APPENDIX E, with their proposal. The form must be signed and dated by an individual authorized to contractually bind the firm.

5. Insurance (0* Points)

Pass/Fail only.

Offeror must provide a copy of a valid certificate of liability insurance with their proposal. The form must be signed and dated by an individual authorized to contractually bind the firm.

6. License (0* Points)

Pass/Fail only.

Offeror must provide a copy of a valid license with their proposal. The license shall indicate firm is licensed and is able to provide professional legal services in the State of New Mexico. The license must be signed and dated by an individual authorized to contractually bind the firm. Including the State of New Mexico Seal.

Points

7. Capability and Agreement to Perform (200 Points)

Offeror certifies that they are capable and qualified to provide the products or services required by this RFP and agrees to perform the Scope of Work as specified in the sample contract at Exhibit D statement of concurrence is required.

8. Requirements of Offeror Submitting Proposals (200 Points)

Offeror must at a minimum hold a Juris Doctor Degree or Doctor of Jurisprudence from an American Bar Association recognized Law School and must be a member in good standing with the New Mexico Bar Association.

9. Offeror (Offeror Team) Qualifications and Experience (200 Points)

Points will be awarded base on the depth and breadth of experience of the Offeror. The Evaluation Committee will pay particular attention to the similarity between described experience and the work to be performed under this RFP as well as the complexity and difficulty of work described in the offeror's response. Offeror responses will also be compared to submittals from other offerors under this RFP.

10. References (100 Points)

Points will be awarded based on the similarity of the business dealings indicated to the requirements of this RFP as well as the reference's satisfaction in their dealings with the offeror and the provided products or services. The Evaluation Committee may call any or all of the references. Reference responses to this section will also be compared to reference responses from other offerors under this RFP.

11. Resume (100 Points)

Points will be awarded based on the resume (s) provided based on the background and knowledge of each person (s) who will be conducting professional services directly with the County. Each resume is to indicate their knowledge and background regarding governmental laws, litigations and terminations (if applicable).

12. Cost (200 Points)

Points will be awarded based on the total cost proposed on the Cost Response Form and calculated using the following formula:

$$\text{Offeror's Points} = \frac{\text{Lowest Total Proposed Cost}}{\text{This Offeror's Total Proposed Cost}} \times 200$$

Note: The Chief Procurement Officer will tabulate the points according the formula and include them in the final score sheet in accordance with the final scores weighted by evaluating committee with section V.B.6- V.B.10.

13. Total Possible Points- Score Based on Combined Totals of selected Committee Evaluations and Scoring.

D. EVALUATION PROCESS

1. Initial Review

All offeror proposals will be reviewed for compliance with the mandatory requirements stated within the RFP. Proposals deemed non-responsive to any mandatory requirement will be eliminated from further consideration.

2. Clarifications

The Chief Procurement Officer may contact the offeror for clarification of the response as specified in Section II, Paragraph B.7.

3. Other Information Sources

The Evaluation Committee may use other sources of information to perform the evaluation as specified in Section II, Paragraph C.18.

4. Veteran Preference; Resident Business/Contractor Preference/ Local

13-1-21 NMSA 1978 provides for certain preferences under certain conditions. If applicable, the preference will be provided to those offerors that have provided the requisite supporting material with their proposal, as required by 13-1-21 NMSA 1978. As amended Application of Preferences. Appendix E

5. Scoring and Contract Award Recommendation

Responsive proposals will be evaluated and assigned a point value based on the factors in Section V. Finalist offerors who are asked and choose to submit revised proposals for the purpose of obtaining best and final offers will have their points recalculated accordingly. The responsible offeror whose proposal is most advantageous to the County, taking into consideration the evaluation factors in Section V, will be recommended for contract award to the Chief Procurement Officer, and any other required approving authorities, as specified in Section II, Paragraph B.12. Please note, however, that a serious deficiency in the response to any one factor may be grounds for rejection regardless of overall score.

6. Cost Response Scoring

Responsive proposals will be evaluated and tabulated by the Chief Procurement Officer and added to the final tabulated score sheet in occurrence with committee evaluating scores of the above pointed criteria and formula.

7. Basis of Award

In accordance with combined committee evaluations and scoring based on the pointed criteria and cost formula, the Chief Procurement Officer, will issue a final determination based on the committee member's unanimous agreement for the selected firm, to represent the County of Sierra for Legal Services. Once the decision has been solidified the awarded contract agreement will be presented to the County Commission for approval.

APPENDIX A

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT FORM

Request for Proposals

Sierra County RFP #2021-09--013

In acknowledgment of receipt of this Request for Proposal, the undersigned agrees that he/she has received a complete copy, beginning with the title page and table of contents, and ending with Exhibit D.

The acknowledgment of receipt should be signed and returned (by fax, e-mail, courier or hand delivery) to the Chief Procurement Officer no later than September 24, 2021.

The firm listed below does/does not (circle one) intend to respond to this Request for Proposals.

FIRM: _____

REPRESENTED BY: _____ TITLE: _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NO.: _____ FAX NO.: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

This name and address will be used for all correspondence related to the Request for Proposals.

Please return to:

Jocelyn Holguin
Chief Procurement Officer
855 Van Patten
Truth or Consequences, NM 87901
Phone: (575) 894-6215
Fax: (575) 894-9548
E-mail: jholguin@sierraco.org

APPENDIX B

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ADDENDA

**THE FOLLOWING BIDDER INFORMATION MUST BE COMPLETED AND
RETURNED WITH THE RFP # 2021-08-013**

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF ADDENDA

The undersigned acknowledges receipt of the following addenda:

Addenda No. ____ Dated _____ Addenda No. ____ Dated _____

Addenda No. ____ Dated _____ Addenda No. ____ Dated _____

The undersigned, as an authorized representative for the Company named below, acknowledges that the Responder has examined this RFP with its related documents and is familiar with all of the conditions surrounding the described materials, labor and/or services. Responder hereby agrees to furnish all labor, materials and supplies necessary to comply with the specifications in accordance with the Terms and Conditions set forth in this RFP and at the prices stated within the RFP.

The undersigned further states that the company submitting this RFP is not in violation of any applicable Conflict of Interest laws or regulations or any other related clauses included in this RFP.

