



**CAMERON COUNTY  
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT  
INVITATION TO RFQ**

**RFQ NUMBER : 150903**

**RFQ TITLE: CONSULTING SERVICES FOR PREPARATION OF APPLICATIONS, IMPLEMENTATION, AND DISTRIBUTION OF FEDERAL RESOURCES AND ECOSYSTEMS SUSTAINABILITY, TOURIST OPPORTUNITIES, AND REVIVED ECONOMIES (RESTORE) OF THE GULF COAST STATES ACT DOLLARS**

**DATE DUE: OCTOBER 6, 2015**

**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 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor – Room # 345 at 11:01 a.m. (as per Purchasing Dept. time clock) on deadline due date. RFQs received later than the date and time above will not be considered.

Please return RFQ **ORIGINAL AND SIX (6) COPIES** in sealed envelope. Be sure that return envelope shows the RFQ Number, Description and is marked "SEALED RFQ".

RETURN RFQ TO:  
or delivered to the office of the Purchasing Agent, **County Courthouse (Dancy Bldg.)**  
**1100 E. Monroe St, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor, Room 345, Brownsville, Texas 78520.**

For additional information or to request addendum contact: Mike Forbes or Beverly Findley at (956) 544-0871, E-mail: [mforbes@co.cameron.tx.us](mailto:mforbes@co.cameron.tx.us) or [purchasing@co.cameron.tx.us](mailto:purchasing@co.cameron.tx.us) or [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)  
To ask specific questions on project requirements, please call: **David Garcia (County Administrator)** at 956- 982-5414.

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

## CHECK LIST

Offeror's 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 bid packet.

X **Cover Sheet**

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

X **Instructions to Bidders**

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

X **Special Requirements**

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

X **Specifications / Scope of Work**

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

### Attachments

X **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 \$100,000 must also have a Performance Bond in a form approved by the County. Please read carefully and fill out completely.

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

- \_\_\_\_\_ Is your bid sealed with bid #, title, Bidder Name, & return address on outside?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Did you complete, sign and submit page 1?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Did you provide the number of copies as required on the cover page?
- \_\_\_\_\_ Did you visit our website for any addendums?

[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 Bidding please let us know why by feedback at: [Purchasing@co.cameron.tx.us](mailto:Purchasing@co.cameron.tx.us)

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING RFQ'S

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

Carefully read all instructions, requirements and specifications. Fill out all forms properly and completely. Submit your 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/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)

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. Annual Bid award information can be accessed at: [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)

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

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

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

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

Questions requiring only clarification of instructions or specifications will be handled verbally. If any questions results in a change or addition to this RFQ, the Change(s) and addition(s) will be forwarded to all vendors involved as quickly as possible in the form of 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 RFQ.

### **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.

**Form can be downloaded at the following web site:**

<http://www.co.cameron.tx.us/purchasing/docs/conflictofinterest.pdf>

**DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS:**

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

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

**Form can be downloaded at the following web site:**

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

PROPOSER SHALL SUBMIT RFQ ON THE FORM PROVIDED, SIGN THE VENDOR AFFIDAVIT, AND RETURN ENTIRE RFQ PACKET. In the event of inclement weather and County Offices are officially closed on a RFQ deadline day, RFQ's will be received until 2:00 p.m. of the next business day, for opening at upcoming Commissioner's Court meeting.

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

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

BIDDERS / PROPOSERS MAY ATTEND PUBLICLY HELD COMMISSIONERS 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>

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 RFQ package.

**PLEASE NOTE CAREFULLY**

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

**ORIGINAL AND SIX ( 6 ) COPIES OF RFQ's MUST BE SUBMITTED** Each RFQ shall be placed in a separate envelope completely and properly identified with the name and number of the RFQ. RFQ's must be in the Purchasing Department BEFORE the hour and date specified.

RFQ's MUST give full firm name and address of the Proposer. Failure to manually sign RFQ will disqualify it. Person signing RFQ should show TITLE or AUTHORITY TO BIND THE FIRM IN A CONTRACT.

RFQ's CANNOT be altered or amended after deadline time. Any alterations made before deadline time must be initiated by Proposer or his authorized agent. No RFQ can be withdrawn after opening time without approval by the Commissioners Court based on a written acceptable reason.

The County is exempt from State Sales Tax and Federal Excise Tax. DO NOT INCLUDE TAX IN RFQ. Cameron County claims exemption from all sales and/or use taxes under Texas Tax Code §151.309, as amended. Texas Limited Sales Tax Exemption Certificates will be furnished upon written request to the Cameron County Purchasing Agent.

Written and verbal inquires pertaining to RFQ's must give RFQ Number and Company.

NO substitutions or cancellations permitted without written approval of Purchasing Agent.

The County reserves the right to accept or reject all or any part of any RFQ, or waive minor technicalities. The County of Cameron reserves the right to award by item category or by total RFQ. Prices should be itemized. County also reserves the right to award either with or without trade-in, if applicable. Cameron County retains the option to re-bid at any time if in its best interest and is not automatically bound to renewal or re-bid. The County reserves the right to add additional County

Departments (at a later time during this bid award) as the need arises. The County also reserves the right to consider CO-OP Inter-local Agreements/pricing.

