



**CAMERON COUNTY
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
INVITATION TO RFP**

RFP NUMBER # 1470

RFP TITLE: WORKERS COMPENSATION

DATE DUE: OCTOBER 25, 2016

DUE NO LATER THAN: 11:00 A.M.

Bids/ RFP's / RFQ's will be opened at the Cameron County Courthouse, 1100 East Monroe Street, Brownsville, Texas in the Purchasing Department – 3rd Floor – Room # 345 at 11:01 a.m. (as per Purchasing Dept. time clock) on deadline due date.

RFPs received later than the date and time above will not be considered.

Please return **ORIGINAL AND SEVEN (7) COPIES** RFP in sealed envelope. Be sure that return envelope shows the RFP Number, Description and is marked "SEALED RFP".

RETURN RFP TO:

by U.S. mail or delivered to the office of Purchasing Dept., **County Courthouse (Dancy Bldg.)
1100 E. Monroe St, 3rd Floor, Room 345, Brownsville, Texas 78520.**

[http://www.co.cameron.tx.us/administration/purchasing_department/bids_rfp\(q\)_and_addms_and_tabs.php](http://www.co.cameron.tx.us/administration/purchasing_department/bids_rfp(q)_and_addms_and_tabs.php)

For additional information or to request addendum contact: Mike Forbes or Beverly Findley at (956) 544-0871.

E-mail: mforbes@co.cameron.tx.us or purchasing@co.cameron.tx.us

To ask specific / technical questions on project requirements, please call: **Susan Golla (McGriff) at (210) 247-4290**

You must sign below in INK; failure to sign WILL disqualify the offer. All prices must be typewritten or written in ink.

Company Name: _____

Company Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Telephone No. _____ Fax No. _____ e-mail _____

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

Print Name: _____ Signature: _____

How did you find out about this RFP? _____ (ex: Newspaper, Web, Mail)

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

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

PROPOSER’S ACKNOWLEDGEMENT FORM

Please fill out and e-mail this page back to to Mike Forbes mforbes@co.cameron.tx.us or Beverly Findley beverly.findley@co.cameron.tx.us as soon as you receive or view this RFP document.

Name of Firm: _____

Contact Name : _____

Contact Individuals e-mail address: _____

Contact Phone number: _____

Date: _____

Proposer acknowledges viewing this RFP

Proposer acknowledges being aware that all Addendums are available for viewing at the following site (in the Addendum column) :

http://www.co.cameron.tx.us/purchasing/specs_notices.htm

Proposers are responsible for monitoring all addendums at this site

Returning this form ASAP to Cameron County serves in assisting Cameron County identify all Proposers interested in participating in this RFP.

CHECK LIST

Items checked below represent components which comprise this bid/proposal package. If the item **IS NOT** checked, it is **NOT APPLICABLE** to this bid/proposal. Offerors are asked to review the package to be sure that all applicable parts are included. If any portion of the package is missing, notify the Purchasing Department immediately. It is the Offeror's responsibility to be familiar with all the Requirements and Specifications. Be sure you understand the following before you return your RFP packet.

Cover Sheet

Your company name, address and your signature (**IN INK**) should appear on this page.

Instructions to Proposers

You should be familiar with all of the Instructions to Proposers.

Special Requirements

This section provides information you must know in order to make an offer properly.

Specifications / Scope of Work

This section contains the detailed description of the product/service sought by the County.

Attachments

Attachments A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H

Be sure to complete these forms and return with packet.

Bid Guaranty & Performance Bond Information & Requirements

This form applies only to certain bids/proposals. All public work contracts over \$25,000 require a Payment Bond and over \$100,00 must also have a Performance Bond in a form approved by the County. Please read carefully and fill out completely.

Minimum Insurance Requirements

Included when applicable

Worker's Compensation Insurance Coverage Rule 110.110

This requirement is applicable for a building or construction contract.

Financial Statement

When this information is required, you must use this form.

Other - Final Reminders To double check before submitting BID/RFP/RFQ

Is your bid sealed with RFP #, title, Proposer Name, & return address, on outside?

Did you complete, sign and submit page 1?

Did you complete and submit attachments A,B,C,D,E , F, G, H ?

Did you provide the number of copies as required on the cover page?

Did you visit our website for any addendums?

[http://www.co.cameron.tx.us/administration/purchasing_department/bids_rfp\(q\)_and_addms_and_tabs.php](http://www.co.cameron.tx.us/administration/purchasing_department/bids_rfp(q)_and_addms_and_tabs.php)

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

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING RFP'S

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

Carefully read all instructions, requirements and specifications. Fill out all forms properly and completely. Submit your bid with all appropriate supplements and/or samples. Prior to returning your sealed bid response / submittal, all Addendums - if issued - should be reviewed and downloaded by entering the County Purchasing web http://www.co.cameron.tx.us/purchasing/specs_notices.htm Addendums Column (updated Addendums). These Addendums must be signed and returned with your bid in order to avoid disqualification. All Tabulations can also be viewed and downloaded at this site. Review this document in its entirety. Be sure your RFP is complete, and double check your RFP for accuracy.

Cameron County is an Equal Employment Opportunity Employer.

Review this document in its entirety. Be sure your RFP is complete, and double check your RFP for accuracy.

GOVERNING FORMS: In the event of any conflict between the terms and provisions of these requirements and the specifications, the specifications shall govern. In the event of any conflict of interpretation of any part of this overall document, Cameron County's interpretation shall govern. Where substitutions are used, they must be of equivalent value or service, and specified by the Proposer as such, in the columns to the right on the "Minimum Specifications' Forms". The County's specifications may be exceeded and should be noted by the Proposers as such. Any bid NOT MEETING the Minimum Requirements specified will be rejected.

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

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

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

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE:

For vendor or other person doing business with local governmental entity

This questionnaire must be filed in accordance with chapter 176 of the Local Government Code by a person doing business with the governmental entity.

By law this questionnaire must be filed with the records administrator (County Clerk's Office) of the local government not later than the 7th business day after the date the person becomes aware of facts that require the statement to be filed. See Section 176.006, Local Government Code.

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

The law requires that you file an updated completed questionnaire with the appropriate filing authority not later than September 1 of the year for which an activity described in Section 176.006(a), Local Government

Code, is pending and not later than the 7th business day after the date the originally filed questionnaire becomes incomplete or inaccurate.

