



July 18, 2023

**INVITATION TO BID
BL106-23**

The Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified suppliers for the **Purchase of an Encryption Key Management Software Solution on an Annual Contract** for the Department of Information Technology Services.

Bids should be typed or submitted in ink and returned in a sealed container marked on the outside with the BL# and Company Name. Bids will be received until **2:50 P.M. local time on August 16, 2023** at the Gwinnett County Purchasing Office, 75 Langley Drive, Lawrenceville, Georgia 30046. Any bid received after this date and time will not be accepted. Bids will be publicly opened and read at 3:00 P.M. Apparent bid results will be available the following business day on our website www.gwinnettcounty.com.

Questions regarding bids should be directed to Dana Garland, CPPB, FOII, NIGP-CPP, Purchasing Associate III at dana.garland@gwinnettcounty.com or by calling 770-822-8723, no later than **3:00 P.M. on August 4, 2023**. Bids are legal and binding upon the bidder when submitted.

Gwinnett County does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the admission or access to its programs or activities. Any requests for reasonable accommodations required by individuals to fully participate in any open meeting, program or activity of Gwinnett County Government should be directed to the ADA Coordinator at the Gwinnett County Justice and Administration Center, 770-822-8165.

The written bid documents supersede any verbal or written prior communications between the parties.

Award will be made to the services provider submitting the lowest responsive and responsible bid. Gwinnett County reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive technicalities, and to make an award deemed in its best interest. Bids may be split or awarded in entirety. Gwinnett County reserves the option to negotiate terms, conditions and pricing with the lowest responsive, responsible bidder(s) at its discretion.

Award notification will be posted after award on the County website, www.gwinnettcounty.com and companies submitting a bid will be notified via email.

We look forward to your bid and appreciate your interest in Gwinnett County.

Dana Garland, CPPB, FOII, NIGP-CPP
Purchasing Associate III

The following pages **should** be returned as your bid:

- Requirements, Page 2**
- Bid Schedule, Page 3**
- Supplier Information, Page 4**
- References, Page 5**
- Contractor Affidavit and Agreement, Page 6**
- Code of Ethics Affidavit, Page 7**

FAILURE TO RETURN THIS PAGE AS PART OF YOUR BID PACKAGE MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF BID.

Scope

The Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners is soliciting competitive bids from qualified suppliers for the procurement of software to manage the encryption keys for self-encrypting drives. The bid must reflect the total cost. Gwinnett County does not pay late fees, and any supplier wishing to provide the encryption key management solution must agree to waive such charges.

Requirements

The suppliers should provide a comprehensive data encryption solution including professional services for implementation. The solution should include Transparent Data Encryption for data-at-rest with centralized encryption key management that protects both structured and unstructured data for 8,000 Windows based workstations.

The service provider shall provide and agree to the following services:

Requirement	YES/NO
HP Client Security Support (laptops & Desktops)	
Onscreen keyboard for tablets (Windows 8.x) purposes.	
Full Disk Encryption (FDE)	
Full Volume Encryption (FVE)	
Pre-boot Authentication	
Single sign-on	
Multi-factor Authentication (Smartcards, Tokens)	
File Folder Encryption	
Self-Encrypting Drives Support (Opal drives)	
TPM Support	
Network File Sharing Support	
Wireless Pre-Boot Authentication	
Centralized Key and Policy Management Console, Web console	
Active Directory Integration	
Supplier shall agree to meet the enclosed Gwinnett County Security Requirements	

COMPANY NAME _____

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BID SCHEDULE

ITEM #	APPROX ANNUAL QTY	DESCRIPTION	UNIT PRICE	TOTAL PRICE
1	8,000 EA	WinMagic SecureDoc Endpoint Encryption Enterprise Software licenses or approved equivalent	\$	\$
TOTAL				\$

Gwinnett County requires pricing to remain firm for the duration of the initial term of the contract. Failure to hold firm pricing for the initial term of the contract will be sufficient cause for Gwinnett County to declare bid non-responsive. Contract to begin upon Board of Commissioners approval.

Unless otherwise noted, quoted prices will remain firm for four (4) additional 12-month periods. If a percentage increase/decrease is a part of the renewal options, please note this in the space provided together with an explanation.

Renewal Option 1: _____% Increase _____% Decrease Explanation _____
 Renewal Option 2: _____% Increase _____% Decrease Explanation _____
 Renewal Option 3: _____% Increase _____% Decrease Explanation _____
 Renewal Option 4: _____% Increase _____% Decrease Explanation _____

COMPANY NAME _____

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Supplier Information Page

Certification Of Non-Collusion in Bid Preparation _____

Signature

Date

The undersigned acknowledges receipt of the following addenda, listed by number and date appearing on each:

Addendum No.	Date	Addendum No.	Date
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

In compliance with the attached specifications, the undersigned acknowledges all requirements outlined in the "Instructions to Bidders" and all documents referred to therein, if this bid is accepted by the Board of Commissioners within ninety (90) days of the date of bid opening, to furnish any or all of the items upon which prices are bid, at the price set opposite each item bid, delivered to the designated point(s) within the time specified in the bid schedule. By submission of this bid, I understand that Gwinnett County uses Electronic Payments for remittance of goods and services. Vendors should select their preferred method of electronic payment upon notice of award. For more information on electronic payments, please refer to the Electronic Payment information in the instructions to bidders.

Legal Business Name _____

Complete Address _____

Does your company currently have a location within Gwinnett County? Yes No

Representative Signature _____ **Printed Name** _____

Telephone Number _____ **E-mail address** _____

FAILURE TO RETURN THIS PAGE AS PART OF BID DOCUMENT MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF BID

REFERENCES

Gwinnett County requests a minimum of three (3) references where work of a similar size and scope has been completed.

Note: References should be customized for each project, rather than submitting the same set of references for every project bid. The references listed should be of similar size and scope of the project being bid on. Do not submit a project list in lieu of this form.