COMPANY NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY/STATE/ZIP _____

TELEPHONE: _____ **FAX:** _____ **EMAIL:** _____

NEW MEXICO GROSS RECEIPTS TAX NO _____

FEDERAL EMPLOYER ID NUMBER (FEIN) _____

NEW MEXICO LOCAL PREFERENCE NUMBER: _____

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE _____

PRINTED OR TYPED NAME _____

TITLE _____

DATE: _____

APPENDIX C (MANDATORY)

**SIERRA COUNTY CONFLICT OF INTEREST-DEBARMENT/SUSPENSION
CERTIFICATION FORM
THE FOLLOWING MUST BE CERTIFIED IF ANY RESULTANT PURCHASE
ORDER/AGREEMENT IS \$20,000 OR GREATER**

CONFLICT OF INTEREST; GOVERNMENTAL CONDUCT ACT.

A. The Contractor represents and warrants that it presently has no interest and, during the term of this Agreement, shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance or services required under the Agreement.

B. The Contractor further represents and warrants that it has complied with, and, during the term of this Agreement, will continue to comply with, and that this Agreement complies with all applicable provisions of the Governmental Conduct Act, Chapter 10, Article 16 NMSA 1978. Without in anyway limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Contractor specifically represents and warrants that:

1) in accordance with Section 10-16-4.3 NMSA 1978, the Contractor does not employ, has not employed, and will not employ during the term of this Agreement any County employee while such employee was or is employed by the County and participating directly or indirectly in the County's contracting process;

2) this Agreement complies with Section 10-16-7(B) NMSA 1978 because (i) the Contractor is not a public officer or employee of the County; (ii) the Contractor is not a member of the family of a public officer or employee of the County; (iii) the Contractor is not a business in which a public officer or employee or the family of a public officer or employee has a substantial interest; or (iv) if the Contractor is a public officer or employee of the County, a member of the family of a public officer or employee of the County, or a business in which a public officer or employee of the County or the family of a public officer or employee of the County has a substantial interest, public notice was given as required by Section 10-16-7(B) NMSA 1978 and this Agreement was awarded pursuant to a competitive process;

3) in accordance with Section 10-16-8(C) NMSA 1978, (i) the Contractor is not, and has not been represented by, a person who has been a public officer or employee of the County within the preceding year and whose official act directly resulted in this Agreement and (ii) the Contractor is not, and has not been assisted in any way regarding this transaction by, a former public officer or employee of the County whose official act, while in County employment, directly resulted in the County's making this Agreement;

4) in accordance with Section 10-16-13 NMSA 1978, the Contractor has not directly participated in the preparation of specifications, qualifications or evaluation criteria for this Agreement or any procurement related to this Agreement; and

5) in accordance with Section 10-16-3 and Section 10-16-13.3 NMSA 1978, the Contractor has not contributed, and during the term of this Agreement shall not contribute, anything of value to a public officer or employee of the County.

C. Contractor's representations and warranties in Paragraphs A and B of this Article 13 are material representations of fact upon which the County relied when this Agreement was entered into by the parties. Contractor shall provide immediate written notice to the County if, at

any time during the term of this Agreement, Contractor learns that Contractor's representations and warranties in Paragraphs A and B of this Article 13 were erroneous on the effective date of this Agreement or have become erroneous by reason of new or changed circumstances. If it is later determined that Contractor's representations and warranties in Paragraphs A and B of this Article 13 were erroneous on the effective date of this Agreement or have become erroneous by reason of new or changed circumstances, in addition to other remedies available to the County and notwithstanding anything in the Agreement to the contrary, the County may immediately terminate the Agreement.

D. All terms defined in the Governmental Conduct Act have the same meaning in this Article 13(B).

DEBARMENT/SUSPENSION STATUS

The Vendor certifies that it is not suspended, debarred or ineligible from entering into contracts with the Executive Branch of the Federal Government, or in receipt of a notice or proposed debarment from any Agency. The vendor agrees to provide immediate notice to the County Chief Procurement Officer in the event of being suspended, debarred or declared ineligible by any department or federal agency, or upon receipt of a notice of proposed debarment that is received after the submission of the quote or bid but prior to the award of the /Purchase Order/Agreement or contract.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned hereby certifies that he/she has read the above CONFLICT OF INTEREST and DEBARMENT/SUSPENSION Status requirements and that he/she understands and will comply with these requirements. The undersigned further certifies that they have the authority to certify compliance for the vendor named **and that the information contained in this document is true and accurate to the best of their knowledge.**

Signature: _____ Title: _____ Date: _____

Name Typed: _____

Company Name: _____

Address _____ City/State/zip: _____

APPENDIX D (MANDATORY)

CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION DISCLOSURE FORM

Pursuant to the Procurement Code, Sections 13-1-28, et seq., NMSA 1978 and NMSA 1978, § 13-1-191.1 (2006), as amended by Laws of 2007, Chapter 234, any prospective contractor seeking to enter into a contract with any state agency or local public body **for professional services, a design and build project delivery system, or the design and installation of measures the primary purpose of which is to conserve natural resources** must file this form with that state agency or local public body. This form must be filed even if the contract qualifies as a small purchase or a sole source contract. The prospective contractor must disclose whether they, a family member or a representative of the prospective contractor has made a campaign contribution to an applicable public official of the state or a local public body during the two years prior to the date on which the contractor submits an bid or, in the case of a sole source or small purchase contract, the two years prior to the date the contractor signs the contract, if the aggregate total of contributions given by the prospective contractor, a family member or a representative of the prospective contractor to the public official exceeds two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) over the two year period.

Furthermore, the state agency or local public body may cancel a solicitation or proposed award for a proposed contract pursuant to Section 13-1-181 NMSA 1978 or a contract that is executed may be ratified or terminated pursuant to Section 13-1-182 NMSA 1978 of the Procurement Code if: 1) a prospective contractor, a family member of the prospective contractor, or a representative of the prospective contractor gives a campaign contribution or other thing of value to an applicable public official or the applicable public official's employees during the pendency of the procurement process or 2) a prospective contractor fails to submit a fully completed disclosure statement pursuant to the law.

The state agency or local public body that procures the services or items of tangible personal property shall indicate on the form the name or names of every applicable public official, if any, for which disclosure is required by a prospective contractor.

THIS FORM MUST BE INCLUDED IN THE INVITATION TO BID AND MUST BE FILED BY ANY PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR WHETHER OR NOT THEY, THEIR FAMILY MEMBER, OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVE HAS MADE ANY CONTRIBUTIONS SUBJECT TO DISCLOSURE.