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

can be downloaded at the following web site:

<http://www.co.cameron.tx.us/purchasing/Forms/conflictinterest.pdf>

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:

This questionnaire must be filed with the records administrator (County Clerk's Office) of the local government and no later than the 7th business day after the person becomes aware of facts that require this statement to be filed. Cameron County, Texas requires all persons or firms seeking to do business with the County to **provide the following information if the person becomes aware of facts that require this statement to be filed.**

Every question must be answered. If the question is not applicable, answer with "N/A."

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

can be downloaded at the following web site:

<http://www.co.cameron.tx.us/purchasing/Forms/DisclosureofInterest.pdf>

PROPOSER SHALL SUBMIT RFP ON THE FORM PROVIDED, SIGN THE VENDOR AFFIDAVIT, AND RETURN ENTIRE RFP PACKET. In the event of inclement weather and County Offices are officially closed on a RFP deadline day, RFP's will be received unit 2:00 p.m. of the next business day, for opening in the Purchasing Dept..

RFP's SUBMITTED AFTER THE SUBMISSION DEADLINE SHALL BE RETURNED UNOPENED AND WILL BE CONSIDERED VOID AND UNACCEPTABLE.

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

SUCCESSFUL PROPOSER WILL BE NOTIFIED BY MAIL. All responding proposers s will receive written notification regarding the outcome of the award.

OPEN RECORDS ACCESS TO ALL INFORMATION SUBMITTED. All information included will be open to the public, other proposers, media as per the Open Records Act and not be confidential in nature. If you deem any information as confidential, it should not be made part of your RFP package.

PLEASE NOTE CAREFULLY

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

1. **ORIGINAL AND SEVEN (7) COPIES OF RFP's MUST BE SUBMITTED** Each RFP shall be placed in a separate envelope completely and properly identified with the name and number of the RFP. RFP's must be in the Purchasing Department **BEFORE** the hour and date specified.

2. RFP's MUST give full firm name and address of the Proposer. Failure to manually sign RFP will disqualify it. Person signing RFP should show TITLE or AUTHORITY TO BIND THE FIRM IN A CONTRACT.
3. RFP's CANNOT be altered or amended after deadline time. Any alterations made before deadline time must be initiated by Proposer or his authorized agent. No RFP can be withdrawn after opening time without approval by the Commissioners Court based on a written acceptable reason.
4. Written and verbal inquiries pertaining to RFP's must give RFP Number and Company.
5. The County reserves the right to accept or reject all or any part of any RFP, waiver minor technicalities.
6. RFP unit price on quantity specified – extend and show total. In case of errors in extension, UNIT prices shall govern. RFP's subject to unlimited price increase will not be considered.
7. This is a RFP inquiry only and implies no obligation on the part of Cameron County.
8. Partial RFP's will not be accepted unless awarded by complete category or line item. **To be awarded by total RFP.**
9. It is expected that the Proposer will meet all state and federal safety standards and laws in effect on the date of the RFP for the item(s) being specified, and the particular use for which they are meant.

It is the responsibility of the proposer to ask any and all questions the proposer feels to be pertinent to the proposal. Cameron County shall not be required to attempt to anticipate such questions for proposers. Cameron County will endeavor to respond promptly to all questions asked.

INVOICES AND PAYMENTS: (a) Seller shall submit separate invoices, in duplicate, on each purchase order. each delivery. Invoices shall indicate the purchase order number. Mail to: Cameron County, ATTN: Auditor's Office, 1100 East Monroe St., Brownsville, Texas 78520. Service provider should keep the Finance Department advised of any changes in your remittance addresses. (b) Buyer's obligation is payable only and solely from funds available for the purpose of the purchase. Lack of funds shall render this contract null and void to the extent funds are not available. (c) Do not include Federal Excise, State or City Sales Tax. County shall furnish tax exemption certificate if required.

Any invoice, which cannot be verified by the contract price and/or is otherwise incorrect, will be returned to the offeror for correction. Contracts providing for a monthly charge will be billed and paid on a monthly basis only. Prior to any and all payments made for services provided under this contract, the offeror should provide his Taxpayer Identification Number or social security number as applicable. This information must be on file with the Cameron County Auditor's office.

Failure to provide this information may result in a delay in payment and/or back-up withholding as required by the Internal Revenue Services. Titles and Invoices: all titles and invoices will be in the name of **Cameron County, 1100 East Monroe Street, Brownsville, Texas 78520**, and signed ONLY by the County Auditor's Office personnel.

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

**CAMERON COUNTY AUDITOR
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE
1100 EAST MONROE ST.,
BROWNSVILLE, TEXAS 78520**

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

PAYMENT DISCOUNT: Indicate the payment discount (s) available depending on the when invoices are paid. For example, 1/30 means a 1% discount if paid within 30 days, 2/15 means a 2% discount if paid within 15 days, etc. Payment in full will be made within thirty (30) days of delivery, inspection, and receipt of invoice. All costs quotations must include all the various features needed to satisfy the requirements. Note: No amounts will be paid for the items in this RFP in excess of the amounts quoted.

Prepared By: **Susan Golla (McGriff)**
Independent Insurance Consultant 8200 IH-10 West, S#317 San Antonio, TX 78230
Phone: **(210) 247-4290** Fax: (210) 695-8583

General Information

1. Cameron County, Texas, hereinafter referred to as the County, is seeking proposals in response to this Request For Proposals (RFP) for workers' compensation insurance on a fully insured basis and a self insured basis from insurance companies or a local government risk pool. The fully insured proposals are to provide various deductible options. The self insured proposals are to include administration services and excess risk insurance.
2. The contract effective date will be January 1, 2017.
3. Favorable consideration will be given to those insurance companies with an A.M. Best rating of A-VII or better. If the insurance company is not rated by A.M. Best, audited financial statements must be submitted.
4. A local government self-insurance risk pool organized under the Texas Interlocal Cooperation Act or other state law shall also be an acceptable provider with satisfactory reinsurance information and audited financial statements.
5. Proposals are to be submitted on the basis of the specifications contained herein. Proposer must include the RFP Submission Forms with its proposal. All costs to be incurred and billed to the County will be firm and included in these forms.
6. The information contained herein is believed to be accurate and up-to-date, but is not intended to be an express or implied warranty.
7. No telephone or faxed proposals will be accepted. Proposals will be accepted only if delivered in person, by U.S. Postal Service, or by delivery service such as UPS or Federal Express. The County will not be responsible for missing, lost, or late deliveries. Proposals received after the submission deadline shall be returned unopened and will not be considered.
8. Firms submitting proposals shall not discuss their proposal with members of the Cameron County Commissioners' Court prior to the award of the contract.
9. The County desires to receive proposals with and without agent services. Insurance companies or services providers are requested to submit separate proposals for direct services, without agent compensation, and for agent services with agent compensation. The insurance company or risk pool may elect to submit a single proposal with or without agent services.
10. If agent services are to be used, the insurance company or risk pool is to submit a proposal for only the one agent selected by the insurance company or service provider. Insurance companies or risk pools are not to submit proposal for more than one agent. However, agents may represent multiple insurance companies or service providers'.
11. The agent/agency must have been licensed in Texas for the last five years and must have errors & omissions coverage of at least **\$5** million per occurrence.