RFQ unit price on quantity specified – extend and show total. In case of errors in extension, UNIT prices shall govern. RFQ's subject to unlimited price increase will not be considered. ALL PRICING WILL REMAIN FIRM UNLESS THIS BID ALLOWS FOR OPEN MARKET PRICE INCREASES (AS SO SPECIFIED WITHIN). When inserting number of days or percentage % in Bid/RFP/RFQ (ex: number of days to deliver or install or complete work, etc. or percentage over vendor's cost or percentage discount off list price) avoid using a range (ex: 30-90 days or 15% to 20 % cost plus) but use one entry for number of days or percentage. If a range is used the County will consider the higher number or worst case scenario from the County's standpoint in making RFQ comparisons / tabulations.

This is a RFQ inquiry only and implies no obligation on the part of Cameron County.

Acceptance of and final payment for the item will be contingent upon satisfactory performance of the product received by Cameron County.

Partial RFQ's will not be accepted unless awarded by complete category or line item. **To be awarded by total RFQ.**

It is expected that the Proposer will meet all state and federal safety standards and laws in effect on the date of the RFQ for the item(s) being specified, and the particular use for which they are meant.

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

**PURCHASE ORDER AND DELIVERY:** The successful offeror shall not deliver products or provide services without a Cameron County Purchase Order, signed by an authorized agent of the Cameron County Purchasing Department.

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

Any invoice, which cannot be verified by the contract price and/or is otherwise incorrect, will be returned to the offeror for correction. Under term contracts, when multiple deliveries and/or services are required, the offeror may invoice following each delivery and the County will pay on invoice. Contracts providing for a monthly charge will be billed and paid on a monthly basis only. Prior to any and all payments made for good and/or services provided under this contract, the offeror should provide his Taxpayer Identification Number or social security number as applicable. This information must be on file with the Cameron County Auditor's office. Failure to provide this information may result in a delay in payment and/or back-up withholding as required by the Internal Revenue Services.

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.

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

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

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

**PAYMENT DISCOUNT:** Indicate the payment discount (s) available depending on the when invoices are paid. For example, 1/30 means a 1% discount if paid within 30 days, 2/15 means a 2% discount if paid within 15 days, etc. Payment in full will be made within thirty (30) days of delivery, inspection, and receipt of invoice.

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 RFQ in excess of the amounts quoted.

# REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS

**RFQ # 150903**

**CONSULTING SERVICES FOR PREPARATION OF APPLICATIONS, IMPLEMENTATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF FEDERAL RESOURCES AND ECOSYSTEMS SUSTAINABILITY, TOURIST OPPORTUNITIES AND REVIVED ECONOMIES (RESTORE) OF THE GULF COAST STATES ACT DOLLARS**

**FOR  
CAMERON COUNTY, TX**

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**CONSULTING SERVICES FOR PREPARATION OF APPLICATIONS, IMPLEMENTATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF FEDERAL RESOURCES AND ECOSYSTEMS SUSTAINABILITY, TOURIST OPPORTUNITIES AND REVIVED ECONOMIES (RESTORE) OF THE GULF COAST STATES ACT DOLLARS**

**SECTION I: PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

**A. PURPOSE**

This Request for Qualifications (RFQ) invites submittals from experienced firms or individuals for the provision of preparing applications the implementation and distribution of the RESTORE ACT Gulf Coast States dollars.

Cameron County is soliciting qualifications for the provision of consultant services. Consultant will assist the County in 1) formulating criteria for the evaluation of projects, 2) performing an initial review /feasibility analysis of candidate projects, 3/ determine which possible funding sources are available for candidate projects, and 4) developing a multi-year implementation plan as required by the RESTORE Act. In order to carry out the stated tasks, Consultant will be expected to interact with other governmental agencies, jurisdictions and funding entities.

Each proposal shall detail the services and staff that will be assigned to this project. Additionally, each proposal shall detail the experience of the submitter in providing these consultant services. The purpose of this project is secure funds for viable projects under the RESTORE Act program.

**B. PROJECT SUMMARY**

**1. Introduction**

The objective of the RFQ and subsequent contracting activity is to secure the services of a capable and experienced FIRM who is capable of analyzing, preparing, securing, implementing, and managing potential RESTORE Act dollars. (See Exhibit “A”).

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**SECTION II: SCOPE OF WORK**

The following General Scope of Work is envisioned for the project and should be considered when responding to the RFQ. Nothing in this description shall be construed to limiting the potential scope of work to this description or to requiring that this description be included in the final scope of work for the project.

Nothing in the following General Scope of Work should be construed as limiting the types of work that a potential Consultant may address in a response to this Request for Qualifications. Responders should address all services which, on the basis of their experience, are deemed necessary to achieving the County's interest in applying, securing, implementing and distributing available funds.

**GENERAL SCOPE OF WORK**

The scope of work for this project shall include but not limited to the elements listed below.

1. Develop plan of action to prioritize County projects and formulate criteria for potential projects.
2. Preparation of Alternative Strategies and Concepts.
3. Perform and initial review/feasibility analysis of candidate projects as directed by County.
4. Determine funding sources available for candidate projects.
5. Preparation of Potential Improvement Costs.
6. Develop a multi-year implementation plan as required by the RESTORE Act.
7. Coordination with County Administrator and Commissioners Court throughout the project

**CONSULTING SERVICES FOR PREPARATION OF APPLICATIONS, IMPLEMENTATION  
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**SECTION III: RFQ RESPONSE REQUIREMENTS**

**QUALIFICATION CRITERIA AND INFORMATION REQUIRED**

**I Letter of Transmittal and Affidavit:**

Each proposal must be accompanied by a Letter of Transmittal signed by an authorized representative of the Submitter.