The following definitions apply:

“Applicable public official” means a person elected to an office or a person appointed to complete a term of an elected office, who has the authority to award or influence the award of the contract for which the prospective contractor is submitting a competitive sealed bid or who has the authority to negotiate a sole source or small purchase contract that may be awarded without submission of a sealed competitive bid.

“Campaign Contribution” means a gift, subscription, loan, advance or deposit of money or other thing of value, including the estimated value of an in-kind contribution, that is made to or received by an applicable public official or any person authorized to raise, collect or expend contributions on that official’s behalf for the purpose of electing the official to statewide or local office. “Campaign Contribution” includes the payment of a debt incurred in an election campaign, but does not include the value of services provided without compensation or unreimbursed travel or other personal expenses of individuals who volunteer a portion or all of their time on behalf of a candidate or political committee, nor does it include the administrative or solicitation expenses of a political committee that are paid by an organization that sponsors the committee.

“Family member” means spouse, father, mother, child, father-in-law, mother-in-law, daughter-in-law or son-in-law of (a) a prospective contractor, if the prospective contractor is a natural person; or (b) an owner of a prospective contractor.

“Pendency of the procurement process” means the time period commencing with the public notice of the Invitation To Bid and ending with the award of the contract or the cancellation of the Invitation To Bid.

“Prospective contractor” means a person or business that is subject to the competitive sealed RFP process set forth in the Procurement Code or is not required to submit a competitive sealed bid because that person or business qualifies for a sole source or a small purchase contract.

“Representative of a prospective contractor” means an officer or director of a corporation, a member or manager of a limited liability corporation, a partner of a partnership or a trustee of a trust of the prospective contractor.

Name(s) of Applicable Public Official(s): *James E. Paxon, Travis Day, and Hank Hopkins*

(Completed by State Agency or Local Public Body)

DISCLOSURE OF CONTRIBUTIONS BY PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR:

Contribution Made By: _____

Relation to Prospective Contractor: _____

Date Contribution(s) Made: _____

Amount(s) of Contribution(s) _____

Nature of Contribution(s) _____

Purpose of Contribution(s) _____

(Attach extra pages if necessary)

Signature Date

Title (position)

--OR--

NO CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE AGGREGATE TOTAL OVER TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250) WERE MADE to an applicable public official by me, a family member or representative.

Signature Date

Title (Position)

APPENDIX E (MANDATORY)

RESIDENT VETERANS PREFERENCE CERTIFICATION

_____ (NAME OF CONTRACTOR) hereby certifies the following in regard to application of the resident veterans' preference to this procurement:

PLEASE CHECK ONLY ONE BOX FROM THE (2) CHECK BOXES LISTED BELOW:

I declare that my firm is **ineligible** to receive New Mexico Resident Veterans Preference.

I declare that my firm is **eligible** to receive New Mexico Resident Veterans Preference

Please Indicate: Veteran Preference _____ 10% under \$3 Million
Local Preference: _____ 5%

AN ACT

RELATING TO PROCUREMENT; AMENDING THE RESIDENT VETERAN BUSINESS PREFERENCE; REPEALING LAWS 2012, CHAPTER 56, SECTION 2 AND LAWS 2012, CHAPTER 56, SECTION 6.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO: SECTION 1. Section 13-1-21 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1979, Chapter 72, Section 1, as amended) is amended to read: "13-1-21. APPLICATION OF PREFERENCES.--

A. For the purposes of this section:

(1) "business" means a commercial enterprise carried on for the purpose of selling goods or services, including growing, producing, processing or distributing agricultural products;

(2) "formal bid process" means a competitive bid process;

(3) "formal request for proposals process" means a competitive proposal process, including a competitive qualifications-based proposal process;

(4) "public body" means a department, commission, council, board, committee, institution, legislative body, agency, government corporation, educational institution or official of the executive, legislative or judicial branch of the government of the state or a political subdivision of the state and the agencies, instrumentalities and institutions thereof, including two-year post-secondary educational institutions, school districts, local school boards and all municipalities, including home-rule municipalities;

(5) "recycled content goods" means supplies and materials composed twenty-five percent or more of recycled materials; provided that the recycled materials content meets or exceeds the minimum content standards required by bid specifications;

(6) "resident business" means a business that has a valid resident business certificate issued by the taxation and revenue department pursuant to Section 13-1-22 NMSA 1978 but does not include a resident veteran business; and

(7) "resident veteran business" means a business that has a valid resident veteran business certificate issued by the taxation and revenue department pursuant to Section 13-1-22 NMSA 1978.

B. Except as provided in Subsection C of this section, when a public body makes a purchase using a formal bid process, the public body shall deem a bid submitted by a:

(1) resident business to be five percent lower than the bid actually submitted; or

(2) resident veteran business with annual gross revenues of up to three million dollars (\$3,000,000) in HB 93 the preceding tax year to be ten percent lower than the bid actually submitted.

C. When a public body makes a purchase using a formal bid process and the bids are received for both recycled content goods and non-recycled content goods, the public body shall deem:

(1) bids submitted for recycled content goods from any business, except a resident veteran business, to be five percent lower than the bids actually submitted; or

(2) bids submitted for recycled content goods from a resident veteran business with annual gross revenues of up to three million dollars (\$3,000,000) in the preceding tax year to be ten percent lower than the bids actually submitted.

D. When a public body makes a purchase using a formal request for proposals process, not including contracts awarded on a point-based system, the public body shall award an additional:

(1) **five percent of the total weight of all the factors used in evaluating the proposals to a resident business; and**

(2) **ten percent of the total weight of all the factors used in evaluating the proposals to a resident veteran business that has annual gross revenues of up to three million dollars (\$3,000,000) in the preceding tax year.** HB 93

E. When a public body makes a purchase using a formal request for proposals process, and the contract is awarded based on a point-based system, the public body shall award additional points equivalent to:

(1) five percent of the total possible points to a resident business; or

(2) ten percent of the total possible points to a resident veteran business that has annual gross revenues of up to three million dollars (\$3,000,000) in the preceding tax year.

F. When a joint bid or joint proposal is submitted by a combination of resident veteran, resident or nonresident businesses, the preference provided pursuant to Subsection B, C, D or E of this section shall be calculated in proportion to the percentage of the contract, based on the dollar amount of the goods or services provided under the contract, that will be performed by each business as specified in the joint bid or proposal.

G. A resident veteran business shall not benefit from the preference pursuant to this section for more than ten consecutive years. A person that is an owner of a business that is a resident veteran business shall not benefit from the preference pursuant to this section for more than ten consecutive years. A person shall not benefit from the provisions of this section based on more than one business concurrently.