12. The County is requesting proposals for a three year period on one of the following basis:
- Fixed price for a three year period, or
 - Two annual renewal adjustments determined by formula at the time the contract is awarded, or
 - One year contract with two annual renewal options deemed to be favorable to the County. Renewal rates must be provided to the County 90 days prior to the anniversary date.
13. Workers' Compensation insurance coverage has been provided by the Texas Association of Counties Risk Management Pool (TAC) for several years (Fully Funded prior to 2014; \$100,000 Deductible currently). TAC is a participant in the Alliance managed care network and uses the services of York Claims Services (formerly JI Companies) for claim administration services.
14. The County's contract anniversary date with TAC is January 1st, with the option to terminate with 60 days notice. If the County terminates the contract, TAC has full responsibility for administration and cost for all run-out claims.
15. Since the County's current Workers' Compensation program is currently on a large deductible program, with TAC, all run-out claims incurred prior to January 1, 2017 will be processed & paid by TAC.
16. The County's Accident Prevention Plan includes monthly safety training, vehicle and equipment inspections and fire/work hazard inspections. On a case by case basis, employees unable to perform the full duties of their assignment due to work related Injury or illness are assigned to a temporary or limited duty assignment that meets the work restrictions imposed by the treating physician.
17. Claim staff must be properly licensed and qualified for the services provided. At least one dedicated claim examiner is to be assigned to the County's account.

18. EVALUATION AND SELECTION CRITERIA Scoring Worksheet:

WEIGHTED QUANTITATIVE SCORING:

Each Vendor will be assigned a score of 1- 4 by each evaluator for each criteria

- 4 = Very good / Exceeds expectations
- 3 = Above expectations
- 2 = Meets expectations
- 1 = Does not meet expectations
- 0 = non responsive

Utilization of 0 by evaluator requires Evaluation Committee's full consensus.

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

Scoring for price will be a ratio and based on a pro rata factor of the best price submitted.

- Ex: Vendor W - price \$100,000 = 4 points X assigned weight (ie: 25%) = 100 points
 Vendor X – price \$150,000 = 2.66 points X assigned weight (ie: 25%) = 66.6 points
 Vendor Y – price \$200,000 = 2 points X assigned weight (ie: 25%) = 50 points
 $\$100,000 \div \$200,000 = .50 \times 4 = 2 \times 25 = 50$
 $\$100,000 \div \$150,000 = .66 \times 4 = 2.666 \times 25 = 66$

Once RFPs are reviewed and scored, a short list will be compiled. Interviews may be conducted with Proposers determined by total score rankings. Additional information may be required at that time. Negotiations will begin with the Proposer selected for the project. Commissioners Court will make the final selection and possible approval of the contract.

- 40% - Total Proposed Premium
- 20% - Proposer's Qualification / Experience
- 20% - Support Services
- 20% - Services & Approach to Meeting Cameron County's Needs & Requirements

INSURANCE AGENCY QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Who will have primary responsibility for The County's account? _____

a. Number of years in the insurance business: _____
b. Insurance background: _____
c. Educational background: _____
d. Number of other public entities serviced: _____
2. Who will be the back-up person for the County's account? _____

a. Number of years in the insurance business: _____
b. Insurance background: _____
c. Educational background: _____
d. Number of other public entities serviced: _____
3. How many Texas governmental entities does your agency (this office, if a national broker) provide coverage on behalf of? _____
4. What is your (this office, if a national broker) estimated premium volume with Texas counties?

Other public entities? _____
5. The County will expect the following annual reports from its agents:
 - a. Summary of premium and losses by coverage.
 - b. Forecast of insurance market status prior to renewal.
 - c. Insurance policy abstracts (summaries).
 - d. Prior to future renewals, report containing suggested coverage or rating enhancements for the upcoming year.
 - e. Following future renewals, a report detailing all material policy changes.
6. Please attach a copy of the following documents:
 - a. A copy of the current license.
 - b. A certificate for agent's error and omissions coverage insured for at least \$1 million limit.

Additional questions:

Support:

How many claims adjusters and claim support personnel do you employ?

Do you provide a toll-free phone number for our employees?

How can we track the status of a claim?

Experience:

How many clients of our size does your firm currently cover?

How many Counties of our size does your firm currently cover?

How does your firm differentiate itself from its competitors?

Claims Management Process:

What does your claim form look like?
What is the preferred way to submit a claim?
During which parts of the process will you notify County?
What reporting options do you offer?

Bundled Services:

What other types of insurances does your company provide?
Do you offer price discounts to clients that purchase more than one type of insurance?
What percentage of your total business does workers' compensation insurance comprise?

Financial Security:

What is your Company's internal audit process?
How frequently are internal audits performed?
How do financial analysts describe the security of your company?

By: _____
Agent: _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____ Fax: _____
Email: _____

AGENT'S STATEMENT

I certify that all specified coverage will be provided except as indicated on the attached explanation. If needed, please add separate sheet(s) to explain reasons why your proposal differs from criteria outlined in the specifications.

The coverages quoted and insurance companies providing coverage are the following:

COVERAGE SERVICE

INSURANCE COMPANY

Type Agent's Name

Agent's Telephone / Fax Number

Agent's Signature

Agent's Email Address

Date

Fully Insured Questionnaire

1. Describe the business entity submitting the proposal:
 - a. Name of Company: _____
 - b. Address: _____

 - c. Contact Person: _____
 - d. Email Address: _____
 - e. Telephone #: _____ Fax #: _____
 - f. Date Founded: _____
 - g. Type of Entity:
 1. Insurance Company Yes No
 2. Risk Pool Yes No
2. Describe Financial Stability of Insurance Company.
 - a. What is current A.M. Best rating for your Company? _____
(Please provide financial size category.)
 - b. If not rated by A.M. Best, please provide audited financial statements for most recent fiscal year.
 - c. Is Insurance Company authorized to do business in Texas? Yes No
3. Describe Financial Stability of Risk Pool:
 - a. Please provide audited financial statements for most recent fiscal year.
 - b. Please provide reinsurance information to include reinsurance company, limits & deductibles.
4. Describe workers' compensation experience:
 - a. Number of Texas counties: _____
 - b. Total number of Texas employers: _____
 - c. Total number of Texas covered employees: _____
5. Describe claim administration services:
 - a. Name of Firm: _____
 - b. Location of claim office: _____
 - c. Will Cameron County have dedicated adjuster? Yes No
Comment: _____
 - d. Provide claim reporting guidelines, as well as samples of all claims reporting forms.
 - e. Is there 24 hour claim service? Yes No
Comment: _____
6. Describe managed care network:
 - a. Name of network: _____
 - b. Provide list of Cameron County providers.
 - c. Attach sample information provided to employees to explain access to network.
7. Describe claim utilization reports to include frequency of reports and on-line access to reports.