1. Company Name _____

Brief Description of Project _____

Completion Date _____

Contract Amount \$ _____ Start Dates _____

Contact Person _____ Telephone _____

E-Mail Address _____

2. Company Name _____

Brief Description of Project _____

Completion Date _____

Contract Amount \$ _____ Start Date _____

Contact Person _____ Telephone _____

E-Mail Address _____

3. Company Name _____

Brief Description of Project _____

Completion Date _____

Contract Amount \$ _____ Start Date _____

Contact Person _____ Telephone _____

E-Mail Address _____

Company Name _____



**CONTRACTOR AFFIDAVIT AND AGREEMENT
(THIS FORM SHOULD BE FULLY COMPLETED AND RETURNED WITH YOUR SUBMITTAL)**

By executing this affidavit, the undersigned contractor verifies its compliance with The Illegal Immigration Reform Enhancements for 2013, stating affirmatively that the individual, firm, or corporation which is contracting with the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners has registered with and is participating in a federal work authorization program* [any of the electronic verification of work authorization programs operated by the United States Department of Homeland Security or any equivalent federal work authorization program operated by the United States Department of Homeland Security] to verify information of newly hired employees, pursuant to the Immigration Reform and Control Act, in accordance with the applicability provisions and deadlines established therein.

The undersigned further agrees that, should it employ or contract with any subcontractor(s) in connection with the physical performance of services or the performance of labor pursuant to this contract with the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners, contractor will secure from such subcontractor(s) similar verification of compliance with the Illegal Immigration Reform and Enforcement Act on the Subcontractor Affidavit provided in Rule 300-10-01-.08 or a substantially similar form. Contractor further agrees to maintain records of such compliance and provide a copy of each such verification to the Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners at the time the subcontractor(s) is retained to perform such service.

E-Verify * User Identification Number

Date Registered

Legal Company Name

Street Address

City/State/Zip Code

BY: _____
Authorized Officer or Agent
(Contractor Signature)

Date

Title of Authorized Officer or Agent of Contractor

Printed Name of Authorized Officer or Agent

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN
BEFORE ME ON THIS THE
_____ DAY OF _____, 20_____

Notary Public
My Commission Expires: _____

For Gwinnett County Use Only: Document ID # _____ Issue Date: _____ Initials: _____
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* As of the effective date of O.C.G.A. 13-10-91, the applicable federal work authorization program is "E-Verify" operated by the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services Bureau of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, in conjunction with the Social Security Administration (SSA).



BL106-23 Purchase of an Encryption Key Management Software Solution on an Annual Contract

CODE OF ETHICS AFFIDAVIT

(THIS FORM SHOULD BE FULLY COMPLETED AND RETURNED WITH YOUR SUBMITTAL AND WILL BE REQUIRED PRIOR TO EVALUATION)

In accordance with Section 54-33 of the Gwinnett County Code of Ordinances the undersigned bidder/proposer makes the following full and complete disclosure under oath, to the best of his/her knowledge, of the name(s) of all elected officials whom it employs or who have a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in or with the bidder/proposer, its affiliates or its subcontractors:

1. _____
(Company Submitting Bid/Proposal)

2. (Please check **one** box below)

No information to disclose (*complete only section 4 below*)

Disclosed information below (*complete section 3 & section 4 below*)

3. (if additional space is required, please attach list)

_____	_____
Gwinnett County Elected Official Name	Gwinnett County Elected Official Name
_____	_____
Gwinnett County Elected Official Name	Gwinnett County Elected Official Name

4. Sworn to and subscribed before me this

BY: _____ day of _____, 20____

Authorized Officer or Agent Signature

Printed Name of Authorized Officer or Agent

Notary Public

Title of Authorized Officer or Agent of Contractor

(seal)

Note: See Gwinnett County Code of Ethics Ordinance E02011, Sec. 54-33. The ordinance will be available to view in its' entirety at www.gwinnettcountry.com



GWINNETT COUNTY
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY | SECURITY
**SECURITY REQUIREMENTS FOR
PURCHASE STANDARD**

Effective date: 4/19/2022
Document number: ITS-SST-006

1.0 PURPOSE

The purpose of this document is to define the standard strategy and requirements implemented by the Department of Information Technology Services (DoITS) for purchasing software and services for the County. Deviations from this document should be discussed with the Cybersecurity Division before moving forward with a purchase.

Overview:

To protect the County's technology infrastructure, the Department of Information Technology Services (DoITS) has implemented this Security Requirements for Purchase standard. Because a successful attack and access to such sensitive information data could be detrimental to County associates and put the County at high legal or financial risk, this standard has been implemented to ensure secure practices and requirements for purchasing software solutions, software services, and contract services for the County.

This document outlines the strategy for cloud-based services, on-premises services, and vendor contracts.

2.0 SCOPE

This standard applies to purchases of software, hardware, and services that:

- Connect to the County network
- Are installed on County-owned IT assets
- Store County-owned data

The standard applies to these assets, regardless of the amount of support provided by the Department of Information Technology Services (DoITS).

3.0 STANDARD

This standard is divided into sections. A single purchase may qualify for multiple sections. For example, a cloud service dealing with sensitive data needs to meet requirements under both sections: *3.1 Cloud Services* and *3.3 Contracts*.

Note that requirements that use the term *should* are more flexible and should be discussed with the Cybersecurity division before deviation. Requirements that use the term *must* are not considered optional.

3.1 Cloud services

1. All cloud services
 - a. Should utilize Active Directory for authentication and be compatible with the County's Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) solution.
 - b. Should log detailed audit events and make these logs continuously available for ingestion by a security information and event management system (SIEM) without the need to manually download or transfer data.
2. Cloud-based services that store sensitive data as defined by Georgia law, data related to law enforcement investigations or court cases, data regulated by CJIS, HIPAA, or PCI *in addition to* the requirements established by those regulations and those stated above for all cloud services:
 - a. All County-owned data must be stored within the United States.
 - b. Vendors that are storing data must provide a SOC 2 Type 2 report with an Unqualified opinion.
 - c. Must comply with requirement 1a above relating to authentication.
 - d. Must comply with requirement 1b above relating to audit-event logging.