H. A public body shall not award a business both a resident business preference and a resident veteran business preference.

I. The procedures provided in Sections 13-1-172 through 13-1-183 NMSA 1978 or in an applicable purchasing ordinance apply to a protest to a public body concerning the awarding of a contract in violation of this section.

J. This section shall not apply when the expenditure includes federal funds for a specific purchase." SECTION 2. Section 13-4-2 NMSA 1978 (being Laws 1984, Chapter 66, Section 2, as amended) is amended to read: "13-4-2. APPLICATION OF PREFERENCE.--

A. For the purposes of this section:

- (1) "formal bid process" means a competitive sealed bid process;
- (2) "formal request for proposals process" means a competitive sealed proposal process, including a competitive sealed qualifications-based proposal process;
- (3) "public body" means a department, commission, council, board, committee, institution, legislative body, agency, government corporation, educational institution or official of the executive, legislative or judicial branch of the government of the state or a political subdivision of the state and the agencies, instrumentalities and institutions thereof, including two-year post-secondary educational institutions, school districts, local school boards and all municipalities, including home-rule municipalities;
- (4) "public works contract" means a contract for construction, construction management, architectural, landscape architectural, engineering, surveying or interior design services;
- (5) "resident contractor" means a person that has a valid resident contractor certificate issued by the taxation and revenue department pursuant to Section 13-1-22 NMSA 1978 but does not include a resident veteran contractor; and
- (6) "resident veteran contractor" means a person that has a valid resident veteran contractor certificate issued by the taxation and revenue department pursuant to Section 13-1-22 NMSA 1978.

B. For the purpose of awarding a public works contract using a formal bid process, a public body shall deem a bid submitted by a:

- (1) resident contractor to be five percent lower than the bid actually submitted; or
- (2) resident veteran contractor with annual gross revenues of up to three million dollars (\$3,000,000) in the preceding tax year to be ten percent lower than the bid actually submitted.

C. When a public body awards a contract using a formal request for proposals process, not including contracts awarded on a point-based system, the public body shall award an additional:

- (1) five percent of the total weight of all the factors used in evaluating the proposals to a resident contractor; or
- (2) ten percent of the total weight of all the factors used in evaluating the proposals to a resident veteran contractor that has annual gross revenues of up to three million dollars (\$3,000,000) in the preceding tax year.

D. When a public body makes a purchase using a formal request for proposals process, and the contract is awarded based on a point-based system, the public body shall award an additional of the equivalent of:

- (1) five percent of the total possible points to a resident contractor; or
- (2) ten percent of the total possible points to a resident veteran contractor that has annual gross revenues of up to three million dollars (\$3,000,000) in the preceding tax year.

E. When a joint bid or joint proposal is submitted by a combination of resident veteran, resident or nonresident contractors, the preference provided pursuant to Subsection

B, C or D of this section shall be calculated in proportion to the percentage of the contract, based on the dollar amount of the goods or services provided under the contract that will be performed by each contractor as specified in the joint bid or joint proposal.

F. A resident veteran contractor shall not benefit from the preference pursuant to this section for more than ten consecutive years. A person that is an owner of a business that is a resident veteran contractor shall not benefit from the preference pursuant to this section for more than ten consecutive years. A person shall not benefit from the provisions of this section based on more than one business concurrently.

G. A public body shall not award a contractor both a resident contractor preference and a resident veteran contractor preference.

H. The procedures provided in Sections 13-1-172 through 13-1-183 NMSA 1978 or in an applicable purchasing ordinance apply to a protest to a public body concerning the awarding of a contract in violation of this section." SECTION 3. A new section of the Procurement Code is enacted to read:

"DUTY TO PROMULGATE RULES.--The secretary of general services shall promulgate rules necessary to implement the provisions of this 2016 act."

SECTION 4. REPEAL.--Laws 2012, Chapter 56, Section 2 and Laws 2012, Chapter 56, Section 6 are repealed.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE.--The effective date of the provisions of this act is July 1, 2016.

"I agree to submit a report, or reports, to the State Purchasing Division of the General Services Department declaring under penalty of perjury that during the last calendar year starting January 1 and ending on December 31, the following to be true and accurate:

"In conjunction with this procurement and the requirements of this business' application for a Resident Veteran Business Preference/Resident Veteran Contractor Preference under Sections 13-1-21 or 13-1-22 NMSA 1978, when awarded a contract which was on the basis of having such veterans preference, I agree to report to the State Purchasing Division of the General Services Department the awarded amount involved. I will indicate in the report the award amount as a purchase from a public body or as a public works contract from a public body as the case may be.

"I understand that knowingly giving false or misleading information on this report constitutes a crime."

I declare under penalty of perjury that this statement is true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that giving false or misleading statements about material fact regarding this matter constitutes a crime.

(Signature of Business Representative) *

(Date)

*Must be an authorized signatory for the Business.

The representations made in checking the boxes constitutes a material representation by the business that is subject to protest and may result in denial of an award or un-award of the procurement involved if the statements are proven to be incorrect.

**APPENDIX F
LOCAL PREFERNCE**

Sierra County Preference Certificate

855 Van Patten, T or C, NM 87901 | (575) 894-6215 | Fax (575)9548

DESCRIPTION APPENDIX G

The phrase “Sierra County Business” shall mean a business that has its primary and permanent office or business location or primarily conducts its business within the boundaries of Sierra County for at least one (1) year preceding the submission of an application for a Sierra County procurement preference, and which, if a foreign corporation, has filed a unitary return pursuant to the Corporate Income and Franchise Tax Act and NMSA 1978, Section 7-2A-8.3 at the time of application for a preference certificate. Whereas, local businesses pay local Gross Receipt Taxes, spend their dollars locally, and reinvest in the community. All applicants will be reviewed and by the Procurement Manager.

ELIGIBILITY OF THE SIERRA COUNTY PROCUREMENT PREFERENCE

SIERRA COUNTY BUISNESS

A Sierra County Business shall be eligible to claim the 0.99% preference established only when presenting, prior to or at the time established in the solicitation for receipt of proposals or invitations for bids, a Sierra County Preference Certificate is issued by the Procurement Manager.

Application Fee

\$25.00- Non-Refundable- Does Not Guarantee Acceptance.

EXPERATION OF CERTIFICATE

A Preference Certificate shall be valid for four (4) years from the date of its issue or once the applicant no longer meets the criteria.