8. Premium Quote:

- a. Annual premium from attached premium calculation worksheet:
 - 1) No Deductible: _____
 - 2) \$ 50,000 Deductible: _____
 - 3) \$100,000 Deductible: _____
 - 4) \$200,000 Deductible: _____
 - 5) \$300,000 Deductible: _____
- b. For what period of time are quoted rates guaranteed? _____
- c. Is longer rate guarantee available? Yes No
- d. Is retention (refund) accounting available? Yes No
If yes, please describe: _____
- e. Provide explanation for each of the factors used in adjustment to manual premium calculation.

Benchmark Price:

Company Name

Authorized Signature

Address

Type Signatory's Name & Title

Telephone Number / Fax Number

Agent Name

Signatory's Email Address

CLAIM ADMINISTRATION SERVICES

QUESTIONNAIRE

1. Describe organization submitting proposal:

Name of Firm: _____

Address: _____

Contact Person: _____ Telephone Number: _____

Year Founded: _____

2. Please attach audited financial statements.

3. Describe Claim Administration experience:

a. Number of Clients: _____

b. Total Client Employees/lives: _____

c. Number of Texas County accounts: _____

4. Provide three Texas client references preferably Counties of comparable size.

<u>Name of Client</u>	<u>Contact Person</u>	<u>Telephone Number</u>	<u>No. of Employees</u>
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

5. Do you provide the following services within the terms of the contract and quoted fee? (If available for an additional fee, please indicate and list fee):

Representation at all Benefit Review Conferences Yes No Additional Fee: _____

Representation at Contested Case Hearings Yes No Additional Fee: _____

Legal Representation at Benefit Review Conferences and at Contested Case Hearings Yes No Additional Fee: _____

Does your firm select the law firm or will the County have the ability to select the law firm of its choosing? Yes No Additional Fee: _____

Adjuster monthly visits with the County Yes No Additional Fee: _____

- Computer supported on-site claims management networking for client Yes No Additional Fee: _____
- Retaining of private investigator, when necessary Yes No Additional Fee: _____
- Preauthorization's Yes No Additional Fee: _____
- Online Reporting, Claims reports/updates Yes No Additional Fee: _____
- Provide a dedicated adjuster Yes No Additional Fee: _____
- Handle claim for the life of claim Yes No Additional Fee: _____
- Provide for medical review where necessary Yes No Additional Fee: _____
- Provide medical provider managed care network Yes No Additional Fee: _____
- Calculate medical provider discounts Yes No Additional Fee: _____
- Large Case Management Yes No Additional Fee: _____
- Loss Control Services Yes No Additional Fee: _____
- If yes, number of visits included & additional visits rate: # _____ Additional Fee: _____
- Detailed Loss History Yes No Additional Fee: _____
- Custom Reports on an as needed basis Yes No Additional Fee: _____

6. Briefly describe how your company sets reserve limits: _____

7. Estimate your claims per adjuster ratio: _____

8. List the names, experience, and qualifications of the personnel who will serve as claims adjusters:

Primary Adjuster: _____

Back-up Adjuster: _____

9. Where is the location of the office that would handle the County's claims? _____

10. Is there 24 hour claims service? _____

11. Will the County be consulted on the disposition of all claims over \$5,000? _____

12. Will the County receive monthly claim reports (please provide sample reports)? Yes No

13. Will the County receive expanded quarterly claim reports (please provide sample reports)? Yes No

14. Please attach any additional information you feel would be relevant.

15. Please attach copies of claims reporting guidelines that the insured must comply with, as well as samples of all claims reporting forms used.

16. Describe medical provider managed care network (include list of providers in Cameron County).

17. Describe procedure for calculation of medical provider discounts and documentation for discounts.

18. Describe Large Case Management Services:

19. Describe banking procedures and internal controls:

20. Please provide certificate of insurance coverage for the following:
a. Error and Omissions Insurance coverage insured for at least \$5 million limit.
b. Employee Dishonesty/Crime Insurance

21. List any variations/deviations from specifications:

22. Fee Structure: Provide a complete description for each of the proposed services, e.g. Medical Only claims, Loss of Time claims, Record Only, Run-In Claims, provider bill repricing, etc.

Service

Fee Basis

23. Are the above fees fixed for a three year period? Yes No

If no, please explain formula for fee adjustment:

24. Please provide the following information for fees:

a. What constitutes a Medical Only claim? _____

b. What constitutes a Record Only claim? _____

c. When does a Medical Only claim become an Indemnity claim? _____

d. When Medical Only or Record Only claim moves to the next claim level is credit applied for prior fee?
Yes No

Comment: _____

Company Name

Authorized Signature

Address

Signatory's Name and Title

Signatory's Email Address

Telephone Number / Fax Number

Date

EXCESS RISK INSURANCE

Background Information and RFP Assumptions

1. The County desires to receive firm quotes for specific excess risk insurance of \$400,000 self-insured retention (SIR) per occurrence with aggregate loss fund percentage of 140% and aggregate excess insurance limit of \$5,000,000. Alternate SIR and aggregate quotes are also requested.
2. The County desires to receive proposals for a three year period on one of the following basis:
 - a. Fixed price for the three period, or
 - b. Two annual renewal adjustments determined by formula at the time the contract is awarded, or
 - c. One year contract with two annual renewal options for rate and premiums deemed to be favorable to the County. Renewal rates are to be provided to the County ninety days prior to anniversary date.
3. Contract effective date is to be January 1, 2017.
4. Statutory Texas benefits must be provided.
5. Employers Liability Maximum Limit of \$1,000,000 per occurrence.
6. Excess Risk Insurance Proposals will be considered independently of the Claim Administration Services proposals.
7. Proposals should include disclosure of all commission and/or agent service fees. The names(s) of the agent(s) receiving the commission/fees or revenue must be provided as well as the name of the provider of the commission/fees/revenue and the amounts of commission/fees or revenue.