The letter must contain:

A. Identify the project by name as “CONSULTING SERVICES FOR PREPARATION OF APPLICATIONS, IMPLEMENTATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF FEDERAL RESOURCES AND ECOSYSTEMS SUSTAINABILITY, TOURIST OPPORTUNITIES AND REVIVED ECONOMIES (RESTORE) OF THE GULF COAST STATES ACT DOLLARS” and RFQ Number.

B. Include the following information:

1. Name of firm or individual
  2. Address, telephone number and fax number
  3. When organized
  4. How many years the firm has been engaged in business under the present name
  5. General types of work performed by the firm
  6. Contracts currently on hand or in effect
  7. The following questions and the firm's answers:
    - a. Have you ever failed to complete any work awarded to you? If so, explain.
    - b. Have you ever defaulted on a contract? If so, explain.
  8. Description and history of lead firm, including work with federal, state, and local entities. Description and history of partner or sub consultant firms, if any are proposed (total of 3 pages maximum for both descriptions)
  9. Name and resume of project manager or lead planner, including relevant experience and current availability (one page maximum)
  10. Names and resumes of key project consultants, including expertise in relevant areas. Include an organizational chart showing the role of each person. Include the current availability of each key staff member (three pages maximum)
  11. Understanding of the project and knowledge of local conditions and issues (five pages maximum)
  12. List of at least 5 relevant or similar efforts, including client names, references, project dates, and telephone numbers for references (five pages maximum)
  13. Schedule of planning process and project timeline (one page maximum)
- C. Be signed by an individual, identified by name and title, authorized to represent the Submitter in this matter.

## CONTENTS TO BE INCLUDED WITH RFQ SUBMISSION

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

### II. Contracting Requirements:

- A. Successful Consultant must perform as an independent contractor and, as such, must have and maintain complete control over all of its employees and operations. Provide a statement of intent.
- B. Successful Consultant must not assign, sublet, or transfer its interest or obligations of this project. Provide a statement of intent.

### III. Insurance Requirements:

- A. Consultant must provide proof of insurance to demonstrate compliance with the County's requirements specified in this package. Provide certification of insurance capacity.
- B. Successful Consultant must not begin any work under the contract until he/she has obtained all required insurance and provided the County Contract Administrator with the related certificates and endorsements. Nor shall the Consultant allow any Subcontractor to commence work until all similar insurance required of the Subcontractor has been so obtained. The Consultant may provide insurance coverage for all his Subcontractors, at Consultant's cost. However, all Subcontractors must provide their own Workers' Compensation Insurance per State law. For the duration of the project, the Consultant must provide the insurance listed below and document required coverage with certificates of insurance. Provide statement of compliance.

### IV. Use of Subcontractors:

- A. Successful Consultant may use Subcontractors for this project. Consultant must list Subcontractors proposed for this project and their respective duties.
- B. No Subcontractor may provide services unless the County consents. The Consultant shall be responsible for completing all contract work even if a Subcontractor has assumed responsibility to complete certain work. Also, the Consultant shall be responsible for the actions and performance of all Subcontractors. Furthermore, the Consultant agrees that any subcontract for this project will include the same mandatory insurance requirements in favor of the County as are specified in the County's contract with the Consultant, unless Consultant provides such coverage for his/her Subcontractors. However, all subcontractors must provide their own Workers' Compensation Insurance per State law. Subcontractor certificates of insurance and endorsements must be collected by the Consultant and made available for County Contract Administrator review upon request. Provide statement of compliance.

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**SECTION IV: EVALUATION OF RESPONSES**

**A. EVALUATION PROCESS**

Consultants will be evaluated for this project solely on the basis of the information submitted in response to the Request for Qualifications. The County will use the following evaluation process to identify the Best Qualified responder.

1. Submitters will be evaluated on the basis of the technical and project performance information they submitted. Each proposer will be evaluated based on the point awards in the following categories. The point values shown are the maximums associated with each category.

**EVALUATION AND SELECTION CRITERIA**

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

- Experience of project manager with the Cameron County project sites, local conditions and key issues - **15 POINTS**
  - Experience and capabilities of other specific team members assigned to this effort -**15 POINTS**
  - Previous experience of team firms on relevant efforts – **30 POINTS**
  - Demonstrable understanding of the project, and approach to developing a concise and clear strategy for the project - **30 POINTS**
  - Schedule and availability of staff to mobilize for this effort – clearly demonstrated sequence of steps and time that will be necessary to satisfactorily complete all proposed tasks, and availability of key staff members – **10 POINTS**
2. The total points assigned for each proposal will be the basis for identifying and selecting the best qualified submitter.
  3. Submission of a response to this RFQ implies Submitter's acceptance of the evaluation technique and that subjective judgment must be made by Cameron County during the assigning of points.
  4. The County reserves the right to deny qualification to any Consultant that, in the opinion of the County, does not satisfy the Mandatory Pre-Qualification Criteria or is not capable of satisfying the Project Requirements. The County may, at its own discretion, waive defects, irregularities, or informalities in the pre-qualification process or in any response to the process that, in the County Contract Administrator's opinion, seems most advantageous to the County and in the best interest of the public.