DENIAL OF CERTIFICATE; PROTEST; REVOCATION

1. Purchasing Manager shall determine if an applicant is eligible for certification.
2. If application is denied a notice of denial shall be issued.
3. A business whose application for a Preference Certificate is denied may protest

the denial to the Procurement Manager in conformity with the protest procedure of the Sierra County Purchasing Policy.

4. Through developing facts, the Procurement Manager will revoke the certificate and notify the applicant, if the information provided is inaccurate or misleading information.

OBTAINING A LOCAL PREFERENCE CERTIFICATE

DATE: _____

COMPANY NAME: _____

CONTACT PERSON: _____

PHONE NUMBER: () -

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

Please, check appropriate answer:

1. _____YES _____NO is your business registered in the State of New Mexico and in good standing?
2. _____YES _____NO has your business been established within the boundaries of Sierra County for longer than (1) year? (A copy of the business Gross Receipt Tax Return for the year preceding must be attached to application. Income amounts and taxes paid may be redacted).
3. _____YES _____NO Do you have a valid municipal business license? (A copy must be attached to application to be considered).
4. _____YES _____NO Are you a foreign corporation? – If so, copies of the most recent State and Federal Tax returns applicable to the business.

CERTIFICATE

Once all requirements are met and verified, a Certificate from the County of Sierra will be issued to you and business. Thank you for your submission.

EXHIBIT A (MANDATORY)

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL FORM

Items #1 to 4 MUST EACH BE RESPONDED TO. Failure to respond to all four items WILL RESULT IN THE DISQUALIFICATION OF THE PROPOSAL!

1. Identity (Name) and Mailing Address of the submitting organization:

2. For the person authorized by the organization to contractually obligate the organization:

| | |
|-------|--|
| Name | |
| Title | |

3. For the person authorized to negotiate the contract on behalf of the organization:

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Name | |
| Title | |
| E-Mail Address | |
| Telephone Number | |

4. For the person to be contacted for clarifications:

| | |
|------------------|--|
| Name | |
| Title | |
| E-Mail Address | |
| Telephone Number | |

- On behalf of the submitting organization named in item #1, above, I accept the Conditions Governing the Procurement as required in Section II, Paragraph C.1.
- I concur that submission of our proposal constitutes acceptance of the Evaluation Factors contained in Section V of this RFP #2021-09-013.
- I acknowledge receipt of any and all amendments to this RFP.

_____, 2021
Authorized Signature and Date (**Must be signed** by the person identified in **item #2**, above.)

EXHIBIT B

RFP Question Submittal Form

RFP# 2021-09-013

All written questions must be addressed to the Buyer for this RFP. Bidders are to submit written questions using the format below, or submitted in similar format sequence. Written responses to the questions received will be distributed by Sierra County Procurement Agent as addenda to this RFP solicitation. Submit questions to sierracountyprocurement@gmail.com

| Question # | Reference Page/Paragraph/Sec | Question |
|------------|---------------------------------|----------|
| 1 | | |
| 2 | | |
| 3 | | |
| 4 | | |
| 5 | | |
| 6 | | |
| 7 | | |
| 8 | | |
| 9 | | |
| 10 | | |

Question Deadline: September 16, 2021 @ 2:00 PM MDT

EXHIBIT C (MANDATORY)

COST RESPONSE FORM

Sierra County RFP #2021-09-013

State gross receipts and local option taxes (if any) shall not be included in the Total Proposed Annual Cost.

OFFEROR NAME: _____

TOTAL MONTHLY FIXED RATE WITHOUT GRT \$ _____

WRITTEN IN WORDS: _____

TOTAL PROPOSED COST WITHOUT GRT \$ _____

WRITTEN IN WORDS: _____

OTHER COST/EXPENSES WITHOUT GRT \$ _____

(PLEASE, PROVIDE EXPLANATION ON SEPARATE DOCUMENTS AND REFERENCE)

WRITTEN IN WORDS: _____

SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED VENDOR:

NAME AND TITLE

DATE

EXHIBIT D
SAMPLE CONTRACT
SIERRA COUNTY

CONTRACT #2021-09-2013

THIS AGREEMENT is made and entered into by and between the County of Sierra, _____, hereinafter referred to as the "County" and **NAME OF CONTRACTOR**, hereinafter referred to as the "Contractor", and is effective as of the date set forth below upon which it is executed by the Chief Procurement Officer and the Board of County Commissioners.

IT IS AGREED BETWEEN THE PARTIES:

1. Scope of Work.

The Contractor shall perform the work outlined in the Scope of Work attached hereto as **Attachment 1** and incorporated herein by reference.

2. Compensation.

A. The County shall pay to the Contractor in full payment for services satisfactorily performed _____ dollars (\$ _____) annually, to be invoiced in equal monthly amounts after performance of the services. The New Mexico gross receipts tax levied on the amounts payable under this Agreement totaling (AMOUNT) shall be paid by the County to the Contractor in equal monthly amounts. The total amount payable to the Contractor under this Agreement, including gross receipts tax and expenses, shall not exceed (AMOUNT). In no event will the Contractor be paid any amount in excess of the specified total amount payable without this Agreement being amended in writing.

B. Payment is subject to availability of funds pursuant to the Appropriations Paragraph set forth below and to any negotiations between the parties from year to year pursuant to Paragraph 1, Scope of Work. All invoices **MUST BE** received by the County no later than fifteen (15) days after the termination of the Fiscal Year in which the services were delivered. Invoices received after such date **WILL NOT BE PAID**.

C. Contractor must submit a detailed statement accounting for all services performed, specified on a minimum of a quarter hour basis, and expenses incurred. If the County finds that the services are not acceptable, within thirty days after the date of receipt of written notice from the Contractor that payment is requested, it shall provide the Contractor a letter of exception explaining the defect or objection to the services, and outlining steps the

Contractor may take to provide remedial action. Upon certification by the County that the services have been received and accepted, payment shall be tendered to the Contractor within thirty days after the date of acceptance. If payment is made by mail, the payment shall be deemed tendered on the date it is postmarked. However, the County shall not incur late charges, interest, or penalties for failure to make payment within the time specified herein.

D. The payment of taxes due for any money received under this Agreement shall be the Contractor's sole responsibility and shall be reported under the Contractor's Federal and State tax identification number(s).

