

# 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:		Office of Public Safety – Maine State Police – Computer Crimes Unit	
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:		Lt Scott Ireland Jaye Parker	
(If applicable) Department Reference #:			
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	\$ 7099.00	Advantage CT / RQS #:	RQS-16A-20200701*0008
CONTRACT	Proposed Start Date:		Proposed End Date:
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:		Magnet Forensics Herndon VA	
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:		Axiom Software renewal and upgrade	

## 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
<b>x</b>	C. Single Source/Unique Vendor		I. Federal Agency Directed
<b>x</b>	D. Proprietary/Copyright/Patents		J. Willing and Qualified
<b>x</b>	E. Emergency		K. Client Choice
	F. University Cooperative Project		L. Other Authorization

## PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Please respond to ALL of the following:

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

Axiom software is one of the primary forensic tools used by the Maine State Police Computer Crimes Unit (and the vast majority of computer forensic units throughout law enforcement). Magnet Forensics is the provider of this proprietary software. The annual Maintenance Support Renewal Program supports the software providing upgrades and operational support.

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**PART III: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION**

Without Axiom software (and the maintenance support), our unit would be unable to extract critical data from a majority of digital media components submitted for analyses by State, National and local law enforcement agencies.

We are also requesting an upgrade to the software in one of our current Magnet Forensic IEF Dongles to an Axiom Software Dongle as the IEF dongle is no longer supported. Upgrading the software for this dongle is less expensive the purchasing a new Axiom Software Dongle.

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

Axiom software is proprietary software provided through Magnet forensics and is a forensic tool used to extract and analyze data from digital media submitted to the CCU for forensic processing. Training on this software is critical to the ability for the analysts in this Unit to fulfill their primary function.

This is an emergency as the existing support expired on 6/30/2020 and needs to be reinstated immediately to avoid penalties. This renewal was overlooked for year end.

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

The cost is determined by the company providing this proprietary service.

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

The Maine State Police Computer Crimes Unit routinely evaluates new forensic software tools in an ongoing effort to further our capabilities to extract critical data from the myriad of digital components (smart phones, tablets, game stations, cameras, etc.) that are in use and may be developed for future use (and unfortunately misuse) by consumers. The Unit has, on occasion, been used as a beta-test site for new forensic software. We do this to improve our work product and spur improvement within the computer forensic field. Axiom is becoming the new industry standard in forensic examination tools as it is faster and more efficient for an analyst to use then our current primary forensic tool.

**PART IV: APPROVALS**

**Signature of requesting  
Department's Commissioner  
(or designee):**

*By signing below, I signify that I approve of this procurement request.*

*Michael Sauschuck*

**Printed Name:**

Michael Sauschuck

**Date:**

7/02/2020

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<b>Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:</b>	DocuSigned by: <i>Justin Franzose</i>		
<b>Printed Name:</b>	AEED9C7B3A8044E... Justin Franzose	<b>Date:</b>	7/2/2020