## **B. GENERAL PROVISIONS**

1. Submitter's may request additional information on the project for the purpose of fully understanding the obligations of the successful Consultant.
2. The County reserves the right to extend the proposal submission deadline, reject all submittals, reissue the RFQ package, or cancel the RFQ process at any time.
3. In accordance with Section 252.049 of the Texas Local Government Code, responses to this RFQ will be opened in a manner that avoids disclosure of the contents to competing submitters and keeps the submittals secret during the qualification process. All submittals will be open for public inspection after a contract is awarded, but trade secrets and confidential information in the submittals are not open for public inspection. It is specifically provided, however, that each Submitter must identify any information contained in the submittal that the Submitter asserts is either a trade secret or confidential information. This material must be identified conspicuously by marking each page containing this information. In the event such material is not conspicuously identified, then by submitting a response the Submitter agrees that such material will be considered public information.

**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 RFQ.

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

**REFERENCE ONE**

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

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

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

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

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

**REFERENCE TWO**

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

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

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

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

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

**REFERENCE THREE**

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

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

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

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

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

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTY OF CAMERON

**AFFIDAVIT**

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

Name and Address of Proposer :  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

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

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public in and for County \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

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

**RESIDENCE CERTIFICATION**

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

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

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

I certify that \_\_\_\_\_ is a  
(Company Name)

Resident

Proposer of Texas as defined in Government Code §2252.001.

I certify that \_\_\_\_\_ is a  
(Company Name)

Nonresident

Proposer 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 RFQ***

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

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

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

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02. Has any individual with the firm submitting this Proposal Response made any contact with any other Proposer concerning this Invitation to RFQ?

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of person doing business with the governmental entity

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

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

ORDER NO. 2007O2005

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
COUNTY OF CAMERON §

ORDER ADOPTING CONTRACTING RULES FOR PERSONS INDEBTED TO COUNTY

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

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

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

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

ADOPTED this 13 day of March, 2007.

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

Cameron County Acct #'s : Real Estate Personal Property

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

\_\_\_\_\_

Signature of person doing business with the governmental entity

Date

THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED WITH YOUR RFQ

**Certification Regarding Debarment, Suspension Ineligibility**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SWORN STATEMENT ON DEBARMENT

This SWORN statement is submitted with project number

\_\_\_\_\_

By:

\_\_\_\_\_

(PRINT INDIVIDUALS NAME AND TITLE)

For:

\_\_\_\_\_

(PRINT NAME OF ENTITY SUBMITTING SWORN STATEMENT)

whose business address is:

\_\_\_\_\_

CITY

STATE

ZIP

VOICE PHONE

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

\_\_\_\_\_

(INDICATE WHICH STATEMENTS APPLY)

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

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

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

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

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

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 8<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2011.

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

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

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

## CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE

For vendor or other person doing business with local governmental entity

This questionnaire is being 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.

1. **Name of person doing business with local governmental entity.**

OFFICE USE ONLY Date Received:
--------------------------------

2.  Check this box if you are filing an update to a previously filed questionnaire.

(The law requires that you file an updated completed questionnaire with the appropriate filing authority not later than 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.)

3. **Describe each affiliation or business relationship with an employee or contractor of the local governmental entity who makes recommendations to a local government officer of the local governmental entity with respect to expenditure of money .**

4. **Describe each affiliation or business relationship with a person who is a local government officer and who appoints or employs a local government officer of the local governmental entity that is the subject of this questionnaire.**

# CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE

For vendor or other person doing business with local governmental entity

5. **Name of local government officer with whom filer has affiliation or business relationship. (Complete this section only if the answer to A, B, or C is YES.)**

This section, item 5 including subparts A, B, C & D, must be completed for each officer with whom the filer has affiliation or business relationship. 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 from the filer of the questionnaire?

Yes     No

B. Is the filer of the questionnaire receiving or likely to receive taxable income from or at the direction of the local government officer named in this section AND the taxable income is not from the local governmental entity?

Yes     No

C. Is the filer of this questionnaire affiliated with a corporation or other business entity that the local government officer serves as an officer or director, or holds an ownership of 10 percent or more?

Yes     No

D. Describe each affiliation or business relationship. 6. **Describe any other affiliation or business relationship that might cause a conflict of interest.**

7. Does any individual with the firm submitting RFP have any business relationship with any County Official or County employee within the third degree of Consanguinity kinship or the second degree of Affinity kinship? (see attached Nepotism Chart)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of person doing business with the governmental entity

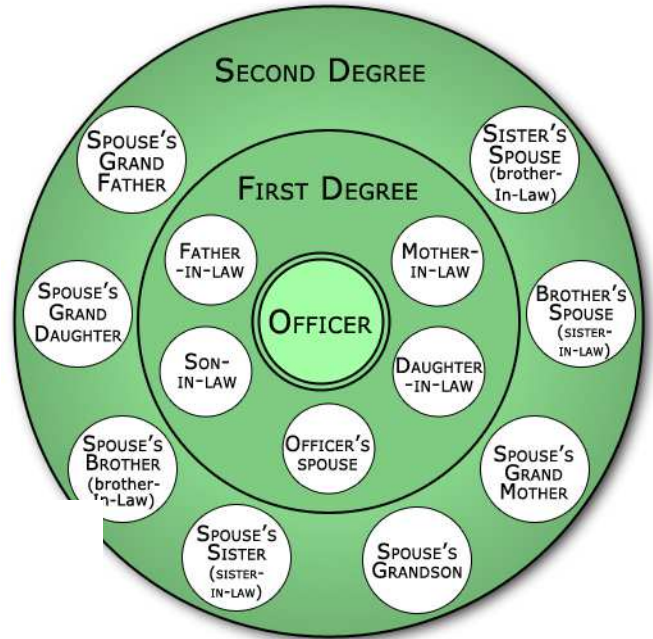
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