3. Term.

This Agreement is for one (1) year from the date of approval by the Sierra County Board of County Commissioners. This Contract will automatically renew on an annual basis, for up to three (3) additional one (1) year terms unless terminated pursuant to paragraph 4 (Termination), or paragraph 5 (Appropriations). In accordance with Section 13-1-150 NMSA 1978, no term for a professional services contract, including extensions and renewals, shall exceed four years, except as set forth in Section 13-1-150 NMSA 1978.

4. Termination.

A. Termination. This Agreement may be terminated by either of the parties hereto upon written notice delivered to the other party at least thirty (30) days prior to the intended date of termination. Except as otherwise allowed or provided under this Agreement, the County's sole liability upon such termination shall be to pay for acceptable work performed prior to the Contractor's receipt of the notice of termination, if the County is the terminating party, or the Contractor's sending of the notice of termination, if the Contractor is the terminating party; provided, however, that a notice of termination shall not nullify or otherwise affect either party's liability for pre-termination defaults under or breaches of this Agreement. The Contractor shall submit an invoice for such work within thirty (30) days of receiving or sending the notice of termination. Notwithstanding the foregoing, this Agreement may be terminated immediately upon written notice to the Contractor if the Contractor becomes unable to perform the services contracted for, as determined by the County or if, during the term of this Agreement, the Contractor or any of its officers, employees or agents is indicted for fraud, embezzlement or other crime due to misuse of government funds or due to the Appropriations paragraph herein. THIS PROVISION IS NOT EXCLUSIVE AND DOES NOT WAIVE THE COUNTY'S OTHER LEGAL RIGHTS AND REMEDIES CAUSED BY THE CONTRACTOR'S DEFAULT/BREACH OF THIS AGREEMENT.

B Termination Management. Immediately upon receipt by either the County or the Contractor of notice of termination of this Agreement, the Contractor shall: 1) not incur any further obligations for salaries, services or any other expenditure of funds under this Agreement without written approval of the County; 2) comply with all directives issued by the County in the notice of termination as to the performance of work under this Agreement; and 3) take such action as the County shall direct for the protection, preservation, retention or transfer of all property titled to the County and records generated under this Agreement. Any non-expendable personal property or equipment provided to or purchased by the Contractor with contract funds

shall become property of the County upon termination and shall be submitted to the County as soon as practicable.

5. Appropriations.

The terms of this Agreement are contingent upon sufficient appropriations and authorization being made by the Board of County Commissioners for the performance of this Agreement. If sufficient appropriations and authorization are not made by the Board of County Commissioners, this Agreement shall terminate immediately upon written notice being given by the County to the Contractor. The County's decision as to whether sufficient appropriations are available shall be accepted by the Contractor and shall be final. If the County proposes an amendment to the Agreement to unilaterally reduce funding, the Contractor shall have the option to terminate the Agreement or to agree to the reduced funding, within thirty (30) days of receipt of the proposed amendment.

6. Status of Contractor.

The Contractor and its agents and employees are independent contractors performing professional services for the County and are not employees of the County of Sierra. The Contractor and its agents and employees shall not accrue leave, retirement, insurance, bonding, use of county vehicles, or any other benefits afforded to employees of the County of Sierra as a result of this Agreement. The Contractor acknowledges that all sums received hereunder are reportable by the Contractor for tax purposes, including without limitation, self-employment and business income tax. The Contractor agrees not to purport to bind the County of Sierra unless the Contractor has express written authority to do so, and then only within the strict limits of that authority.

7. Assignment.

The Contractor shall not assign or transfer any interest in this Agreement or assign any claims for money due or to become due under this Agreement without the prior written approval of the County.

8. Subcontracting.

The Contractor shall not subcontract any portion of the services to be performed under this Agreement without the prior written approval of the County. No such subcontract shall relieve the primary Contractor from its obligations and liabilities under this Agreement, nor shall any subcontract obligate direct payment from the County. In all cases, the contractor is solely responsible for fulfillment of this Agreement.

9. Release.

Final payment of the amounts due under this Agreement shall operate as a release of the procuring agency of the County, its officers and employees, and the County of Sierra from all liabilities, claims and obligations whatsoever arising from or under this Agreement.

10. Confidentiality.

Any confidential information provided to or developed by the Contractor in the performance of this Agreement shall be kept confidential and shall not be made available to any individual or organization by the Contractor without the prior written approval of the County.

11. Product of Service -- Copyright.

All materials developed or acquired by the Contractor under this Agreement shall become the property of the County of Sierra and shall be delivered to the County no later than the termination date of this Agreement. Nothing developed or produced, in whole or in part, by the Contractor under this Agreement shall be the subject of an application for copyright or other claim of ownership by or on behalf of the Contractor.

12. Conflict of Interest; Governmental Conduct Act.

A. The Contractor represents and warrants that it presently has no interest and, during the term of this Agreement, shall not acquire any interest, direct or indirect, which would conflict in any manner or degree with the performance or services required under the Agreement.

B. The Contractor further represents and warrants that it has complied with, and, during the term of this Agreement, will continue to comply with, and that this Agreement complies with all applicable provisions of the Governmental Conduct Act, Chapter 10, Article 16 NMSA 1978. Without in anyway limiting the generality of the foregoing, the Contractor specifically represents and warrants that:

1) in accordance with Section 10-16-4.3 NMSA 1978, the Contractor does not employ, has not employed, and will not employ during the term of this Agreement any County employee while such employee was or is employed by the County and participating directly or indirectly in the County's contracting process;

2) this Agreement complies with Section 10-16-7(B) NMSA 1978 because (i) the Contractor is not a public officer or employee of the County; (ii) the Contractor is not a member of the family of a public officer or employee of the County; (iii) the Contractor is not a business in which a public officer or employee or the family of a public officer or employee has a substantial interest; or (iv) if the Contractor is a public officer or employee of the County, a member of the family of a public officer or employee of the County, or a business in which a public officer or employee of the County or the family of a public officer or employee of the County has a substantial interest, public notice was given as required by Section 10-16-7(B) NMSA 1978 and this Agreement was awarded pursuant to a competitive process;

3) in accordance with Section 10-16-8(C) NMSA 1978, (i) the Contractor is not, and has not been represented by, a person who has been a public officer or employee of the County within the preceding year and whose official act directly resulted in this Agreement and (ii) the Contractor is not, and has not been assisted in any way regarding this transaction by, a former public officer or employee of the County whose official act, while in County employment, directly resulted in the County's making this Agreement;

4) in accordance with Section 10-16-13 NMSA 1978, the Contractor has not directly participated in the preparation of specifications, qualifications or evaluation criteria for this Agreement or any procurement related to this Agreement; and

5) in accordance with Section 10-16-3 and Section 10-16-13.3 NMSA 1978, the Contractor has not contributed, and during the term of this Agreement shall not contribute, anything of value to a public officer or employee of the County.

