



**COMMISSIONERS COURT
COMMUNICATION**

COURT ORDER NUMBER _____

PAGE 1 OF 5

DATE: 10/1/2024

SUBJECT: CONSIDERATION OF EXEMPTION FROM COMPETITIVE BIDDING REQUIREMENTS - PURCHASE OF DRUG STANDARDS AND CONTROLS, INSTRUMENT PARTS, NON-ROUTINE LABORATORY TESTING, AND CONSUMABLES – MEDICAL EXAMINER’S OFFICE - VARIOUS VENDORS

COMMISSIONERS COURT ACTION REQUESTED

It is requested that the Commissioners Court consider an exemption from Competitive Bidding Requirements for the Purchase of Drug Standards and Controls, Instrument Parts, Non-Routine Laboratory Testing, and Consumables, for the Medical Examiner’s Office. The vendors that provide these supplies are the following:

- | | |
|--|---|
| AB Sciex, LLC | Reagents, Controls, Instrument Parts |
| Abacus Diagnostics | DNA Kits and Consumables |
| Aldinger Co. | Calibration Services |
| Alere San Diego, Inc. | Reagents, Controls, Instrument Parts |
| d/b/a Immunalysis Corp. | |
| Ambry Genetics Corporation | Non-Routine Laboratory Testing |
| Axis Forensic Toxicology, Inc. | Non-Routine Laboratory Testing |
| Beta Analytic, Inc. | Non-Routine Laboratory Testing |
| Cayman Chemical Company, Inc. | Pure Drug Standards |
| Cerilliant Corporation | Pure Drug Standards |
| Collaborative Testing Services, Inc. | Proficiency Samples |
| College of American Pathologists | Proficiency Samples |
| Dickson/Unigage, Inc. | Calibration Services, Parts, Supplies |
| Eppendorf North America, Inc. | Reagents, Chemicals, Instrument Parts |
| Fisher Healthcare | Reagents, Chemicals, Controls, Instrument Parts |
| Forensic Science Consultants | Proficiency Samples |
| JEE Cardiovascular Registry | Non-Routine Laboratory Testing |
| Life Technologies Corporation | DNA Kits and Consumables |
| Lipomed, Inc. | Pure Drug Standards |
| National Institute of Standards and Technology | Standard Reference Materials |
| National Medical Services, Inc. | Non-Routine Laboratory Testing |
| Nova Biomedical | Consumables and Controls |
| Perkin Elmer Health Sciences, Inc. | Instrument Parts, Software Maintenance, |
| | Non-Routine Laboratory Testing |
| Phenomenex | Analytical Columns |

SUBMITTED BY	Purchasing	PREPARED BY:	Kehinde Olugbile
		APPROVED BY:	Christopher Lax, CPSM, CPSD, CPCP



COMMISSIONERS COURT COMMUNICATION

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QIAGEN	DNA Kits, Consumables, Instrument Parts
Quest Diagnostics Clinical Laboratories, Inc.	Non-Routine Laboratory Testing
Restek Corporation	Analytical Columns
Serological Research Institute	Reagents, Chemicals, Controls, Stains, PM
Shimadzu Scientific Instruments, Inc.	Instrument Parts, PM
Southwestern Institute of Forensic Sciences (SWIFS)	Non-Routine Laboratory Testing
Steraloids, Inc.	Pure Drug Standards
TESCAN USA, Inc.	Instrument Parts, Consumables, PM
Tissue Techniques Pathology Labs LLC	Non-Routine Laboratory Testing
Toronto Research	Consumables and Controls
UCT, LLC	Extraction Columns, Reagents
USA Scientific Inc.	Benchtop Containers
UT Southwestern Medical Center	Non-Routine Laboratory Testing
UTAK Laboratories, Inc.	Controls, Blank Plasma and Urine
University of Georgia	Non-Routine Laboratory Testing

BACKGROUND

Under the County Purchasing Act, exemptions to the competitive bidding requirements are allowed for certain types of purchases. State bidding statute, Section 262.024(a)(2) deals with those exemptions allowable when approved by the Commissioners Court.

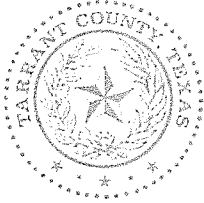
The Medical Examiner's Office provided a letter of explanation outlining the special needs and sensitive nature of their work in forensic services, thus requiring consistent drug standards and controls. The accreditation manual to which the laboratories must adhere dictates a very detailed and complex methodology, requiring standards and controls to come from the same source to ensure accuracy.

The exemption is twelve (12) months, effective October 1, 2024.

Therefore, it is the joint recommendation of the Medical Examiner's Office and Purchasing that the Commissioners Court grant an exemption from Competitive Bidding Requirements for Purchase of Drug Standards and Controls, Instrument Parts, Non-Routine Laboratory Testing, and Consumables to ensure accuracy in forensic results.