Insurance Company/Risk Pool Information

Name of Company: _____

Address of Company: _____

Contact Person: _____ Telephone Number: _____

Insurance Company: Yes No A. M. Best Rating/Size: _____

Risk Pool: Yes No Financial Information: Yes No

If Risk Pool, provide the following Financial Information:

- a. Audited financial statements for most recent fiscal year.
- b. Reinsurance information to include reinsurance company, limits & deductible.

Premium Quotation – Specific and Aggregate

Self Insured Retention (Per Occurrence)	Annual Premium	Aggregate Limit
\$ 50,000	_____	_____
\$100,000	_____	_____
\$200,000	_____	_____
\$300,000	_____	_____
\$350,000	_____	_____
Other \$ _____	_____	_____

Attach Insurance Company complete quotation document & specimen policy.

Are the rate factors for the above premiums fixed for a three year period: Yes No
If no, please explain formula for premium adjustment for year 2 and year 3.

Other Information:

Explain procedure and documentation required for Specific Excess recovery: _____

Explain procedure and documentation required for Aggregate Excess recovery: _____

Explain any special services/features that are included in the proposal: _____

List any variations/deviations from specifications: _____

Company Name

Authorized Signature

Address

Type Signatory's Name and Title

Signatory's Email Address

Telephone Number / Fax Number

Date

RFP Title _____

Proposer's Name _____

Attachment A

REFERENCES

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

REFERENCE ONE

Government/Company Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact Person and Title: _____

Phone: _____ e-mail address: _____

Contract Period: _____ Scope of Work _____

REFERENCE TWO

Government/Company Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact Person and Title: _____

Phone: _____ e-mail address: _____

Contract Period: _____ Scope of Work _____

REFERENCE THREE

Government/Company Name: _____

Address: _____

Contact Person and Title: _____

Phone: _____ e-mail address: _____

Contract Period: _____ Scope of Work _____

THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED WITH YOUR RFP

STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF CAMERON

AFFIDAVIT

The undersigned certifies that the RFP prices contained in this RFP have been carefully checked and are submitted as correct and final and if RFP is accepted (within 60 days), agrees to furnish any and/or all items upon which prices are offered, at the price(s) and upon the conditions contained in the Specifications.

BEFORE ME, the undersigned authority, A Notary Public in and for the State of _____, on this day personally appeared _____ who, after having first been duly sworn, upon oath did depose and say;

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

Name and Address of Proposer :

Telephone number _____ Fax number _____

Signature

Name: _____ Title: _____

SWORN TO AND SUBSCRIBE BEFORE ME THIS _____ day of _____ 20_____.

Notary Public in and for County _____ State _____

THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED WITH YOUR RFP

RESIDENCE CERTIFICATION

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

“Nonresident Bidder ” refers to a person who is not a resident.

“Resident Bidder ” refers to a person whose principal place of business is in this state, including a contractor whose ultimate parent company or majority owner has its principal place of business in this state.

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

I certify that _____ is a Nonresident Bidder as defined in Government Code §2252.001 and our principal place of business is _____.
(City and State)

Print Name: _____ Signature: _____

THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED WITH YOUR RFP

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

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

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

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

Signature of person submitting this RFP

Date

THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED WITH YOUR RFP

ORDER NO. 2007O2005

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF CAMERON §

**ORDER ADOPTING CONTRACTING RULES
FOR PERSONS INDEBTED TO COUNTY**

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

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

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

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

ADOPTED this 13 day of March, 2007.

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

Cameron County Acct #'s : Real Estate _____ Personal Property _____

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

Signature of person submitting this RFP

Date

THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED WITH YOUR RFP

Certification

Regarding Debarment, Suspension Ineligibility

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

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

Signature: _____

Print Name: _____

Title: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Date: _____

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

THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED WITH YOUR RFP

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE**FORM CIQ****For vendor doing business with local governmental entity**

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

OFFICE USE ONLY

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

Date Received

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

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

1 Name of vendor who has a business relationship with local governmental entity.**2. Check this box if you are filing an update to a previously filed questionnaire.**

(The law requires that you file an updated completed questionnaire with the appropriate tiling authority not later than the 7th business day after the date on which you became aware that the originally tiled questionnaire was incomplete or inaccurate.)

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

Name of Officer

This section (item 3 including subparts A, B, C, & D) must be completed for each officer with whom the vendor has an employment or other business relationship as defined by Section 176.001 (1-a), Local Government Code. Attach additional pages to this Form CIQ as necessary.

A. Is the local government officer named in this section receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income from the vendor?

Yes No

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

Yes No

C. Is the tiler of this questionnaire employed by a corporation or other business entity with respect to which the local government officer services as an officer or director, or holds an ownership interest of one percent or more?

Yes No

D. Describe each employment or business and family relationship with the local government officer named in this section.

4.