## NEPOTISM CHART

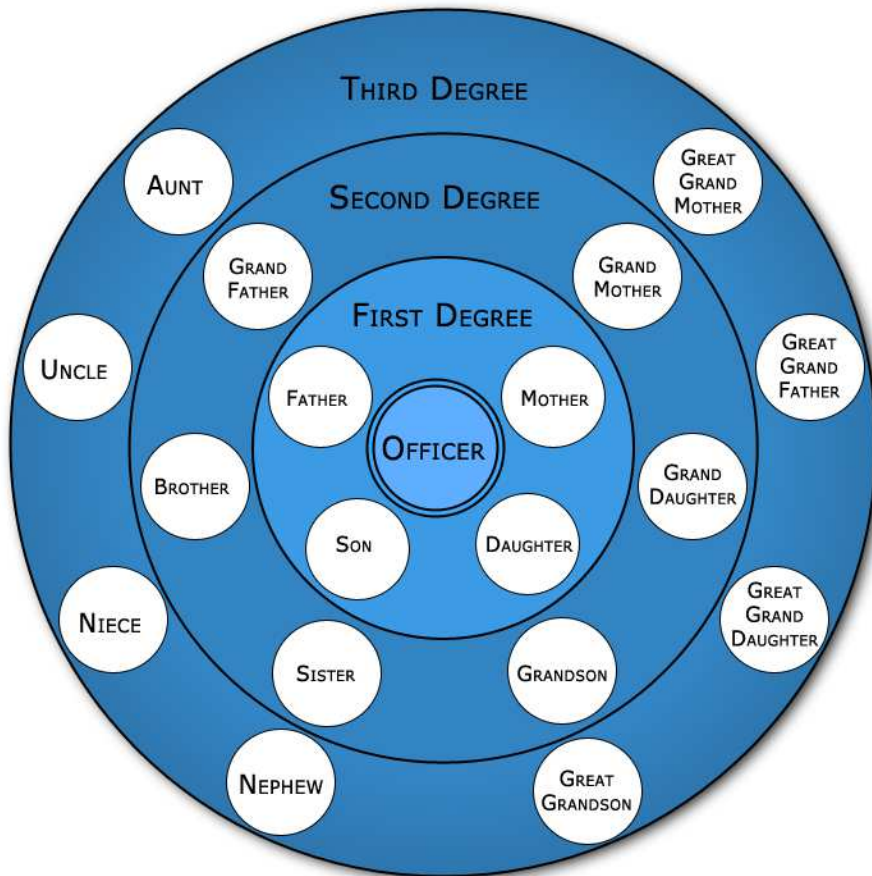
The chart below shows

- **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

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: \_\_\_\_\_

## Terms & Conditions

**ADDENDA:** When specifications are revised, the Cameron County Purchasing Department will issue an addendum addressing the nature of the change. Offerors must sign and include it in the returned RFP/RFQ package.

**ADVERTISING:** Seller shall not advertise or publish, without Buyer's Prior consent, the fact that Buyer has entered into this contract, except to the extent necessary to comply with proper request for information from an authorized representative of the federal, state or local government.

**AWARD:** Cameron County may hold all RFP/RFQ's for a period of sixty (60) days. Cameron County reserves the right to delete any item it considers too expensive. RFP/RFQ prices are to be F.O.B. Cameron County. All discounts will be considered in determining the lowest, responsible Proposer. Cameron County reserves the right to award this contract on the basis of EVALUATION CRITERIA (AS STATED IN RFP/RFQ) in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas, to waive any formality or irregularity, to make awards to more than one offeror, to reject any or all RFP/RFQ's. Commissioners Court reserves the right to determine the method and procedures for the final award of all RFP's/RFQ's at any time they so choose, regardless of the Point System used by the Evaluation Committee.

**BONDS:** If this RFP/RFQ requires submission of RFP/RFQ guarantee and performance bond, there will be a separate page explaining those requirements. RFP/RFQ's submitted without the required RFP/RFQ bond or cashier's check are not acceptable.

**CANCELLATION AND TERMINATION:** Buyer shall have the right to cancel for default all or any part of the undelivered portion of this order if Seller breaches any of the terms hereof, including warranties of Seller or if the Seller becomes insolvent or commits acts of bankruptcy. Such right of cancellation is in addition to, and not in lieu of, any other remedies which Buyer may have in law or equity.

**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 Offeror and Purchaser.

**TERMINATION:** The performance of work under this order may be terminated in whole, or in part, by the Buyer in accordance with this provision. Termination of work hereunder shall be effected by the delivery to the Seller of a "Notice of Termination" specifying the extent to which performance of work under the order is terminated and the date upon which such termination becomes effective. Such right of termination is in addition to, and not in lieu of, rights of Buyer set forth. Cameron County reserves the right to terminate the contract for default if offeror breaches any of the terms therein, including warranties of offeror or if the offeror becomes insolvent or commits acts of bankruptcy. Such right of termination is in addition to and not in lieu of any other remedies which Cameron County may have in law or equity. Default may be construed as, but not limited to, failure to deliver the proper goods and/or services within the proper amount of time, and/or to properly perform any and all services required to Cameron County's satisfaction and/or to meet all other obligations and requirements. Cameron County may terminate the contract without cause upon thirty (30) days written notice.