3.2 On-premise solutions (Windows)

1. All On-premise solutions
 - a. Must be capable of performing on systems with the County ITS-approved anti-virus solution with minimal exceptions. Heuristic scanning must be enabled.
 - b. Must be capable of performing on systems with the ITS-approved vulnerability scanning agent installed and configured for a weekly scan.
 - c. Must be architected in such a way that security updates can be applied while still meeting customer department expectations for availability.
 - d. Should log detailed audit events and make these logs continuously available for ingestion by a SIEM without the need to manually download or transfer data.
 - e. Internal applications should utilize Active Directory for authentication.
 - f. Public/Internet-facing applications must utilize Active Directory for authentication and be compatible with the County's Multi-Factor Authentication solution. This requirement is not intended to apply to logins by County residents.
 - g. Must be compatible with currently supported versions of Microsoft Windows Server, with a minimum version of n-1 from latest.

2. On-premises solutions that store sensitive data as defined by Georgia law, data related to law enforcement investigations or court cases, data regulated by CJIS, HIPAA, or PCI *in addition* to the requirements established by those regulations and those stated above:
 - a. Must comply with requirement 1d above relating to audit-event logging.
 - b. Must comply with requirement 1f above relating to Active Directory and MFA.
 - c. Should ideally be compatible with the County's data loss prevention solution to identify and classify data.
 - d. Must be compatible with the County's data encryption solution.

3.3 Contracts

1. All contracts should address the following points. Requirements must apply to Vendors and any Subcontractors.
 - a. Vendor must notify Gwinnett County within 24 hours in writing if they or a Subcontractor experience a security breach that involves:
 - i. County-owned data, accounts, or systems
 - ii. Systems that are compromised while they are connected to the County network, including over VPN, regardless of ownership
 - iii. Any other circumstance that can reasonably be expected to negatively impact the County's security posture
 - b. Vendor may not provide County-owned data to any third parties unless explicitly authorized. This includes network diagrams and system information.
 - c. Unless it would violate other legal requirements or is otherwise authorized, Vendor should delete County-owned data at the termination of the agreement.
 - d. Vendor must promptly report observed security vulnerabilities to the County IT department.
 - e. Vendor must perform background checks on any employees that access sensitive County data and must be willing to produce evidence as such if requested. Sensitive data refers to PII as defined by Georgia law, any data regulated by PCI, HIPAA, CJIS, or any other legal requirements.
 - f. Any required support from the Vendor should match the expectations placed on ITS. For example, applications that are expected to be available 24/7 should have 24/7 support.
2. Contracts that include services where the Vendor accesses County-owned systems including the VPN should address the following conditions:
 - a. Any changes to County-owned systems must be done in accordance with the DoITS change management policy.
 - b. Vendor must agree to turn over any relevant passwords on request. This requirement is for shared resources and accounts, and not individual users.

Examples: password-protected documents; administrator accounts not tied to a specific user or service accounts

- c. Vendor must agree to accept as-is all applicable County policies.
 - d. Any systems used to perform services for the County must run an operating system currently supported by the Vendor, have all security patches installed, and Windows systems must run anti-virus software.
 - e. Connections to the County VPN require the use of Multi-Factor Authentication.
 - f. The County provided VPN solution is the only approved method for remotely accessing the County network.
 - g. For personnel with access to County resources, the County should be notified in advance of employee terminations or reassignment so that access can be terminated. Notification must be made within 24 hours for unplanned changes.
 - h. Vendor must respond to requests by the County to validate user access lists within ten (10) business days.
 - i. Vendor must not transfer County data to non-County-owned systems unless authorized to do so as part of providing services. Data transferred must be protected according to industry best practices. At a minimum, this includes disk encryption on all portable systems that store County data.
 - j. Vendor personnel must not delete, disable, or bypass any encryption, anti-virus, or other security software installed on Gwinnett County systems without approval from the Security Operations team.
 - k. Vendor personnel must execute only applications that pertain to their specific contract work.
 - l. The County is not liable for any damages to the vendor computer equipment that may occur while installing or using software or hardware connected to any County systems.
 - m. Vendor personnel may not copy any data and/or software from any County resource for personal use.
 - n. Vendor personnel are prohibited from intercepting or monitoring network traffic by any means, including the use of network sniffers, unless authorized in writing by the Gwinnett County ITS Department.
3. Contracts that include services where the Vendor accesses sensitive data as defined by Georgia law, data related to law enforcement investigations or court cases, data regulated by CJIS, HIPAA, or PCI *in addition to* the requirements established by those regulations and those stated above:
 - a. May only be accessed by individuals in the United States.

4.0 ADDITIONAL REFERENCE AND GUIDANCE

Center for Internet Security (CIS) Controls

5.0 GOVERNANCE

This standard has been defined by the Chief Information Officer of Gwinnett County and the Department of Information Technology Services. The standard is effective immediately upon approval and remains in effect until superseded by another standard or revised as business needs dictate.

This document reflects the intent of the Department of Information Technology Services to implement appropriate security controls. The Department realizes that all controls may not be in place at the time of adoption but strives to bring all in-scope IT assets into compliance as resources permit. This standard must be considered for all new initiatives, and any intentional deviations require a documented exception approved by the Department Director.

5.1 Frequency of the standards review

This standard document and related documents are reviewed and updated (generally every two years) by the DoITS Management team as necessary to ensure that the standard continues to remain appropriate in the light of any relevant changes in technology and/or organizational policies.

6.0 TERMS AND DEFINITIONS

Glossary	
Term or Acronym	Definition
Active Directory (AD)	Directory service developed by Microsoft for Windows domain networks.
anti-virus (AV) software	Computer software used to prevent, detect, and remove malware.
audit log	Chronological record of security-relevant activities.
authentication	Act of proving the identity of a computer system user; for example, by entering a username and password.
change management process	A collective term for all approaches to prepare, support, and help individuals, teams, and organizations in making organizational change.
cloud computing	On-demand computing services, such as software development platforms, servers, storage, and software, over the internet, often referred to as the <i>cloud</i> .
Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) security policy	Federal mandate from the United States Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) that defines the minimum standard of security controls required for every individual with access to, or who would operate in support of, criminal justice services and information.
data loss prevention (DLP)	Software that detects potential data breaches/data ex-filtration transmissions and prevents them by monitoring, detecting, and blocking sensitive data while