Signature of vendor doing business with the governmental entity

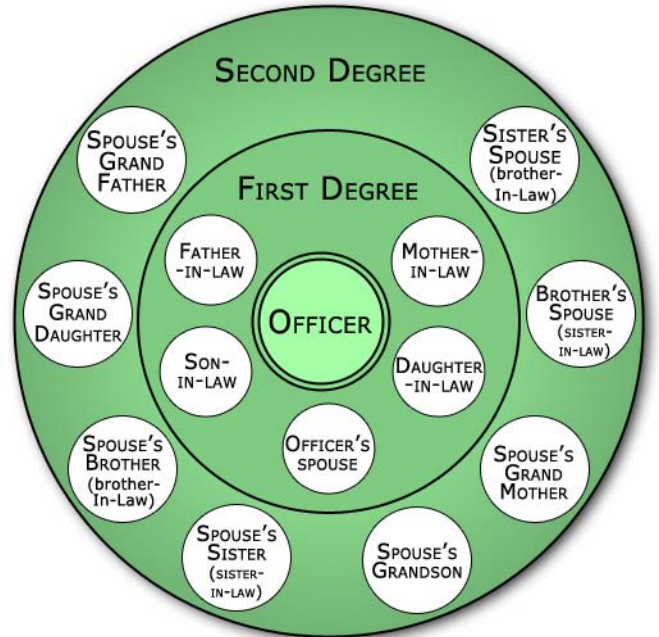
Date

NEPOTISM CHART

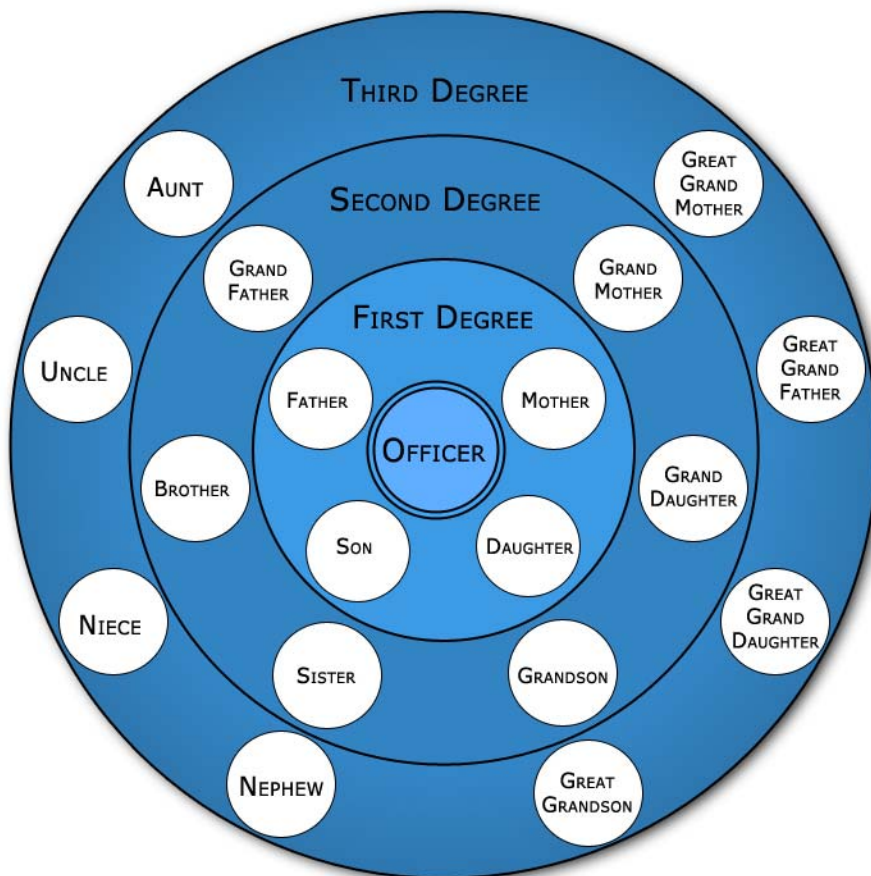
The chart below shows

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

AFFINITY KINSHIP
Relationship by Marriage



CONSANGUINITY KINSHIP
Relationship by Blood



DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

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

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

Date _____

FIRM NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

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

DISCLOSURE QUESTIONS

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

1. State the names of each "employee, elected official, or member of Commissioners Court" of Cameron County having Substantial Interest in Business Entity **Local Govt. Code 171.002**

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS (CONTINUED)

- a) For purpose of this chapter, a person has a substantial interest in a business entity if :
 - (1) the person owns 10 percent or more of the voting stock or shares of the business entity or owns either 10 percent or more or \$15,000 or more of the fair market value of the business entity; or
 - (2) funds received by the person from the business entity exceeds 10 percent of the person’s gross income for the previous year.
- b) A person has a substantial interest in real property if the interest is an equitable or legal ownership with a fair market value of \$2,500 or more.
- c) A local public official is considered to have a substantial interest under this section if a person related to the official in the first degree by consanguinity or affinity, as determined under Chapter 573, Government Code, has a substantial interest under this section.

Name	Title	Department

CERTIFICATE

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

Certifying Person: _____ Title: _____
 (Type or Print)

Signature of Certifying Person: _____ Date: _____

GENERAL TERMS & CONDITIONS (Requests for proposals (RFP))

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

ADVERTISING: Unless otherwise required by law, Proposers to County RFPs shall not publish and shall keep confidential their intentions and actions respecting any response to the RFP.

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

BONDS: If the contract that may be entered into with the County will likely require a performance guarantee or bond, the Purchasing Department will attach a separate page to the RFP explaining those requirements.

CANCELLATION AND TERMINATION: In any contract resulting from the RFP, the County shall have the right to cancel all or any part of the undelivered portion of the contract if (1) Proposer breaches any of the terms hereof, including, but not limited to, applicable warranties, and/or (2) Proposer becomes insolvent or files for bankruptcy. Such right of cancellation is in addition to, and not in lieu of, any other remedies which the County may have in law or equity. Cancellation of work hereunder shall be effected by the delivery to the Proposer of a "Notice of Cancellation of Undelivered Work" specifying the extent to which performance of work, including all goods and services, under the contract is cancelled and the date upon which such cancellation becomes effective.

The performance of work under any resulting contract may be terminated in whole, or in part, by the County in accordance with this provision. The County shall have the right to terminate all or any part of the contract if (1) the Proposer breaches any of the terms hereof, including, but not limited to, applicable warranties, and/or (2) Proposer becomes insolvent or files for bankruptcy. Such right of termination is in addition to, and not in lieu of, any other remedies which the County may have in law or equity. Termination of work hereunder shall be effected by the delivery to the Proposer of a "Notice of Termination" specifying the extent to which performance of work, including all goods and services, under the contract is terminated and the date upon which such termination becomes effective.

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

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

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

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

EVALUATION: All responses will be evaluated in accordance with law and reviewed to assure they are in the best interest of Cameron County. Evaluations shall be based on criteria bearing on price and performance of the items or services in the user environment. Any specific criteria section or sections identified elsewhere in this RFP may be evaluated by one or more evaluators once the basis and details of this process have been approved by the Purchasing Officer and acknowledged by the Evaluation Committee. Detailed information pertaining to this selective evaluation process is available to Proposers and the Commissioners Court upon request. Evaluation sheets and any summary of all responses are subject to review by the Cameron County Purchasing Department and Evaluation Committee's recommendation to Cameron County Commissioners Court. Compliance with all RFP requirements, delivery terms and needs of the using department are considerations in evaluating responses. Pricing is NOT the only criterion for making a recommendation (see criteria and relative importance of price and other evaluation factors, if any, specified elsewhere in this RFP). The Cameron County Purchasing Department reserves the right to contact any Proposer, at any time, to clarify, verify or request information with regard to that Proposer's response. The Cameron County Purchasing Department further reserves the right to hold negotiation discussions with any responsible Proposer determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award in accordance with law.

PROTEST PROCEDURES: Procedure - This protest procedure is available to Proposers responding to this RFP and requesting a debriefing conference.

