

## State of Maine Procurement Justification Form

This form must accompany all contract requests and sole source requisitions (RQS) over \$5,000 submitted to the Division of Procurement Services.

INSTRUCTIONS: Please provide the requested information in the white spaces below. All responses (except signatures) must be typed; no hand-written forms will be accepted. See the guidance document posted with this form on the Division of Procurement Services website (Forms page) for additional instructions.

### PART I: OVERVIEW

Department Office/Division/Program:		Maine Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife Bureau of Warden Service			
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Lucas Bellanceau			
(If applicable) Department Reference #:					
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)		\$ 10,005.00		Advantage CT / RQS #:	
<b>CONTRACT</b>	Proposed Start Date:	12/9/2024		Proposed End Date:	12/31/2025
<b>AMENDMENT</b>	Original Start Date:			Effective Date:	
	Previous End Date:			New End Date:	
<b>GRANT</b>	Project Start Date:			Grant Start Date:	
	Project End Date:			Grant End Date:	
Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name, City, State:		American Aluminum Accessories Inc 3882 Byron Butler Pkwy Perry, Florida 32348			
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Two aluminum K9 kennel inserts for GMC-1500 Trucks			

### PART II: JUSTIFICATION FOR VENDOR SELECTION

Mark an "X" before the justification(s) that applies to this request. (Check all that apply.)			
	A. Competitive Process		G. Grant
	B. Amendment		H. State Statute/Agency Directed
x	C. Single Source/Unique Vendor		I. Federal Agency Directed
	D. Proprietary/Copyright/Patents		J. Willing and Qualified
	E. Emergency		K. Client Choice
	F. University Cooperative Project		L. Other Authorization

### PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Please respond to ALL of the following:
<b>1. Provide a more detailed description and explain the need for the goods, services or grant to supplement the response in Part I.</b>

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**PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

Over the Past six years the Maine Warden Service K9 unit has started using American Aluminum EZ Rider K9 kennel inserts in new K9 patrol vehicles. These have been installed in crew cab GMC sierra 1500 and Ford F-150 trucks. This year two GMC 1500's are in rotation to replace older K9 patrol trucks. With the implementing of two trucks and change in brand the cost of the inserts has increased slightly. The two GMC 1500 Crew cab truck kennel inserts cannot be re-used as they are specific to GMC models. Previous older models of K9 Kennel inserts that were being used were compact and do not provide sufficient room for the K9 which has resulted in significant injury to some of our K9's including split or cut tails, infection from tail and abrasion injuries, ingestion of firewall and door handle material. Progression in K9 selection and higher drive K9's lead to more destructive behavior from the K9 inside the vehicle. The patrol trucks currently equipped with American Aluminum EZ Rider K9 inserts provide ample room for the K9 and are better built and provide sealed and safer compartment for the K9 in the event of collision and a better ventilation system for heat avoidance inside the vehicle. American Aluminum EZ Rider K9 inserts in current patrol vehicles have resulted in no injury to K9's or destruction to the truck components themselves.

**2. Provide a brief justification for the selected vendor to supplement the response in Part II.**

American Aluminum Accessories Inc. produces a unique and quality K9 kennel insert. There are very few manufactures that produce a quality manufactured K9 kennel insert to fit inside GMC 1500 trucks. There are no manufactures of K9 Kennel inserts within the state of Maine.

**3. Explain how the negotiated costs or rates are fair and reasonable; or how the funding was allocated to grantee.**

The only comparable manufactured K9 kennel Insert for GMC 1500 is built by Havis inc. which is approximately \$300-\$400 more in price per unit and have less features specific to Warden Service needs. The department has purchased American Aluminum K9 inserts direct from the manufacturer for the past five years which has allowed for the most direct and fair pricing compared to a dealer or distributor. Price is slightly more than previous years purchases for GMC 1500 Sierra or F-150 trucks due to inflation. Ordering two kennel inserts at once saves on shipping cost opposed to shipping one kennel insert unit at a time individually.

**4. Describe the plan for future competition for the goods or services.**

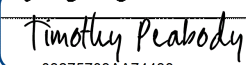
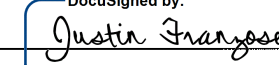
In the future we will work with Procurement to determine the most appropriate competitive procurement process available.

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### PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

**Change in truck model and selection may alter the style and brand compatibility of K9 kennel inserts in the future. Switching brand trucks from GMC to Ford has limited the number of manufacturer options and products on the market.**

### PART IV: APPROVALS

<b>Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner (or designee):</b>	By signing below, I signify that I approve of this procurement request.  <small>03275703AA74438</small>		
<b>Printed Name:</b>	Timothy Peabody, Deputy Commissioner	<b>Date:</b>	1/24/2025
<b>Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:</b>	DocuSigned by:  <small>AFF90C7B3A8044E</small>		
<b>Printed Name:</b>	Justin Franzone	<b>Date:</b>	1/24/2025