Glossary	
Term or Acronym	Definition
	in use (endpoint actions), in motion (network traffic), and at rest (data storage).
encryption	The process of encoding data to prevent accurate interpretation by all but those for whom the data is intended.
Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA)	Act that was created primarily to modernize the flow of healthcare information, stipulate how personally identifiable information maintained by the healthcare and healthcare insurance industries should be protected from fraud and theft, and address limitations on healthcare insurance coverage.
Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)	An electronic authentication method in which a device user is granted access to a website or application only after successfully presenting two or more pieces of evidence (or factors) to an authentication mechanism.
Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI-DSS)	A cybersecurity security standard for organizations that handle branded credit cards from the major card schemes.
personally identifiable information (PII)	Any information about an individual that can be used to distinguish or trace an individual's identity, such as name, social security number, date, and place of birth, mother's maiden name, or biometric records; and any other information that is linked or linkable to an individual, such as medical, educational, financial, and employment information.
virtual private network (VPN)	Technology that extends a private network across a public network and enables users to send and receive data across shared or public networks as if their computing devices were directly connected to the private network.
vulnerability	A weakness within a computer system that may be exploited by a threat source resulting in compromised system data or functionality.

VERSION AND APPROVAL HISTORY					
#	Reviewed by	Review Date	Approved By	Approval Date	Changes
1.0	Matthew Puckett, CISO / Deputy Director, Cybersecurity	11/4/2020	Dorothy Parks, CIO / Department Director of ITS	11/4/2020	Initial draft
1.1	Matthew Puckett, CISO / Deputy Director, Cybersecurity	4/19/2022	N/A	N/A	Minor edits

BL106-23

Buyer Initials: DG

IF YOU DESIRE TO SUBMIT A "NO BID" IN RESPONSE TO THIS PACKAGE, PLEASE INDICATE BY CHECKING ONE OR MORE OF THE REASONS LISTED BELOW AND EXPLAIN.

- Do not offer this product or service; remove us from your bidder's list for this item only.
- Specifications too "tight"; geared toward one brand or manufacturer only.
- Specifications are unclear.
- Unable to meet specifications
- Unable to meet bond requirements
- Unable to meet insurance requirements
- Our schedule would not permit us to perform.
- Insufficient time to respond.
- Other

COMPANY NAME _____

AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE _____

SIGNATURE

**GWINNETT COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF FINANCIAL SERVICES – PURCHASING DIVISION
GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR VENDORS, TERMS AND CONDITIONS**

*****ATTENTION*****

FAILURE TO RETURN THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS MAY RESULT IN SUBMITTAL BEING DEEMED NON-RESPONSIVE AND AUTOMATIC REJECTION. THE COUNTY SHALL BE THE SOLE DETERMINANT OF TECHNICALITY VS. NON-RESPONSIVE SUBMITTAL:

1. FAILURE TO USE COUNTY QUOTE/BID/FEE SCHEDULE.
2. FAILURE TO RETURN OR ACKNOWLEDGE APPLICABLE COMPLIANCE/SPECIFICATION SHEETS.
3. FAILURE TO RETURN OR ACKNOWLEDGE APPLICABLE ADDENDA.
4. FAILURE TO PROVIDE INFORMATION ON ALTERNATES OR EQUIVALENTS.
5. FAILURE TO PROVIDE BID BOND, WHEN REQUIRED, WILL RESULT IN SUBMITTAL BEING DEEMED NON-RESPONSIVE AND AUTOMATIC REJECTION. BID BONDS ARE NOT REQUIRED ON ALL SOLICITATIONS. BOND REQUIREMENTS ARE CLEARLY STATED ON THE INVITATION PAGE. IF CLARIFICATION IS NEEDED, CONTACT THE PURCHASING ASSOCIATE LISTED IN THE INVITATION. **IF BONDS ARE REQUIRED, FORMS WILL BE PROVIDED IN THIS SOLICITATION DOCUMENT.**
6. FAILURE TO PROVIDE CONTRACTOR AFFIDAVIT AND AGREEMENT, WHEN REQUIRED, MAY RESULT IN SUBMITTAL BEING DEEMED NON-RESPONSIVE AND REJECTED. THE CONTRACTOR AFFIDAVIT AND AGREEMENT IS NOT REQUIRED ON ALL SOLICITATIONS. IF CLARIFICATION IS NEEDED, CONTACT THE PURCHASING ASSOCIATE LISTED IN THE INVITATION.
7. FAILURE TO PROVIDE AN ETHICS AFFIDAVIT WHEN REQUIRED, MAY RESULT IN SUBMITTAL BEING DEEMED NON-RESPONSIVE AND REJECTED. THE ETHICS AFFIDAVIT IS REQUIRED ON ALL FORMAL SOLICITATIONS OVER \$100,000.00. IF CLARIFICATION IS NEEDED, CONTACT THE PURCHASING ASSOCIATE LISTED IN THE INVITATION.

I. PREPARATION OF SUBMITTAL

- A. Each vendor shall examine the drawings, specifications, schedule, and all instructions. Failure to do so will be at the vendor's risk, as the vendor will be held accountable for their submittal.
- B. Each vendor shall furnish all information required by the solicitation form or document. Each vendor shall sign the submittal and print or type his or her name on the quote/bid/fee schedule. The person signing the submittal should initial erasures or other changes. An authorized agent of the vendor must sign the submittal.
- C. Fee schedule pricing should have only two decimal places unless otherwise stated. In the event of a calculation error in total price, the unit pricing prevails.
- D. Except for solicitations for the sale of real property, individuals, firms, and businesses seeking an award of a Gwinnett County contract may not initiate or continue any verbal or written communications regarding a solicitation with any County officer, elected official, employee, or other County representative other than the Purchasing Associate named in the solicitation between the date of the issuance of the solicitation and the date of the final award. The Purchasing Director will review violations. If determined that such communication has compromised the competitive process, the offer submitted by the individual, firm or business may be disqualified from consideration for award. Solicitations for the sale of real property may allow for verbal or written communications with the appropriate Gwinnett County representative.
- E. Sample contracts (if pertinent) are attached. These do NOT have to be filled out with the submittal but are contained for informational purposes only. If awarded, the successful vendor(s) will be required to execute these documents prior to County execution.
- F. Effective July 1, 2013 and in accordance with the Georgia Illegal Immigration Reform Enhancements for 2013, an original signed, notarized and fully completed Contractor Affidavit and Agreement should be included with vendor's submittal, if the solicitation is for the physical performance of services for all labor or service contract(s) that exceed \$2,499.99 (except for services performed by an individual who is licensed pursuant to Title 26, Title 43, or the State Bar of Georgia). Failure to provide the Contractor Affidavit and Agreement with your submittal may result in being deemed non-responsive and automatic rejection.