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

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

Grounds for protest

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

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

1. Information about the protesting Proposer; name of firm, mailing address, phone number and name of individual responsible for submission of the protest.
2. Information about the acquisition and the acquisition method.
3. Specific and complete statement of the County's action(s) being protested.
4. Specific reference to the grounds for the protest.
5. Description of the relief or corrective action requested.
6. For protests to the Protest Committee, a copy of the Purchasing Department's written decision on the protest.

Review Process:

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

Final Determination:

The final determination shall:

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

Protest Committee Review Process:

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

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

GRATUITIES AND PROHIBITION AGAINST PERSONAL INTEREST IN CONTRACTS: Any elected or appointed official who has any substantial interest, either direct or indirect, in any business entity seeking to contract with the County, shall, before any vote or decision on any matter involving the business entity, file an affidavit stating the nature and extent of interest and shall abstain from any participation in the matter. This is not required if the vote or decision will not have any special effect on the entity other than its effect on the public. However, if a majority of the governing body is also required to file, and do file similar affidavits, then the member is not required to abstain from further participation. Attached and included in this RFP is a disclosure of all of this Company's business or pecuniary financial relationships with officers or employees of Cameron County or County entities (if any such relationships exists) which must be filled out, attached and included with the RFP response. The County may, by written notice to the Proposer, cancel this contract without liability to Proposer if it is determined by County that gratuities, in the form of entertainment, gifts, or otherwise, were offered or given by the Proposer, or any agent, or representative of the Proposer, to any officer or employee of Cameron County with a view toward securing a contract or securing favorable treatment with respect to the awarding or amending or the making or any determinations with respect to the performance of such a contract. In the event this contract is cancelled by County pursuant to this provision, County shall be entitled, in addition to any other rights and remedies, to recover or withhold the amount of the costs incurred by Proposer in providing such gratuities. Proposer guarantees that he has not retained a person to solicit or secure any contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, except for retention of bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial selling agencies maintained by the Proposer for the purpose of securing business.

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

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

MAINTENANCE: Maintenance required for equipment requested in RFPs should be available in Cameron County by a manufacturer authorized maintenance facility. Costs for this service shall be shown on the Pricing/Delivery Information form. If Cameron County opts to include maintenance, it shall be so stated in the purchase order and said cost will be included. Service will commence only upon expiration of applicable warranties and should be priced accordingly.

MATERIAL SAFETY DATA SHEETS: Under the "Hazardous Communication Act", commonly known as the "Texas Right To Know Act", a Proposer must provide to the County with each delivery, material safety data sheets which are applicable to hazardous substances defined in the Act. Failure of the Proposer to furnish this documentation will be cause to reject any RFP applying thereto.

NAME BRANDS: Specifications may reference name brands and model numbers. It is not the intent of Cameron County to restrict responses to RFPs in such cases, but to establish a desired quality level of merchandise or to meet a pre-established standard common to similar existing items. Proposers may offer items of equal stature and standard, but the burden of proof of such stature and standard rests with Proposers. Cameron County shall act as sole judge in determining equality and acceptability of products offered.

PRICING: Prices for all goods and/or services shall be firm for the duration of the contract and shall be stated on the Pricing/Delivery Information form. Prices shall be all inclusive: No price changes, additions, or subsequent qualifications will be honored during the term of the contract. All prices must be written in ink or typewritten. Pricing on all transportation, freight, drayage and other charges are to be prepaid by the Proposer and included in the price. If there are any

additional charges of any kind, other than those mentioned above, specified or unspecified, Proposer MUST indicate the items required and attendant costs or forfeit the right to payment for such items. Where unit pricing and extended pricing differ, unit pricing prevails.

RECYCLED MATERIALS: Cameron County encourages the use of products made of recycled materials and shall give preference in purchasing to products made of recycled materials if the products meet applicable specifications as to quantity and quality. County will be the sole judge in determining product preference application.

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

SILENCE OF SPECIFICATIONS: The apparent silence of specifications as to any detail, or the apparent omission from it of a detailed description concerning any point, shall be regarded as meaning that only the best commercial practices are to prevail and that only material and workmanship of the finest quality are to be used. All interpretations of specifications shall be made on the basis of this statement. The items furnished under this contract shall be new, unused of the latest product in production to commercial trade and shall be of the highest quality as to materials used and workmanship. The manufacturer furnishing these items shall be experienced in design and construction of such items and shall be an established supplier of the item needed in the RFP. Substitute items will not be accepted unless approved (in advance).

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

TITLE TRANSFER: Title and Risk of Loss of goods shall not pass to Cameron County until Cameron County actually receives and takes possession of the goods at the point or points of delivery. Receiving times may vary with the using department. Generally, deliveries may be made between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Proposers are advised to consult the using department for instructions. The place of delivery shall be shown under the "Special Requirements/Instructions" section of this RFP package and/or on the Purchase Order as a "Deliver To:" with the address.

USAGE REPORTS: Cameron County reserves the right to request, and receive at no additional cost up to two (2) times during the contract period, a usage report detailing the products and/or services furnished to date under a contract resulting from this RFP. The reports must be furnished no later than five (5) working days after written request and itemize all purchases to date by

Cameron County department with a description, of each item purchased, including the manufacturer, quantity of each item purchased, the per unit and extended price of each item purchased, and the total amount and price of all items purchased.

WARRANTY PRICE: (a) The price to be paid by the County shall be that contained in Proposer's response to the RFP which Proposer warrants to be no higher than Proposer's current prices on orders by others for products of the kind and specification covered by this agreement for similar quantities under similar or like conditions and methods of purchase. In the event Proposer breaches this warranty, the prices of the items shall be reduced to the Proposer's current prices on orders by others, or in the alternative, County may cancel this contract without liability to Proposer for breach or Proposer's actual expense.

(b) The Proposer warrants that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure this contract upon an agreement or understanding for commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee excepting bona fide employees of bona fide established commercial or selling agencies maintained by the Proposer for the purpose of securing business. For breach or violation of this warranty, the County shall have the right in addition to any other right or rights to cancel this contract without liability and to deduct from the contract price, or otherwise recover the full amount of such commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee.

Proposers shall furnish all data pertinent to warranties or guarantees which may apply to items in the RFP.

Proposers may not limit or exclude any implied warranties.

Proposer warrants that products sold and services provided to the County shall conform to the highest commercial and/or professional standards in the industry and laws established by the U.S. Department of Labor, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Occupational Safety and Health Administration and O.S.H.A. Act of 1970. In the event any product does not conform to OSHA Standards, where applicable, Cameron County may return the product for correction or replacement at the Proposer's expense. If Proposer fails to make the appropriate correction within a reasonable time, Cameron County may correct at the Proposer's expense.