**CONTRACT RENEWALS:** Renewals may be made ONLY by Commissioners Court approval and agreement between Cameron County and the offeror. **To determine Annual / Anniversary renewal status - if renewed by Commissioners Court or terminated-please contact Elisa Cisneros at 956-982-5405 e-mail: [Elisa.Cisneros2@co.cameron.tx.us](mailto:Elisa.Cisneros2@co.cameron.tx.us) Purchasing Dept. or Dylbia Jeffries 956-550-1340 [djefferies@co.cameron.tx.us](mailto:djefferies@co.cameron.tx.us) Bruce Hodge at 956-550-7229 at [bhodge@co.cameron.tx.us](mailto:bhodge@co.cameron.tx.us) at County Legal Dept..** Any price escalations are limited to those stated by the original RFP/RFQ. Annual RFP/RFQ renewal – Price Increases: All Annual RFP/RFQ's with a one (1) year renewal option requires that the awarded Proposer must notify Cameron County of any anticipated price increases to the current Annual RFP/RFQ (in writing) at least two months prior to the annual renewal award date unless otherwise specified within the specific provisions of the RFP. This allows the County sufficient time to plan for re-advertising for Proposals due to a vendor required price

increase. If Vendor 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 Annual RFP/RFQ's which allow for Open Market Price increases or Cost allowance increases during the RFP/RFQ award period (as so specified in the RFP/RFQ documents).

**DISCRIMINATION:** In order to comply with the provisions of fair employment practices, the contractor agrees as follows: 1.) the contractor 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 contractor will state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration without regard to race, color, sex, age, religion, handicap or national origin; 3) the contractor 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 contractor to comply with these laws will be deemed a breach of contract and it may be cancelled, terminated or suspended in whole or in part.

**DISQUALIFICATION OF OFFEROR:** Upon signing this RFP/RFQ document, an offeror offering to sell supplies, materials, services, or equipment to Cameron County certifies that the offeror 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 the RFP/RFQ made to any competitor or any other person engaged in such line of business. Any or all RFP/RFQ's may be rejected if the County believes that collusion exists among the offerors. RFP/RFQs in which the prices are obviously unbalanced may be rejected. If multiples are submitted by an offeror and after the RFP/RFQ's are opened, one of the RFP/RFQ's are withdrawn, the result will be that all of the RFP/RFQs submitted by that offeror will be withdrawn; however, nothing herein prohibits a vendor from submitting multiples for different products or services.

**EVALUATION:** All proposals 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/services in the user environment. Any specific criteria section or sections identified elsewhere in this request for proposals may be evaluated by one or more evaluators once the basis and details of this process has been approved by the Purchasing Officer and acknowledged by the Evaluation Committee. Detailed information pertaining to this selective evaluation process is available to offerors and the Commissioners Court upon request. Evaluation sheets and summary of all RFP/RFQ's are subject to review by the Cameron County Purchasing Department and Evaluation Committee's recommendation to Cameron County Commissioners Court. Compliance with all RFP/RFQ requirements, delivery and needs of the using department are considerations in evaluating RFP/RFQ's. 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 request for proposals. ). The Cameron County Purchasing Department reserves the right to contact any offeror, at any time, to clarify, verify or request information with regard to any RFP/RFQ. The Cameron County Purchasing Department further reserves the right to hold negotiation discussions with any responsible offeror submitting proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award in accordance with law.

**PROTEST PROCEDURES:** Procedure - This protest procedure is available to vendors responding to this RFP 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 question 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 RFP/RFQ's proposers are given the opportunity to ask questions of the Evaluation Committee relative to their Proposal and scores received by their firm.

Protests are made -1. To the Purchasing Department after the debriefing conference. Vendor protests shall be received, in writing, by the Purchasing Department within five (5) business days after the vendor debriefing conference. 2. To the Protest Committee, only after the protest to the Purchasing Department was not resolved satisfactory to the protestor. Protests to the Protest Committee shall be made within five (5) business days after the vendor has received notification from the County Purchasing Department of his/her 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: Acquisition 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 vendors shall include, in their written protest to the Cameron County Purchasing Department, all facts and arguments upon which they rely. Vendors shall, at a minimum, provide: 1. Information about the protesting vendor; name of firm, mailing address, phone number and name of individual responsible for submission of the protest. 2. Information about the acquisition and the acquisition method. 3. Specific and complete statement of the County's action(s) protested. 4. Specific reference to the grounds for the protest. 5. Description of the relief or corrective action requested. 6. For protests to the Protest Committee, a copy of the Purchasing Department's written decision on the protest.

Review Process – 1. Upon receipt of a vendor protest, the Purchasing Department shall postpone further steps in the acquisition process until the vendor 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 vendor. b) A written decision will be delivered to the vendor within five business days after receipt of the protest, unless more time is needed. The protesting vendor shall be notified if additional time is necessary.

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

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

**FISCAL FUNDING:** A multi-year lease or lease/purchase arrangement (if requested by the Special Requirements/Instructions), or any contract continuing as a result of an extension option, must include fiscal funding out. 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 offeror 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 offeror.