II. DELIVERY

- A. Each vendor should state time of proposed delivery of goods or services.
- B. Words such as "immediate," "as soon as possible," etc. should not be used. The known earliest date or the minimum number of calendar days required after receipt of order (delivery A.R.O.) should be stated. If calendar days are used, include Saturday, Sunday, and holidays in the number.

III. EXPLANATION TO VENDORS

Any explanation desired by a vendor regarding the meaning or interpretation of the solicitation, drawings, specifications, etc. must be requested by the question cutoff deadline stated in the solicitation for a reply to reach all vendors before the deadline of the solicitation. Any information given to a prospective vendor concerning a solicitation will be furnished to all prospective vendors as an addendum to the solicitation if such information is necessary or if the lack of such information would be prejudicial to uninformed vendors. The written solicitation documents supersede any verbal or written communications between the parties. Receipt of addenda should be acknowledged in the submittal. **It is the vendor's responsibility to ensure they have all applicable addenda prior to their**

submittal. This may be accomplished by contacting the assigned Purchasing Associate prior to the submittal or visiting the Gwinnett County website.

IV. SUBMISSION OF FORMAL OFFERS/SUBMITTALS

- A. Formal bid and proposal submittals shall be enclosed in a sealed package or envelope, addressed to the Gwinnett County Purchasing Division with the name of the vendor, the date and hour of opening and the solicitation number on the face of the package or envelope. Facsimile or emailed submittals will not be considered. Any addenda should be enclosed in the sealed envelopes as well.
- B. ADD/DEDUCT: Add or deduct amounts indicated on the outside of the envelope are allowed and will be applied to the lump sum amount. Amount shall be clearly stated and should be initialed by an authorized representative.
- C. Samples of items, when required, must be submitted within the time specified and, unless otherwise specified by the County, at no expense to the County. Unless otherwise specified, samples will be returned at the vendor's request and expense, if items are not destroyed by testing.
- D. Items offered must meet required specifications and must be of a quality that will adequately serve the use and purpose for which intended.
- E. Full identification of each item submitted, including brand name, model, catalog number, etc. must be furnished to identify exactly what the vendor is offering. Manufacturer's literature may be furnished but vendor should not submit excessive marketing material.
- F. The vendor must certify that items to be furnished are new and that the quality has not deteriorated to impair its usefulness.
- G. Unsigned submittals will not be considered except in cases where it is enclosed with other documents that have been signed. The County will determine acceptability in these cases.
- H. Gwinnett County is exempt from federal excise tax and Georgia sales tax regarding goods and services purchased directly by Gwinnett County. Vendors are responsible for federal excise tax and sales tax, including taxes for materials incorporated in county construction projects. Vendors should contact the State of Georgia Sales Tax Division for additional information. Agreements were there is a cost-plus mark-up, mark-up will not be paid on taxes.
- I. Information submitted by a vendor in the solicitation process shall be subject to disclosure after the public opening in accordance with the Georgia Open Records Act.

V. WITHDRAWAL DUE TO ERRORS

Vendors must give Gwinnett County Purchasing Division written notice within two (2) business days of completion of the opening stating that they wish to withdraw their submittal without penalty for an obvious clerical or calculation error. Submittal may be withdrawn from consideration if the price was substantially lower than the other submittals due solely to a mistake therein, provided pricing was submitted in good faith, and the mistake was a clerical mistake as opposed to a judgment mistake and was due to an unintentional arithmetic error or an unintentional omission of a quantity of work, labor or material made directly in the compilation of the submittal. The unintentional arithmetic error or omission can be clearly proven through inspection of the original work papers, documents, and materials used in preparing the submittal sought to be withdrawn. The vendor's original work papers shall be the sole acceptable evidence of error and mistake if a vendor elects to withdraw their submittal. If a quote or bid submittal is withdrawn under the authority of this provision, the lowest remaining responsive offer shall be deemed to be low bid.

No vendor who is permitted to withdraw their submittal shall, for compensation, supply any material or labor or perform any subcontract or other work agreement for the person or firm to whom the contract is awarded or otherwise benefit, directly or indirectly, from the performance of the project for which the withdrawn bid or proposal was submitted.

Vendors who fail to request withdrawal by the required forty-eight (48) hours may automatically forfeit bid bond if a bond was required. Bid may not be withdrawn otherwise.

Withdrawal is not automatically granted and will be allowed solely at Gwinnett County's discretion.

VI. TESTING AND INSPECTION

Since tests may require several days for completion, the County reserves the right to use a portion of any supplies before the results of the tests are determined. Cost of inspections and tests of any item that fails to meet the specifications, shall be borne by the vendor.

VII. F.O.B. POINT

Unless otherwise stated in the request for invitation and any resulting contract, or unless qualified by the vendor, items shall be shipped F.O.B. Destination, Freight Prepaid and Allowed. The seller shall retain title for the risk of transportation, including the filing for loss or damages. The invoice covering the items is not payable until items are delivered and the contract of carriage has been completed. Unless the F.O.B. clause states otherwise, the seller assumes transportation and related charges either by payment or allowance.

VIII. PATENT INDEMNITY

The vendor guarantees to hold the County, its agents, officers, or employees harmless from liability of any nature or kind for use of any copyrighted or uncopyrighted composition, secret process, patented or unpatented invention, articles or appliances furnished or used in the performance of the contract, for which the vendor is not the patentee, assignee, or licensee.