-WARRANTY ITEMS/PRODUCTS: Proposer warrants that products sold and services provided to the County shall conform to the highest commercial and/or professional standards in the industry and laws established by the U.S. Department of Labor, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Occupational Safety and Health Administration and O.S.H.A. Act of 1970. In the event product does not conform to OSHA Standards, where applicable, Cameron County may return the product for correction or replacement at the Proposer's expense. If Proposer fails to make the appropriate correction within a reasonable time, Cameron County may correct at the Proposer's expense.

Proposer shall not limit or exclude any implied warranties and any attempt to do so shall render this contract voidable at the option of the County.

Proposer warrants that the goods furnished will conform to the specifications, drawings and descriptions listed in the RFP invitation and to the sample(s) furnished by Proposer, if any. In the event of a conflict between the specifications, drawings and descriptions, the specifications shall govern. All items must be new, in first class condition, unless otherwise specified. The design, strength, and quality of materials must conform to the highest standards of manufacturing practice.

Items supplied under this contract shall be subject to the County's approval. Successful Proposer shall warrant that all items/services shall conform to the proposed specifications and/or all warranties as stated in the Uniform Commercial Code and be free from all defects in material, workmanship and title. Any items found defective or not meeting specifications shall be picked up and promptly replaced by the successful Proposer at no expense to the County.

SAFETY WARRANTY: As noted above, Proposer warrants that the products sold to County shall conform to the standards promulgated by the U.S. Department of Labor under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970. In the event the product does not conform to OSHA standards, County may return the product for correction or replacement at the Proposer's expense. In the event Proposer fails to make the appropriate correction within a reasonable time, correction made by County will be at Proposer's expense. Have you attached the required warranty information to the RFP (if applicable)? "Yes" or "No"

APPLICABLE LAW

To the extent it is applicable, this agreement shall be governed by the Uniform Commercial Code. Wherever the term "Uniform Commercial Code" is used, it shall be construed as meaning "the Uniform Commercial Code" as adopted in the State of Texas as effective and in force on the date of this agreement. Otherwise, Texas state and federal law shall apply.

ASSIGNMENT DELEGATION: No right, obligation or interest in this contract shall be assigned or delegated to another by Proposer without the written permission of the County. Any attempted assignment or delegation by Proposer shall be wholly void and totally ineffective for all purposes unless made in conformity with this paragraph.

CONTRACT OBLIGATION: Cameron County Commissioners Court must award any resulting contract and the County Judge or other person authorized by the Cameron County Commissioners Court must sign the contract before it becomes binding on Cameron County or the Proposer. Department Heads are NOT authorized to sign agreements for Cameron County. Binding agreements shall remain in effect until all products and/or services covered by this RFP – have been delivered and accepted and all contract requirements have been satisfied.

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

FORCE MAJEURE: If, by reason of Force Majeure, either party hereto shall be rendered unable wholly, or in part, to carry out its obligations under this RFP and any resulting contract, then such party shall give notice and full particulars of Force Majeure in writing to the other party within a reasonable time after occurrence of the event or cause relied upon, and the obligation of the party giving such notice, so far as it is affected by such Force Majeure, shall be suspended during the continuance of the inability then claimed, except as hereinafter provided, but for no longer period, and such party shall endeavor to remove or overcome such inability with all reasonable dispatch. The term "Force Majeure" as employed herein, shall mean acts of God, strikes, lockouts, or other industrial disturbances, act of public enemy, orders of any kind of government of the United States or the State of Texas or any civil or military authority, insurrections, riots, epidemics, landslides, lightening, earthquakes, fires, hurricanes, storms, floods, washouts, droughts, arrests, restraint of government and people, civil disturbances, explosions, breakage or accidents to machinery, pipelines or canals, or other causes not reasonably within the control of the party claiming such inability. It is understood and agreed that the settlement of strikes and lockouts shall be entirely with the discretion of the party having the difficulty, and that the above requirement that any Force Majeure shall be remedied with all reasonable dispatch shall not require the settlement of strikes and lockouts by acceding to the demands of the opposing party or parties when such settlement is unfavorable in the judgment of the party having the difficulty.

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

INFRINGEMENTS: There will be no warranty by County against infringements. As part of this contract for sales, Proposer agrees to ascertain whether goods manufactured in accordance with the specifications attached to this agreement will give rise to the rightful claim of any third person by way of infringement or the like. County makes no warranty that the production of goods according to the specification will not give rise to such a claim, and in no event shall County be liable to Proposer for indemnification in the event that Proposer gets sued on the grounds of infringement or the like. If Proposer is of the opinion that an infringement or the like will result, Proposer shall notify County to that effect in writing within two (2) weeks after the signing of this agreement. If County does not receive notice and is subsequently held liable for the infringement or the like, Proposer will hold County harmless. If Proposer in good faith ascertains that production of the goods in accordance with the specifications will result in infringement or the like, this contract shall be null and void, except that County will pay Proposer the reasonable cost of Proposer's search as to infringement. The Proposer agrees to protect the County from claims involving infringement of patents or copyrights.

INTERPRETATION PAROLE EVIDENCE: Unless a separate contract or addendum hereof is prepared and entered into following the award of this RFP to a successful Proposer, this writing is intended by the parties as a final expression of the terms of this RFP and the general terms of any resulting contract. No course of prior dealings between the parties and no usage of the trade shall be relevant to supplement or explain any term. Acceptance or acquiescence in a course of performance rendered under this RFP and any resulting contract shall not be relevant to determine meaning even though the accepting or acquiescing party has knowledge of the performance and opportunity for objection. Whenever a term defined by the Uniform Commercial Code is used in this agreement, the definition contained in the Code is to Control, if applicable.

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

MODIFICATIONS: This contract can be modified or rescinded only by a writing signed by both of the parties or their duly authorized agents.

O.S.H.A.: Proposer must meet all Federal and State OSHA requirements.

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

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

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

VENUE: Both parties agree that venue for any litigation arising from this contract shall lie in Cameron County, Texas.

PROPOSER SHALL CONFIRM ACCEPTANCE OF RFB TERMS: The Proposer shall specifically state acceptance of these terms and conditions as a basis for providing the County with a response to this RFP.

THESE TERMS INCORPORATED: These General Terms and Conditions shall be incorporated in the response to the RFP and any resulting contract to this RFP. The Proposer shall specifically state acceptance of these terms and conditions as a basis for providing the County with a response to this RFP.

OTHER TERMS: The Proposer shall state any exceptions desired to these terms and conditions and may suggest alternate wording that addresses the intent of the term or condition. The County may accept or reject any suggestions in accordance with law.