FISCAL IMPACT

Expenses for last year were approximately \$607,383.64. Orders are placed on an as-needed basis. Funding is available in the account 10000-2025 General Fund/2310100000 Medical Examiner/521061 Lab Supplies.



OFFICE OF CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER AND FORENSIC LABORATORIES

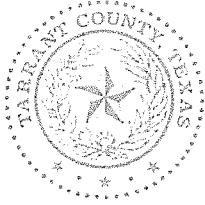
200 Feliks Gwozdz Place • Fort Worth, Texas 76104
817.920.5700 phone • 817.920.5713 fax

September 11, 2024

To: Tarrant County Purchasing Department

The Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office is requesting the annual renewal of the vendor exemption list from the bid process due to the special needs and sensitive nature of our work in forensic services.

AB Sciex, LLC	Reagents, Controls, Instruments Parts
Abacus Diagnostics	DNA Kits and Consumables
Aldinger Co.	Calibration Services
Alere San Diego, Inc., d/b/a Immunalysis Corp	Reagents, Controls, Instruments Parts
Ambry Genetics Corporation	Non-Routine Laboratory Testing
Axis Forensic Toxicology, Inc.	Non-Routine Laboratory Testing
Beta Analytic, Inc.	Non-Routine Laboratory Testing
Cayman Chemical Company, Inc.	Pure Drug Standards
Ceriliant Coporation	Pure Drug Standards
Collaborative Testing Services, Inc.	Proficiency Samples
College of American Pathologists	Proficiency Samples
Dickson/Unigage, Inc.	Calibration Services, Parts, Supplies
Eppendorf North America, Inc.	Reagents, Consumables, Instruments, Parts
Fisher Healthcare	Reagents, Chemicals, Controls, Instruments Parts
Forensic Sience Consultants	Proficiency Samples
Jee Caridovascular Registry	Non-Routine Laboratory Testing
Life Technologies Corporation	DNA Kits and Consumables
Lipomed, Inc.	Pure Drug Standards
National Insitute of Standards and Technology	Standard Reference Materials
National Medical Serivces Inc.	Non-Routine Laboratory Testing
Nova Biomedical	Consumables and Controls
Perkin Elmer Health Sciences, Inc.	Instrument Parts, Software Maintenance, Non-Routine Laboratory Testing
Phenomenex	Analytical Columns
Qiagen	DNA Kits, Consumables, Instrument Parts
Quest Diagnostics Clinical Laboratories, Inc.	Non-Routine Laboratory Testing
Restek Corporation	Analytical Columns
Serological Research Institute	Reagents, Chemicals, Controls, Stains, PM



OFFICE OF CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER AND FORENSIC LABORATORIES

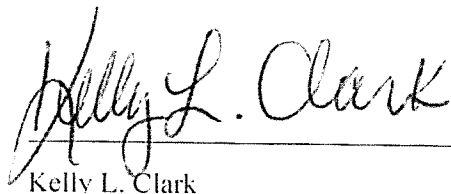
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The Forensic Laboratory Services division for the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office is accredited by ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) in Forensic Testing to the requirements of ISO/IEC 17025:2017 and ANAB 3125, as well as by Texas Forensic Science Commission. Part of this accreditation process requires us to have very detailed procedures that describes the methods we use, and the materials that are to be used in those methods. Required details include:

- The source of each reagent, internal standard and control used in the process.
- SDS sheets, validation of purity, concentration all which must be traced to a NIST (government) standard. All must be traceable.
- The amounts of reagents used in the preparation of various stock solutions and working solutions.
- This information must be stated in the method and logs are kept documenting time and use.

Our procedures are very detailed and complex, and any deviation from previously validated materials must be revalidated. The validation process is long and time-consuming with multiple layers approval and accreditation assessor review. For these reasons, these materials must be ordered exactly as specified.



Kelly L. Clark
Business & Technical Operations Manager



TAKINGS IMPACT ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST

Complete this form for any county action that involves the adoption of a regulation, policy, guideline, court resolution, or order.

Project/Regulation Name: Approval of Exemption from Competitive Bidding Requirements - Purchase of Drug Standards and Controls, Instrument Parts, Non-Routine Laboratory Testing, and Consumables - Medical Examiner's Office - Various Vendors

County Department: PURCHASING

Contact Person: Melissa Lee, C.P.M., A.P.P.

Phone Number for Contact Person: (817) 884-3245

Type of TIA Performed: SHORT TIA or FULL TIA. Circle one after answering the questions in Sections II and III below.

I. Stated Purpose

Attach to this checklist an explanation of the purpose of the regulation, policy, guideline, court resolution, or order.

Note: The remainder of this Takings Impact Assessment Checklist should be completed in consultation with the Criminal District Attorney's Office.

II. Potential Effect on Private Real Property

1. Does the county action require a physical invasion, occupation, or dedication of real property?

Yes _____ No √

2. Does the county action limit or restrict a real property right, even partially, or temporarily?

Yes _____ No √

If you answered yes to either question, go to Section III. If you answered no to both, STOP HERE and circle SHORT TIA at the top of the form.