IX. BID BONDS AND PAYMENT AND PERFORMANCE BONDS (IF REQUIRED, FORMS WILL BE PROVIDED IN THIS DOCUMENT)

A five percent (5%) bid bond, a one hundred percent (100%) performance bond, and a one hundred percent (100%) payment bond must be furnished to Gwinnett County for any solicitation as required in the solicitation package or document. **Failure to submit a bid bond with the proper rating will result in submittal being deemed non-responsive.** Bonding company must be authorized to do business in Georgia by the Georgia Insurance Commission, listed in the Department of the Treasury's publication of companies holding certificates of authority as acceptable surety on Federal bonds and as acceptable reinsuring companies, and have an A.M. Best rating as stated in the insurance requirement of the solicitation. **The bid bond, payment bond, and performance bond must have the proper A.M. Best rating as stated in the solicitation document.**

X. DISCOUNTS

- A. Time payment discounts may be considered in arriving at net prices and in award of solicitations. Offers of discounts for payment within ten (10) days following the end of the month are preferred.
- B. In connection with any discount offered, time will be computed from the date of delivery and acceptance at destination, or from the date correct invoice or voucher is received, whichever is the later date. Payment is deemed to be made for the purpose of earning the discount on the date of the County check.

XI. AWARD

- A. Award will be made to either the highest scoring firm (for proposals) or the lowest responsive and responsible vendor (for quotes/bids). The quality of the articles to be supplied, their conformity with the specifications, their suitability to the requirements of the County, and the delivery terms will be taken into consideration in making the award. The County may make such investigations as it deems necessary to determine the ability of the vendor to perform, and the vendor shall furnish to the County all such information and data for this purpose as the County may request. The County reserves the right to reject any submittal if the evidence submitted by, or investigation of such vendor fails to satisfy the County that such vendor is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the contract.
- B. The County reserves the right to reject or accept any or all offers and to waive technicalities, informalities and minor irregularities in the submittals received.
- C. The County reserves the right to make an award as deemed in its best interest, which may include awarding to a single vendor or multiple vendors; or to award the whole solicitation agreement, only part of the agreement, or none of the agreement, based on its sole discretion of its best interest.
- D. In the event of proposal scores rounded to the nearest whole number result in a tie score, the award will be based on lowest cost.
- E. If proposal negotiations with the highest ranked firm are unsuccessful, the County may then negotiate with the second ranked firm and so on until a satisfactory agreement has been reached.

XII. DELIVERY FAILURES

Failure of a vendor to deliver within the time specified or within reasonable time as interpreted by the Purchasing Director, or failure to make replacement of rejected articles/services when so requested, immediately or as directed by the Purchasing Director, shall constitute authority for the Purchasing Director to purchase in the open market articles/services of comparable grade to replace the articles/services rejected or not delivered. On all such purchases, the vendor shall reimburse the County within a reasonable time specified by the Purchasing Director for any expense incurred in excess of the contract prices, or the County shall have the right to deduct such amount from monies owed the defaulting vendor. Alternatively, the County may penalize the vendor one percent (1%) per day for a period of up to ten (10) days for each day that delivery or replacement is late. Should public necessity demand it, the County reserves the right to use or consume articles/services delivered which are substandard in quality, subject to an adjustment in price to be determined by the Purchasing Director.

XIII. COUNTY FURNISHED PROPERTY

No material, labor or facilities will be furnished by the County unless so provided in the solicitation package.

XIV. REJECTION OF SUBMITTALS

Failure to observe any of the instructions or conditions in this solicitation package may constitute grounds for rejection.

XV. CONTRACT

Each submittal is received with the understanding that the acceptance in writing by the County of the offer to furnish any or all the commodities or services described therein shall constitute a contract between the vendor and the County which shall bind the vendor on his part to furnish and deliver the articles quoted at the prices stated in accordance with the conditions of said accepted submittal. The County, on its part, may order from such vendor, except for cause beyond reasonable control, and to

pay for, at the agreed prices, all articles specified and delivered.

Upon receipt of a solicitation package containing a Gwinnett County "Sample Contract" as part of the requirements, it is understood that the vendor has reviewed the documents with the understanding that Gwinnett County requires that all agreements between the parties must be entered into via this document. If any exceptions are taken to any part, each must be stated in detail and submitted as part of the vendor's submittal. If no exceptions are stated, it is assumed that the vendor fully agrees to the provisions contained in the "Sample Contract" in its entirety.

Any Consultant as defined in O.C.G.A. §36-80-28 that is engaged to develop or draft specifications/requirements or serve in a consultative role during the procurement process for any County procurement method, by entering into such an arrangement or executing a contract, the consultant agrees to abide by the current state law and: 1) Avoid any appearance of impropriety and shall follow all policies and procedures of the County, 2) Disclose to the County any material transaction or relationship pursuant to §36-80-28, that is considered a conflict of interest, any involvement in litigation or other dispute, relationship, or financial interest not disclosed in the ethics affidavit, and 3) Acknowledge that any violation or threatened violation of the agreement may cause irreparable injury to the County, entitling the County to seek injunctive relief in addition to all other legal remedies.

When the vendor has performed in accordance with the provisions of this agreement, Gwinnett County shall pay to the vendor, within thirty (30) days of receipt of any department approved payment request and based upon work completed or service provided pursuant to the contract, the sum so requested, less the retainage stated in this agreement, if any. If Gwinnett County fails to pay the vendor within sixty (60) days of receipt of a pay request based upon work completed or service provided pursuant to the contract, the County shall pay the vendor interest at the rate of ½% per month or pro rata fraction thereof, beginning the sixty-first (61st) day following receipt of pay requests. The vendor's acceptance of progress payments or final payment shall release all claims for interest on said payment.

The parties agree that this Contract shall be governed and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Georgia.

XVI. NON-COLLUSION

Vendor declares that the submittal is not made in connection with any other vendor's submittal for the same commodity or commodities, and that the submittal is bona fide and is in all respects fair and without collusion or fraud. An affidavit of non-collusion shall be executed by each vendor. Collusion and fraud in submittal preparation shall be reported to the State of Georgia Attorney General and the United States Justice Department.

