



DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL SERVICES
OFFICE OF STATE 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 Office of State 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 Procurement Services intranet site (Forms page) for additional instructions.

PART I: OVERVIEW			
Department Office/Division/Program:		Department of Public Safety – Maine State Police	
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Lt. Michael Zabarsky Alexander Gibson	
(If applicable) Department Reference #:		N/A	
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	\$ 18,500	Advantage CT / RQS #:	RQS 16A 20250211*1143
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:		Proposed End Date:
AMENDMENT	Original Start Date:		Effective Date:
	Previous End Date:		New End Date:
GRANT	Project Start Date:	1/1/2025	Grant Start Date:
	Project End Date:	12/31/2025	Grant End Date:
Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name, City, State:		NicheVision Forensics LLC Akron, OH 44311 VC0000245274	
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Annual Upgrade and Maintenance contract for the STRmix Probabilistic Genotyping Software	

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 checked="" 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.

Probabilistic Genotyping is a computer program that analyzes low-level and mixed DNA profiles from casework samples and compares them to reference DNA profiles and provides a statistical weight to any matches. The STRmix software is a complex system that requires regular updates to expand its capabilities as well as potentially correct any errors in the coding. On average, a new, updated version of STRmix is released once every year. The STRmix Annual Upgrade and Maintenance contract provides major and minor version releases and scientific support (including trouble shooting, case specific questions, and general email advice) for a period of 12 months. As the exclusive distributor of STRmix in North America, NicheVision is the only vendor available to our lab for these updates.

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

STRmix is the Probabilistic Genotyping software system used by the FBI and more than 60 other forensic laboratories in the United States. STRmix was developed by the New Zealand based Institute of Environmental Science and Research (ESR), and NicheVision Forensics is the exclusive distributor for the Probabilistic Genotyping software system "STRmix" in North America.

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

The negotiated service contract appears considerate and reasonable in line with our lab's grant and State budget needs. It has been Federally approved to use CEBR 2024 grant funds (FC F2024) for this annual upgrade and maintenance.

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

No changes currently while NicheVision Forensics is the sole source distributor for the Probabilistic Genotyping software system "STRmix" in North America. If we need to change software in the future, we will follow all state rules and regulations to purchase new software.

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); CONTRACT WITH THE STATE

Maine law contains Conflict of Interest statutes directed to State Departments, State Officers, and Employees Generally under MRS [Title 5, §18](#) and [§18-A](#), in harmony with MRS [Title 17, §3104](#).

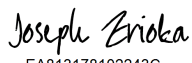
The requesting department signatory understands and acknowledges Maine's Conflict of Interest statutes.

PART VI: APPROVALS

The signatures below indicate approval of this procurement request.

Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner (or designee):			
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Typed Name:	Michael Sauschuck, Commissioner	Date:	2/20/2025
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Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;"> <small>DocuSigned by:</small>  <small>EA813178102243C...</small> </div>		
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Typed Name:	Joseph Zrioka Director of IT Procurement	Date:	3/4/2025
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PJF NicheVision 2025 - Unsigned

Final Audit Report

2025-02-11

Created:	2025-02-11
By:	Alexander Gibson (Alexander.T.Gibson@maine.gov)
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-  Document created by Alexander Gibson (Alexander.T.Gibson@maine.gov)
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