



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 \$10,000 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:		DAFS/OIT	
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Charles Rote	
(If applicable) Department Reference #:		N/A	
Agency Department Code:	18B	Advantage CT/RQS #:	RQS 20260401*1551
Amt: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)		\$125,263.16	
CONTRACT	Proposed/Original Start Date:	6/25/2026	Proposed/Most Recent End Date: 6/24/2027
AMENDMENT	New Effective Date:		New End Date (if Applicable):
GRANT	Project Start Date:		Grant Start Date:
	Project End Date:		Grant End Date:
Vendor/Provider/Grantee Name, City, State:		Carahsoft Technology Corp. 11493 Sunset Hills Rd, Ste 100, Reston VA 20190	
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Flashpoint Renewal – Managed Attribution	

PART II: JUSTIFICATION FOR VENDOR SELECTION			
Check the box below for the justification(s) that applies to this request. (Check all that apply.)			
<input checked="" 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. Higher Education 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.

Flashpoint’s Managed Attribution renewal is essential to maintaining the State of Maine’s secure, dedicated virtual environment for high risk online and dark web research. The platform provides fully isolated infrastructure that prevents investigative activity—such as accessing deep or dark web content, downloading potentially malicious files, or interacting with threat actors—from ever touching state networks. This isolation protects against malware, trackers, and attribution risk while enabling analysts to safely reach primary source data and conduct investigations that would otherwise expose state infrastructure.

Renewing this service preserves critical capabilities that directly support threat intelligence and incident response. Features such as configurable exit nodes, multi-hop routing, secure high volume file transfer, and on demand destruction of virtual machines allow analysts to investigate credential leaks, impersonation attempts, and breach data without jeopardizing operational security. Without this renewal, the State would lose the ability to conduct safe, anonymous, and compliant research, increasing risk and reducing our ability to proactively identify and assess emerging threats.

2. Provide a brief justification for the selected vendor to supplement the response in Part II. Reference the solicitation (RFP/RFA/RFQ) number if applicable.

MA 18P 1802260000000000092 is based on the NASPO ValuePoint Solicitation for Cloud Solutions. This was competitively awarded to Carahsoft but this agreement extends beyond the expiration of the MA.

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

Pricing per MA 18P 1802260000000000092.

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

Future competition for these goods and services will be procured through participation in NASPO ValuePoint solicitations or will be procured through the State of Maine RFP process.

**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).

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, ARPA funds (025) or (026) – If Yes, please be aware of the requirements from awarding federal agencies.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 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’s signatory affirms, understands, and acknowledges Maine’s Conflict of Interest statutes and, in accordance with those statutes and to the best of their knowledge, has determined that no conflict of interest exists at the time of this contract, renewal, or amendment.

**PART VI: APPROVALS**

Governor/Department Commissioner or Designee


1. The signature below indicates approval of this procurement request.

Signature of requesting Department’s Commissioner (or designee):			
Typed Name:	Nicholas Marquis, Chief Information Officer	Date:	4/9/2026

2. Additional signature required **ONLY if box E (Emergency) is selected in PART II**. The signature below indicates approval by the Department’s Commissioner, or the designee specifically authorized to approve emergency procurement requests.

Signature of requesting Department’s Commissioner (or designee):			
Typed Name:		Date:	

**\*\*OSPS Section Only\*\***

Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:			
Typed Name:	Marcello Genovese	Date:	4/10/2026