C. Contractor's representations and warranties in Paragraphs A and B of this Article 12 are material representations of fact upon which the County relied when this Agreement was entered into by the parties. Contractor shall provide immediate written notice to the County if, at any time during the term of this Agreement, Contractor learns that Contractor's representations and warranties in Paragraphs A and B of this Article 12 were erroneous on the effective date of this Agreement or have become erroneous by reason of new or changed circumstances. If it is later determined that Contractor's representations and warranties in Paragraphs A and B of this Article 12 were erroneous on the effective date of this Agreement or have become erroneous by reason of new or changed circumstances, in addition to other remedies available to the County and notwithstanding anything in the Agreement to the contrary, the County may immediately terminate the Agreement.

D. All terms defined in the Governmental Conduct Act have the same meaning in this Article 12(B).

13. Amendment.

This Agreement shall not be altered, changed or amended except by instrument in writing executed by the parties hereto and all other required signatories.

14. Merger.

This Agreement incorporates all the Agreements, covenants and understandings between the parties hereto concerning the subject matter hereof, and all such covenants, Agreements and understandings have been merged into this written Agreement. No prior Agreement or understanding, oral or otherwise, of the parties or their agents shall be valid or enforceable unless embodied in this Agreement.

15. Penalties for violation of law.

The Procurement Code, Sections 13-1-28 through 13-1-199, NMSA 1978, imposes civil and criminal penalties for its violation. In addition, the New Mexico criminal statutes impose felony penalties for illegal bribes, gratuities and kickbacks.

16. Equal Opportunity Compliance.

The Contractor agrees to abide by all federal, state and county laws and rules and regulations, pertaining to equal employment opportunity. In accordance with all such laws, the Contractor assures that no person in the United States shall, on the grounds of race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, physical or mental handicap, or serious medical condition, spousal affiliation, sexual orientation or gender identity, be excluded from employment with or participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination under any program or activity performed under this Agreement. If Contractor is found not to be in compliance with these requirements during the life of this Agreement, Contractor agrees to take appropriate steps to correct these deficiencies.

17. Applicable Law.

In any action, suit or legal dispute arising from this Agreement, the Contractor agrees that the laws of the State of New Mexico shall govern and that venue will lie in the Seventh Judicial District Court in Sierra County. By execution of this Agreement, Contractor acknowledges and

agrees to the jurisdiction of the courts of the State of New Mexico over any and all lawsuits arising under or out of any term of this Agreement.

18. Workers Compensation.

The Contractor agrees to comply with state laws and rules applicable to workers compensation benefits for its employees. If the Contractor fails to comply with the Workers Compensation Act and applicable rules when required to do so, this Agreement may be terminated by the County.

19. Records and Financial Audit.

The Contractor shall maintain detailed time and expenditure records that indicate the date; time, nature and cost of services rendered during the Agreement's term and effect and retain them for a period of three (3) years from the date of final payment under this Agreement. The records shall be subject to inspection by the County, the Department of Finance and Administration and the State Auditor. The County shall have the right to audit billings both before and after payment. Payment under this Agreement shall not foreclose the right of the County to recover excessive or illegal payments

20. Disclaimer and Hold Harmless.

Sierra County shall not be liable to the Contractor, or the Contractor's successors, heirs, administrators, or assigns, for any loss, damage, or injury, whether to Contractor's person or property, occurring in connection with Contractor's performance of Contractor's duties according to this Agreement. Contractor shall hold the Sierra County harmless from all loss, damage, and injury, including court costs and attorney fees, incurred by Sierra County in connection with the performance by Contractor of Contractor's duties according to this Agreement.

21. Indemnification.

The Contractor shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the County of Sierra from all actions, proceeding, claims, demands, costs, damages, attorneys' fees and all other liabilities and expenses of any kind from any source which may arise out of the performance of this Agreement, caused by the negligent act or failure to act of the Contractor, its officers, employees, servants, subcontractors or agents, or if caused by the actions of any client of the Contractor resulting in injury or damage to persons or property during the time when the Contractor or any officer, agent, employee, servant or subcontractor thereof has or is performing services pursuant to this Agreement. In the event that any action, suit or proceeding related to the services performed by the Contractor or any officer, agent, employee, servant or subcontractor under this Agreement is brought against the Contractor, the Contractor shall, as soon as practicable but no later than two (2) days after it receives notice thereof, notify the legal counsel of the County of Sierra and the New Mexico Association of Counties by certified mail.

22. Invalid Term or Condition.

If any term or condition of this Agreement shall be held invalid or unenforceable, the remainder of this Agreement shall not be affected and shall be valid and enforceable.

23. Enforcement of Agreement.

A party's failure to require strict performance of any provision of this Agreement shall not waive or diminish that party's right thereafter to demand strict compliance with that or any other provision. No waiver by a party of any of its rights under this Agreement shall be effective unless express and in writing, and no effective waiver by a party of any of its rights shall be effective to waive any other rights.

24. Authority.

If Contractor is other than a natural person, the individual(s) signing this Agreement on behalf of Contractor represents and warrants that he or she has the power and authority to bind Contractor, and that no further action, resolution, or approval from Contractor is necessary to enter into a binding contract.

25. Lobbying.

No federal appropriated funds can be paid or will be paid, by or on behalf of the CONTRACTOR, or any person for influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any County, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection with the awarding of any Federal contract, or the making of any Federal grant, the making of any federal loan, the entering into of any cooperative agreement, or modification of any Federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement. If any funds other than federal appropriated funds have been paid or will be paid to any person influencing or attempting to influence an officer or employee of any County, a Member of Congress, an officer or employee of Congress, or an employee of a Member of Congress in connection of this federal contract, grant, loan, or cooperative agreement, the CONTRACTOR shall complete and submit Standard Form LLL, "Disclosure Form to Report Lobbying," in accordance with its instructions.

26. Approval of Contractor Personnel.

Personnel proposed in the Contractor's written proposal to the County are considered material to any work performed under this Agreement. No changes of personnel will be made by the Contractor without prior written consent of the procuring agency of the County. Replacement of any Contractor personnel, if approved, shall be with personnel of equal ability, experience and qualifications. The Contractor will be responsible for any expenses incurred in familiarizing the replacement personnel to insure their being productive to the project immediately upon receiving assignments. Approval of replacement personnel shall not be unreasonably withheld. The procuring agency of the County shall retain the right to request the removal of any of the Contractor's personnel at any time.