XVII. DEFAULT

The contract may be canceled or annulled by the Purchasing Director in whole or in part by written notice of default to the vendor upon non-performance or violation of contract terms. An award may be made to the next low responsive and responsible vendor, or the next highest scoring responsive and responsible proposer, or articles specified may be purchased on the open market similar to those so terminated. In either event, the defaulting vendor (or their surety) shall be liable to the County for costs to the County in excess of the defaulted contract prices; provided, however, that the vendor shall continue the performance of this contract to the extent not terminated under the provisions of this clause. Failure of the vendor to deliver materials or services within the time stipulated on their offer, unless extended in writing by the Purchasing Director, shall constitute contract default.

XVIII. TERMINATION FOR CAUSE

The County may terminate this agreement for cause upon ten days prior written notice to the vendor of the vendor's default in the performance of any term of this agreement. Such termination shall be without prejudice to any of the County's rights or remedies by law.

XIX. TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE

The County may terminate this agreement for its convenience at any time upon 30 days written notice to the vendor. In the event of the County's termination of this agreement for convenience, the vendor will be paid for those services actually performed. Partially completed performance of the agreement will be compensated based upon a signed statement of completion to be submitted by the vendor, which shall itemize each element of performance.

XX. SUBSTITUTIONS

Vendors offering substitutions or who are deviating from the attached specifications shall list such deviations on a separate sheet to be submitted with their offer. The absence of such a substitution list shall indicate that the vendor has taken no exception to the specifications contained herein.

XXI. INELIGIBLE VENDORS

The County may choose not to accept the offer by an individual, firm, or business who is in default on the payment of taxes, licenses, or other monies owed to the County. Additionally, vendors or persons placed on an Ineligible Source List for reasons listed in Part 6, Section II of the Gwinnett County Purchasing Ordinance shall not be eligible to provide any commodities or services to the County during the period such person remains on the Ineligible Source List.

XXII. PENDING LITIGATION

An individual, firm, or business that has litigation pending against the County, or anyone representing a firm or business in litigation against the County, not arising out of the procurement process, will be disqualified.

XXIII. OCCUPATION TAX CERTIFICATE

Each successful vendor must have a valid Gwinnett County occupation tax certificate if the vendor maintains an office within the unincorporated area of Gwinnett County. Incorporated, out of County, and out of State vendors are required to have any and all certificates necessary to do business in any town, County or municipality in the State of Georgia, or as otherwise required by County ordinance or resolution. Vendors may be required to provide evidence of valid certificates. Out of State vendors are required to have a certificate in the Georgia jurisdiction where they receive the most revenue.

XXIV. PURCHASING POLICY AND REVIEW COMMITTEE

The Purchasing Policy & Review Committee has been established to review purchasing procedures and make recommendations for changes; resolve problems regarding the purchasing process; make recommendations for standardization of commodities, schedule buying, qualified products list, annual contracts, supplier performance (Ineligible Source List), and other problems or requirements related to purchasing. The Purchasing Policy & Review Committee has authority to place vendors on the Ineligible Source List for reasons listed in Part 6, Section II of the Gwinnett County Purchasing Ordinance, for a period not to exceed three (3) years.

XXV. AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

All vendors for Gwinnett County are required to comply with all applicable sections of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as an equal opportunity employer. In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Gwinnett County provides reasonable accommodations to permit a qualified applicant with a disability to enjoy the privileges of employment equal to those employees without disabilities. Disabled individuals must satisfy job requirements for education background, employment experience, and must be able to perform those tasks that are essential to the job with or without reasonable accommodations. Any requests for the reasonable accommodations required by individuals to fully participate in any open meeting, program or activity of Gwinnett County should be directed to the ADA Coordinator, 75 Langley Drive, Lawrenceville, Georgia 30046, 770-822-8165.

XXVI. ALTERATIONS OF SOLICITATION AND ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Alterations of County documents are strictly prohibited and will result in automatic disqualification of the vendor's solicitation response. If there are "exceptions" or comments to any of the solicitation requirements or other language, then the firm may make notes to those areas, but may not materially alter any document language.

XXVII. TAX LIABILITY

Local and state governmental entities must notify vendors of their use tax liability on public works projects. Under Georgia law, private vendors are responsible for paying a use tax equal to the sales tax rate on material and equipment purchased under a governmental exemption that is incorporated into a government construction project: excluding material and equipment provided for the installation, repair, or expansion of a public water, gas, or sewer system when the property is installed for general distribution purposes. To the extent the tangible personal property maintains its character (for example, the installation of a kitchen stove), it remains tax-exempt. However, if the installation incorporates the tangible personal property into realty (for example, the installation of sheetrock), it becomes taxable to the private vendor. See O.C.G.A. §48-8-3(2) and O.C.G.A. §48-8-63.

XXVIII. STATE AND FEDERAL LAW REGARDING WORKER VERIFICATION

Effective July 1, 2013 State Law requires that all who enter into a contract for the physical performance of services for all labor or service contract(s) that exceed \$2,499.99 (except for services performed by an individual who is licensed pursuant to Title 26, Title 43, or the State Bar of Georgia) and that all who enter into a contract for public works as defined by O.C.G.A. §36-91-2(12) for the County, must satisfy the Illegal Immigration Reform Enhancements for 2013 in conjunction with the Federal Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA) of 1986, in all manner, and such are conditions of the contract.

The Purchasing Division Director with the assistance of the Internal Audit Division shall be authorized to conduct random audits of a vendor's or subcontractors' compliance with the Illegal Immigration Reform Enhancements for 2013 and the rules and regulations of the Georgia Department of Labor. The vendor and subcontractors shall retain all documents and records of its compliance for a period of five (5) years following completion of the contract or shall abide by the current time requirements at the time of the contract. This requirement shall apply to all contracts for all public works, labor or service contracts that exceed \$2,499.99 except for services performed by an individual who is licensed pursuant to Title 26, Title 43, or the State Bar of Georgia.

Whenever it appears that a vendor's or subcontractor's records are not sufficient to verify the work eligibility of any individual in the employment of such vendor or subcontractor, the Purchasing Director shall report same to the Department of Homeland Security and may result in termination of the contract if it is determined at any time during the work that the vendor or subcontractor is no longer in compliance with worker verification.

