



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:	Secretary of State, Bureau of Corporations, Elections & Commissions (CEC)		
Department Contract Administrator or Grant Coordinator:	Julie L. Flynn, Deputy State of State		
(If applicable) Department Reference #:	N/A		
Agency Department Code:	29A	Advantage CT / RQS #:	20250925000000000543
Amount: (Contract/Amendment/Grant)	\$314,660.55		
CONTRACT	Proposed/Original Start Date:	9/1/2025	Proposed/Most Recent End Date: 11/5/2025
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:	Election Systems & Software, LLC (ES&S) 11208 John Galt Blvd., Omaha, NE 68137		
Brief Description of Goods/Services/Grant:	Printing, packaging and delivery of official and sample ballots for the 11/4/25 Referendum Election		

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 checked="" 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.

The Secretary of State/Bureau of Corporations, Elections & Commissions is charged by law with centrally printing and distributing to municipalities the ballots for state elections. This printing job is for official and sample ballots for the 11/4/25 Referendum Election.

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.

As part of its continuing efforts to meet federal and state responsibilities for conducting elections, the Bureau issued a voting systems and software in 2012 which resulted in a 7-year leasing agreement with ES&S which has been extended through December 31, 2025. In entering the agreement with ES&S, the Bureau understood it would be required to utilize the vendor's services (or those of a partner printer authorized by the vendor) to print ballots that work with its proprietary system. While this was not formally part of the RFP scoring, the potential additional cost was considered in evaluating the proposal and it was determined that even with the dedicated printing costs, the lease agreement still offered significant savings over the next lowest bidder.

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

As noted in item 2, an RFP to lease elections equipment was issued and awarded. In evaluating responses prior to the award, current printing and related costs were given consideration but the bidder not chosen was so much higher in cost (excess of \$2,400,000) that there was no chance of the sole source printing costs exceeding that amount or likely approaching it. Moreover, the per ballot printing costs have decreased significantly under this lease agreement as compared to previous systems used, since the Bureau is leasing the ballot creation software and provides camera-ready ballot copy to the printer.

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

The Bureau's lease agreement for the voting system software expires on December 31, 2025. The Bureau is working on an RFP to select the tabulation equipment and software to be used in future elections. Ballot printing will be specifically addressed as part of the RFP.

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

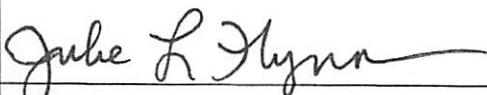
Maine law contains Conflict of Interest statutes directed to State Departments, State Officers, and Employees Generally under MRS Title 5, §18 and §18-A, in harmony with MRS Title 17, §3104.

The requesting department'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.

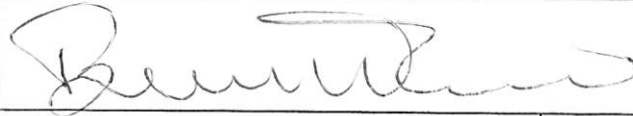
PART VI: APPROVALS

Governor/Department Commissioner or Designee

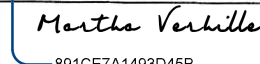
1. The signature below indicates approval of this procurement request.

Signature of requesting Department's Commissioner (or designee):			
Typed Name:	Julie L. Flynn	Date:	9/26/2025

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:	Bruno Inacio	Date:	9/29/25

****OSPS Section Only****

Signature of DAFS Procurement Official:	DocuSigned by:  891CE7A1493D45B...		
Typed Name:	Martha Verhille	Date:	9/29/2025