27. Survival.

The agreement paragraphs titled "Patent, Copyright, Trademark, and Trade Secret Indemnification" and "Indemnification" shall survive the expiration of this agreement. Software licenses, leases, maintenance and any other unexpired agreements that were entered into under the terms and conditions of this agreement shall survive this agreement

28. Succession.

This agreement shall extend to and be binding upon the successors and assigns of the parties.

29. Force Majeure.

A party shall be excused from performance under this agreement for any period that the party is prevented from performing as a result of an act of God, strike, war, civil disturbance, epidemic, or court order, provided that the party has prudently and promptly acted to take any and all steps that are within the party's control to ensure performance. Subject to this provision, such non-performance shall not be deemed a default or a ground for termination.

30. Mediation.

In the event a dispute arises as to the rights and obligations among the parties hereto, the parties agree to attempt to resolve the dispute through mediation as a condition precedent to seeking legal and equitable remedies. The parties agree to evenly split the costs of any such mediation services. The parties shall mutually agree upon the choice of mediator. In the event the parties have not agreed upon a mediator within twenty (20) days of written notice to the other regarding the dispute, then a list of seven potential mediators will be obtained from the New Mexico Association of Counties and the parties shall utilize a striking process until a mediator is agreed upon.

31. Notice to Proceed.

It is expressly understood that this Agreement is not binding upon the County until it is executed by the Board of County Commissioners after voting on the contract at a public meeting. Further, the Contractor is not to proceed with its obligations under the Agreement until the Contractor has received a fully signed copy of the Agreement.

32. Attorney's Fees.

In the event this Agreement results in dispute, mediation, litigation, or settlement between the parties to this Agreement, the prevailing party of such action shall NOT be entitled to an award of attorneys' fees and court costs.

33. Cooperation.

All parties hereto will fully cooperate with the other and their respective counsel, accountant, and agents in connection with any steps required to be taken under this Agreement.

34. Incorporation and Order of Precedence.

Request for Proposals No. [2021-09-013] and the contractor's proposal are incorporated by reference into this agreement and are made a part of this agreement. In the event of any conflict among these documents, the following order of precedence shall apply:

1. Any contract amendment(s), in reverse chronological order; then
2. this contract itself; then
3. the Request for Proposals; then
4. the Contractors Best and Final Offer(s), in reverse chronological order; then

5. the contractor's proposal; then
6. the contractor's standard agreement terms and conditions (which may or may not have been submitted as part of the contractor's proposal).

35. Patent, Copyright, Trademark and Trade Secret Indemnification.

A. The contractor shall defend, at its own expense, the County of Sierra against any claim that any product or service provided under this agreement infringes any patent, copyright or trademark in the United States or Puerto Rico, and shall pay all costs, damages and attorneys' fees that a court finally awards as a result of any such claim. In addition, if any third party obtains a judgment against the County of Sierra based upon the contractor's trade secret infringement relating to any product or service provided under this agreement, the contractor agrees to reimburse the County of Sierra for all costs, attorneys' fees and the amount of the judgment. To qualify for such defense and/or payment, the County of Sierra shall:

- i. give the contractor prompt written notice of any claim;
- ii. allow the contractor to control the defense or settlement of the claim; and
- iii. cooperate with the contractor in a reasonable way to facilitate the defense or settlement of the claim.

B. If any product or service becomes, or in the contractor's opinion is likely to become the subject of a claim of infringement, the contractor shall at its option and expense:

- i. provide a procuring agency of the County the right to continue using the product or service;
- ii. replace or modify the product or service so that it becomes non-infringing; or
- iii. accept the return of the product or service and refund an amount equal to the depreciated value of the returned product or service, less the unpaid portion of the purchase price and any other amounts which are due to the contractor. The contractor's obligation will be void as to any product or service modified by the procuring agency of the County to the extent such modification is the cause of the claim.

36. Professional Liability Insurance.

Contractor agrees to maintain in full force throughout the duration of the Agreement a liability insurance policy with a minimum coverage of [insert appropriate coverage amounts depending on assignment].

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF THE COUNTY OF SIERRA

37. Notices.

Any notice required to be given to either party by this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be delivered in person, by courier service or by U.S. mail, either first class or certified, return receipt requested, postage prepaid, as follows:

To: County of Sierra

Jocelyn Holguin, Chief Procurement Officer
855 Van Patten
Truth or Consequences, NM 87901

To the Contractor's

Printed Name:

Address:

By: _____ Date: _____
NAME AND TITLE OF CONTRACTOR

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties have executed this Agreement as of the date of signature by the County Chief Procurement Officer below:

By: _____ Date: _____
Charlene Webb, County Manager

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

APPROVED, ADOPTED AND PASSED on this __ day of __, 2021.

James E. Paxon, Chair

Travis Day, Vice- Chair

Hank Hopkins, Commissioner

Attest:

Shelly Trujillo
Sierra County Clerk

Sierra County Chief Procurement Officer:

By: _____ Date: _____

Jocelyn Holguin, CPO
Sierra County

Attachment 1

Scope of Work

Required activities include, but are not necessarily limited to -

The scope of work is for Legal Services and shall consist of the following:

- Provide day to day legal services to the County Commission and Administration
- Experience with New Mexico Local Government
- Employment Laws
- Legal staff will provide legal opinion and guidance- but will ultimately leave final decisions to the County Commission and Administration- and continue to provide legal support based on these decisions
- Attend All County Commission Meetings and Administrative Hearings
- Advise Commission on all matters including Policies and Procedures, Open Meetings, Inspection of Public Records, Elections, Procurement, Administrative Proceedings and Hearings, Meetings Rules, Personnel Matters, Tort, and Criminal Litigations matters that may arise
- Draft and review Notices of Contemplated Actions
- Draft and Review Resolutions, Ordinances and other county departments
- Draft and review Contracts, Leases, Memorandums of Understandings, Joint Powers Agreements and as requested by departments as needed
- Subdivision, property and road experience
- Provide written legal opinions and advise county on methods to avoid civil litigation
- Advise elected officials
- Timely Response to inquiries
- Shall notify appropriate staff of new laws, legislative mandatory requirements or other when knowledge of such changes are incurred
- Monthly Flat Rate
- Annual Fee
- Other Rates (Detailed)
- To be respectful and diplomatic to all staff

END