By submitting an offer to the County, vendor agrees that, in the event the vendor employs or contracts with any subcontractor(s) in connection with the covered contract, the vendor will secure from the subcontractor(s) such subcontractor(s)' indication of the employee-number category applicable to the subcontractor, as well as attestation(s) from such subcontractor(s) that they follow the Illegal Immigration Reform Enhancements for 2013 in conjunction with all federal requirements. Original signed, notarized Subcontractor Affidavits and Agreements must be maintained by the vendor awarded the contract.

A vendor's or subcontractor's failure to participate in the federal work authorization program as defined above shall be subject to termination of the contract. A vendor's failure to follow Gwinnett County's instruction to terminate a subcontractor that is not participating in the federal work authorization program may be subject to termination of the contract.

XXIX. SOLID WASTE ORDINANCE

No individual, partnership, corporation, or other entity shall engage in solid waste handling except in such a manner as to conform to and comply with the current Gwinnett County Solid Waste Ordinance and all other applicable local, state and federal legislation, rules, regulation, and orders.

XXX. GENERAL CONTRACTORS LICENSE

Effective July 1, 2008: **All General Contractors must have a current valid license from the State Licensing Board for Residential and General Contractors, unless specifically exempted from holding such license pursuant to Georgia law (O.C.G.A. §43-41-17).**

XXXI. PRODUCTS MANUFACTURED IN GEORGIA

When contracting for or purchasing supplies, materials, equipment, or agricultural products that exceeds \$100,000.00, excluding beverages for immediate consumption, Gwinnett County shall give preference as far as may be reasonable and practicable to such supplies, materials, equipment, and agricultural products as may be manufactured or produced in this state. Such preference shall not sacrifice quality. Gwinnett County Board of Commissioners shall consider, among other factors, information submitted by the vendor which may include the vendor's estimate of the multiplier effect on gross state domestic product and the effect on public revenues of the state and the effect on public revenues of political subdivisions resulting from acceptance of an offer to sell Georgia manufactured or produced goods as opposed to out-of-state manufactured or produced goods. Any such estimates shall be in writing. **(O.C.G.A. §36-84-1).**

XXXII. INDEMNIFICATION

To the fullest extent permitted by law, the vendor shall, at his sole cost and expense, indemnify, defend, satisfy all judgments, and hold harmless the County, its commissioners, officers, agents, and employees from and against all claims, damages, actions, judgments, costs, penalties, liabilities, losses and expenses, including, but not limited to, attorney's fees arising out of or resulting from the performance of the work, provided that any such claim, damage, action, judgment, cost, penalty, liability, loss or expense (1) is attributable to bodily injury, sickness, disease, or death, or to injury to or destruction of tangible property (other than the work itself) including the loss of use resulting therefrom, and (2) is caused in whole or in part by the negligent acts, errors by any act or omission of the vendor, any subcontractor, anyone directly or indirectly employed by any of them or anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable, regardless whether such claim is caused in part by a party indemnified hereunder. Such obligation shall not be construed to negate, abridge, or otherwise reduce any of the rights or obligations of indemnity which would otherwise exist as to any party or person described in this agreement. In any and all claims against the County, its commissioners, officers, agents, and employees by any employee of the vendor, any subcontractor, anyone directly or indirectly employed by any of them, or anyone for whose acts any of them may be liable, the indemnification obligation contained herein shall not be limited in any way by any limitation on the amount or type of damages, compensation, or benefits payable by or for the vendor or any subcontractor under Worker's Compensation Acts, disability benefit acts, or other employee benefit acts.

Vendor shall also indemnify, hold harmless, insure, and defend the County for damages, losses, or expenses to the extent caused by or resulting from the negligence, recklessness, or intentionally wrongful conduct of the vendor or other persons employed or utilized by the vendor in the performance of a contract that utilizes survey services.

XXXIII. CODE OF ETHICS

Vendors shall disclose under oath the name of all elected officials whom it employs or who have a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the business entity, its affiliates, or its subcontractors. (This shall not apply to informal purchases as defined by the Purchasing Ordinance.) The vendor shall execute a Code of Ethics affidavit. Failure to submit the affidavit during the procurement process shall render the offer non-responsive.

Any business entity holding a contract with Gwinnett County that after execution of the contract or issuance of the purchase order employs, subcontracts with, or transfers a direct or indirect pecuniary interest in the business entity to an elected official shall within five (5) days disclose such fact in writing under oath to the Clerk of the Board of Commissioners. Failure to comply, or vendors submitting false information or omitting material information shall be referred to the Purchasing Policy & Review Committee for action pursuant to the Purchasing Ordinance or to the District Attorney for possible criminal prosecution. Note: See Gwinnett County Code of Ethics Ordinance E02011, Sec. 54-33. The ordinance is available to view in its entirety at www.gwinnettcounty.com.

XXXIV. ELECTRONIC PAYMENT

Vendors accepting procurements should select one of Gwinnett County's electronic payment options.

- A. A vendor may select ePayables payment process which allows acceptance of Gwinnett County's virtual credit card as payment for outstanding invoices. The authorized vendor representative must send an email to: vendorelectronicpayment@gwinnettcounty.com and indicate the desire to enroll in Gwinnett County's virtual credit card payment process.
- B. A vendor may select Direct Deposit payment process and the payment will be deposited directly into an account at their designated financial institution. To securely enroll in Direct Deposit, either access your online [Vendor Login and Registration](#) on the County's web site and update the requested information on the Direct Deposit tab or mail a [Direct Deposit Authorization Agreement](#) form.

The County will send a Payment Advice notification via email for both payment types. For more information about Electronic Payments, please visit the Gwinnett County Treasury Division page or click here -> [Gwinnett County Electronic Payments](#).

DIRECTIONS TO GJAC BUILDING FROM I-85

Take I-85 to Georgia Highway 316 (Lawrenceville/Athens exit). Exit Highway 120 (Lawrenceville/Duluth exit) and turn right. At seventh traffic light, turn right onto Langley Drive. Cross Highway 29 through the traffic light and proceed through the roundabout. Visitors can either proceed to the front parking area on the left or to the parking deck behind the building. Click [here](#) for additional information about parking. The Purchasing Division is located on the second floor, West Wing.