



DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES
DIVISION OF PROCUREMENT SERVICES
 STATE OF MAINE

PROCUREMENT JUSTIFICATION FORM (PJF)

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 intranet site (Forms page) for additional instructions.

PART I: OVERVIEW

Department Office/Division/Program:		Dept. of Public Safety- Fire Marshals Office	
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		State Fire Marshal Richard McCarthy	
(If applicable) Department Reference #:		N/A	
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	\$ 8,697.00	Advantage CT / RQS #:	20240131*1105
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date: 10/1/2023	Proposed End Date:	9/30/2024
AMENDMENT	Original Start Date:	Effective Date:	
	Previous End Date:	New End Date:	
GRANT	Project Start Date:	Grant Start Date:	
	Project End Date:	Grant End Date:	
Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name, City, State:		Nighthawk Cloud Inc. 325 Inverness Drive South, Suite 1A Englewood, CO 80112	
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Nighthawk Cloud is a law enforcement data management system.	

PART II: JUSTIFICATION FOR VENDOR SELECTION

Check the box below for the justification(s) that applies to this request. (Check all that apply.)

<input type="checkbox"/>	A. Competitive Process	<input type="checkbox"/>	G. Grant
<input type="checkbox"/>	B. Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/>	H. State Statute/Agency Directed
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	C. Single Source/Unique Vendor	<input type="checkbox"/>	I. Federal Agency Directed
<input type="checkbox"/>	D. Proprietary/Copyright/Patents	<input type="checkbox"/>	J. Willing and Qualified
<input type="checkbox"/>	E. Emergency	<input type="checkbox"/>	K. Client Choice
<input type="checkbox"/>	F. University Cooperative Project	<input type="checkbox"/>	L. Other Authorization

Please respond to ALL of the questions in the following sections.

PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

1. Provide a more detailed description and explain the need for the goods, services or grant to supplement the response in Part I.

Nighthawk cloud is a law enforcement forensic data analysis system that allows FMO investigators to input evidence (cell phone, social media) into this system from multiple suspects and it creates a timeline for prosecutors to review in minutes. Without this software individuals would be required to spend hours, if not days, combing through records received and organizing them in chronological order. Nighthawk does not utilize agency networks or require IT resources and does not require agencies to purchase additional hardware or equipment.

2. Provide a brief justification for the selected vendor to supplement the response in Part II. Reference the RFP number, if applicable.

Nighthawk cloud is a law enforcement forensic data analysis system that is used by many law enforcement agencies within the Department of Public Safety, as well as others across the state. The use of the same product streamlines efficiencies, enables better communication between departments, and ultimately improves safety. Nighthawk is able to process documents across all electronic service providers, social media providers, and cellular phone records in chronological order. This service is not available through other vendors or applications. Also, utilizing a different product would inhibit other departments from efficiently viewing and using the evidence collected by our department.

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

Nighthawk cloud pricing is comparable to others while providing the capabilities needed by our investigators. The other comparable programs do not have all of the required capabilities, and therefore, do not meet our needs.

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

Routinely the law enforcement agencies within the department evaluate new forensic software tools in an ongoing effort to ensure the software we are using best meets our needs. At the present time, Nighthawk cloud meets all Department of Public Safety agency needs. We will continue to look for new and innovative technology to improve the investigative process and will make changes in vendors and platforms as needed.

PART IV: AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT (ARPA) / MAINE JOBS & RECOVERY PLAN (MJRP)

Does this request utilize ARPA/MJRP funds?

Yes, MJRP funds (023) – If Yes, please attach the approved Business Case(s).

Yes, ARPA funds (025) – If Yes, please be aware of the requirements from awarding federal agencies.


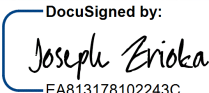
No – If No, proceed to Part V.

PART V: CONFLICTS OF INTEREST (COI); PURCHASES BY THE STATE

Does the requesting Department signatory understand and acknowledge Maine's COI Statute?

 Yes, the requesting Department signatory understands and acknowledges [Title 17, Chapter 101, §3104](#).
PART VI: APPROVALS

The signatures below indicate approval of this procurement request.

Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner (or designee):			
Typed Name:	Derek Gerneau	Date:	2/13/24
Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	<small>DocuSigned by:</small>  <small>EA813178102243C...</small>		
Typed Name:	Joseph Zrioka Director of IT Procurement	Date:	3/4/2024