**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, than the member is not required to abstain from further participation. Attached and included is a disclosure of all of this Company's business or pecuniary financial relationships with officers or employees of Cameron County or County entities (if any such relationships exists) must be attached and included with RFP/RFQ submitted. The Buyer may, by written notice to the Seller, cancel this contract without liability to Seller if it is determined by Buyer that gratuities, in the form of entertainment, gifts, or otherwise, were offered or given by the Seller, or any agent, or representative of the Seller, 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 performing of such a contract. In the event this contract is cancelled by Buyer pursuant to this provision , Buyer shall be entitled, in addition to any other rights and remedies, to recover or withhold the amount of the cost incurred by Seller in providing such gratuities. Consistent and continued tie RFP's/RFQ's could cause rejection of RFP/RFQ's by the County and/or investigation for Anti-Trust violations. Proposer guarantees that he has not retained a person to solicit or secure this 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 contractor 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 Proposal. This information will assist Cameron County in the percentage tracking of HUB utilization.

**INSURANCE:** The vendor 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 vendor and the interests of the Purchaser 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 Purchaser. It shall be the responsibility of the vendor to maintain adequate insurance coverage at all times. Failure of the vendor to maintain adequate coverage shall not relieve the vendor of any contractual responsibility or obligation.

**MAINTENANCE:** Maintenance required for equipment RFP/RFQ 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", an offeror 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 offeror to furnish this documentation will be cause to reject any RFP/RFQ applying thereto.

**NAME BRANDS:** Specifications may reference name brands and model numbers. It is not the intent of Cameron County to restrict these RFP/RFQs in such cases, but to establish a desired quality level of merchandise or to meet a pre-established standard due to like existing items. Offerors may offer items of equal stature and the burden of proof of such stature rests with offerors. 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 this 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 course 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 contractor and included in the RFP/RFQ prices. If there are any additional charges of any kind, other than those mentioned above, specified or unspecified, offeror 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 - FLOPPY DISK:** If in its RFP/RFQ response, offeror either electronically scans, re-types, or in some way reproduces the County's published RFP/RFQ package, then in event of any conflict between the terms and provisions of the County's published RFP/RFQ specifications, or any portion thereof, and the terms and provisions of the RFP/RFQ response made by offeror, the County's RFP/RFQ specifications as published shall control. Furthermore, if an alteration of any kind to the County's published RFP/RFQ specifications is only discovered after the contract is executed and is or is not being performed; the contract is subject to immediate cancellation.

**SILENCE OF SPECIFICATIONS:** The apparent silence of specifications as to any detail, or the apparent omission from it of a detailed description concerning any point, shall be regarded as meaning that only the best commercial practice is 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. Manufacturer furnishing these items shall be experienced in design and construction of such items and shall be an established supplier of the item RFP/RFQ. Substitute items will not be accepted unless approved (in advance).

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

**TITLE TRANSFER:** Title and Risk of Loss of goods shall not pass to Cameron Count 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. Offerors 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/RFQ package and/or on the Purchase Order as a "Deliver To:" 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, description of each item purchased, including manufacturer, quantity of each item purchased, per unit and extended price of each item purchased, and total amount and price of all items purchased.

**WARRANTY PRICE:** (a) The price to be paid by the Buyer shall be that contained in Seller's RFP which Seller warrants to be no higher than Seller'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 Seller breaches this warranty, the prices of the items shall be reduced to the Seller's current prices on orders by others, or in the alternative, Buyer may cancel this contract without liability to Seller for breach or Seller's actual expense. (b) The Seller 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 Seller for the purpose of securing business. For breach or violation of this warranty, the Buyer 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. Offerors shall furnish all data pertinent to warranties or guarantees which may apply to items in the RFP. Offerors may not limit or exclude any implied warranties. Offeror warrants that product sold and services provided to the County shall conform to the standards 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 offeror's expense. If offeror fails to make the appropriate correction within a reasonable time, Cameron County may correct at the offeror's expense.

Offerer warrants that product sold and services provided to the County shall conform to the standards and laws established by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Occupational Safety and Health Administration and O.S.H.A. Act of 1970.

**WARRANTY ITEMS/PRODUCTS:** Seller shall not limit or exclude any implied warranties and any attempt to do so shall render this contract voidable at the option of the Buyer. Seller warrants that the goods furnished will conform to the specifications, drawings and descriptions listed in the RFP/RFQ invitation and to the sample(s) furnished by Seller, 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 Purchaser's approval. Successful Offeror 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 Offeror at no expense to the Purchaser.

**SAFETY WARRANTY:** Seller warrants that the product sold to Buyer 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, Buyer may return the product for correction or replacement at the Seller's expense. In the event Seller fails to make the appropriate correction within a reasonable time, correction made by Buyer will be at Seller's expense. Have you attached the required warranty information to the RFP/RFQ (if applicable)? Yes, No.

#### **APPLICABLE LAW**

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.

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

**CONTRACT OBLIGATION:** Cameron County Commissioners Court must award the contract and the County Judge or other person authorized by the Cameron County must sign the contract before it becomes binding on Cameron County or the offerors. 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 purchase have been satisfactorily delivered and accepted.

**ERRORS AND OMISSIONS:** Errors and Omissions in the RFP / RFQ of any provision herein described will not be construed as to relieve the Vendor of any responsibility or obligation, requisite to the complete and satisfactory implementation, operation, and support of any and all equipment, systems or services.

**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 agreement, 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 judgement of the party having the difficulty.

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

**INFRINGEMENTS:** There will be no warranty by buyer against infringements. As part of this contract for sales, Seller 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. Buyer 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 Buyer be liable to Seller for indemnification in the event that Seller is sued on the grounds of infringement or the like. If Seller is of the opinion that an infringement or the like will result, they will notify Buyer to this effect in writing within two (2) weeks after the signing of this agreement. If Buyer does not receive notice and is subsequently held liable for the infringement or the like, Seller will hold Buyer harmless. If Seller 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 Buyer will pay Seller the reasonable cost of his/her search as to infringement. The contractor agrees to protect the County from claims involving infringement of patents or copyrights.

**INTERPRETATION PAROLE EVIDENCE:** This writing is intended by the parties as a final expression of their agreement and is intended also as a complete and exclusive statement of the terms of their agreement. No course of prior dealings between the parties and no usage of the trade shall be relevant to supplement or explain any term used in the agreement. Acceptance or acquiescence in a course of performance rendered under this agreement shall not be relevant to determine the meaning of this agreement, 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.

**LATE PROPOSALS:** Proposals must be received by the Purchaser before the hour and date specified. Proposals received after the time and date specified will be disqualified and may be returned to sender. Purchaser 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:** Offeror must meet all Federal and State OSHA requirements.

**REMEDIES:** The successful Offeror and Purchaser agree that both parties have all rights, duties, and remedies available as stated in the Uniform Commercial Code.

**RIGHT TO ASSURANCE:** Whenever one (1) party to this contract in good faith has reason to question the other party's intent to perform, he/she may demand that the other party give written assurance of their intent to perform. In the event that a demand is made, and no assurance is given within five (5) days the demanding party may treat this failure as an anticipatory repudiation of the contract.

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

**VENUE:** Both parties agree that venue for any litigation arising from this contract shall lie in Cameron County, Texas. These General Terms and Conditions shall be incorporated in this proposal. The Offeror shall specifically state acceptance of these terms and conditions as a basis for providing the Purchaser with the proposed commodities. The Offeror shall state exceptions to these terms and conditions and may suggest alternate wording that addresses the intent of the term or condition. The Purchaser may accept or reject any suggestions based on lawful and fair bidding practice.

**CONSULTING SERVICES FOR PREPARATION OF APPLICATIONS, IMPLEMENTATION  
AND DISTRIBUTION OF FEDERAL RESOURCES AND ECOSYSTEMS SUSTAINABILITY,  
TOURIST OPPORTUNITIES AND REVIVED ECONOMIES (RESTORE) OF THE GULF  
COAST STATES ACT DOLLARS**

**EXHIBIT A**

**AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

Cameron County's standard Agreement for Professional Services is provided here for Submitter's information.

\*\*\*\*\*

**Sample**  
Contract No.

STATE OF TEXAS §

COUNTY OF CAMERON §

**AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES**

This is an agreement by and between Cameron County, a political subdivision of the State of Texas, referred to as "County", and (*insert Consultant*), referred to as "*Consultant*", for the provision of professional services as set forth herein.

**Purpose and Scope**

The purpose of this agreement is to provide Consulting Services support for preparation of applications, implementation and distribution of federal resources related to RESTORE Act dollars for Cameron County. *Consultant* accepts and undertakes to assist the County in connection with the matters described above, upon the terms and conditions set forth herein.

**Performances of Services**

*Consultant* agrees to handle the matters which are the subject of this agreement as required by the County, and to coordinate and report their activity in connection with this matter through the Cameron County Administrators Office or his/her designee. *Consultant* agrees to make reports to the Cameron County Commissioners' Court.

*Consultant* will perform such professional services as stated on the Scope of Work, attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and incorporated by reference as if fully set forth herein.

**Representation**

*Consultant* agrees that (*insert person from Consultant's company*) shall provide the primary services and handle all supervisory responsibility under this agreement.

*Consultant* agrees to devote the necessary time and resources in providing the services listed on Exhibit "A", but no warranty or guarantee is made hereby, and no representations have been made concerning the outcome of the matters accepted by *Consultant*.

**Fees and Expenses**

Cameron County agrees to pay Consultant fees after receipt of invoice(s) as laid out in **Exhibit A**.

Statements for fees and expenses shall be forwarded to the Cameron County Administrator for review and approval. It is intended that all such statements will be considered and paid, subject to appropriate adjustments within 30 days after submission.

**Errors and Omissions Insurance**

*Consultant* shall maintain in full force and effect throughout the term of this agreement errors and omissions insurance in an amount not less than Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$250,000.00). *Consultant* shall furnish the County a duplicate policy of their errors and omissions insurance. *Consultant* shall give the County a minimum of thirty (30) days written notice in the event of cancellation or material change in the terms of their errors and omissions insurance.

**Term**

This agreement shall continue until the matter involved is finally concluded, or until either party gives thirty (30) days written notice of termination of the agreement.

**Miscellaneous Matters**

This agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Texas, and is performable in Cameron County, Texas. It is intended that this agreement, together with subsequent written correspondence on the matters covered hereby, shall constitute the entire agreement between the parties.

EXECUTED in TWO duplicate Originals, each of which shall have the full force and effect of an original, on the day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Cameron County

\_\_\_\_\_  
(*Consultant*)

Attested By:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sylvia Garza-Perez, County Clerk