



Brazos River Authority

Request for Proposals

July 20, 2021

RFP No. 21-08-1234

Dear Prospective Respondent:

Competitive Sealed Proposals will be received in the office of the Purchasing Agent, Brazos River Authority ("BRA"), 4600 Cobbs Drive, Waco, Texas 76710 until **10:00 AM, Wednesday, August 11, 2021**, for **Legal Research Software**.

All qualified firms including Small, Minority, Women Owned Businesses and Historically Underutilized Businesses are encouraged to submit Proposals in response to this request.

Proposals must be submitted and received no later than the due date and time specified. Any Proposal received later than the specified time, shall not be considered. The BRA is **NOT** responsible for ensuring the delivery of Proposals.

Refer to Section 16. Delivery of Proposal Submittals for instructions on submitting a response to this solicitation.

Proposal must be clearly identified as follows on the outside of the sealed physical submission or the electronic submission subject line. The BRA shall not be responsible for submissions that are not properly identified. Proper identification of Respondent's proposal is the sole responsibility of the Respondent and failure to do so may result in the submission not being included in the proposal opening:

PROPOSAL: <u>Legal Research Software</u>
RFP NO: <u>21-08-1234</u>
RFP DUE DATE: <u>10:00 AM, Wednesday, August 11, 2021</u>

The BRA shall have the right to accept or reject any or all Proposals, or any part thereof, and to waive any technicalities in the interest of the BRA.

BRA will evaluate all relevant COVID-19, health, safety and business factors on all solicitations to determine when to initiate a notice to proceed on all projects, delivery of goods and/or services or procurement of construction related services to best attempt to balance BRA needs and to protect the health and safety of BRA employees, the employees of respondents and the public at large.

Sincerely,

Anastasia V. Vance, CTCD
Purchasing Agent

4600 Cobbs Drive • Waco, Texas 76710
254 761 3123

RFP No. 21-08-1234 Legal Research Software

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS SUPPLIER DIVERSITY PURCHASING POLICY

The Brazos River Authority (BRA) will ensure that purchases of equipment, materials, supplies, and/or services conform with Texas Procurement law as applicable to the BRA, are cost effective, and contribute to the competitiveness of the BRA and its customers.

Procurement activities will be conducted in an open and fair manner with equal opportunity provided to all qualified parties. The BRA will provide equal contracting opportunities as provided by all applicable State and Federal laws to small business enterprises, Historically Underutilized Businesses and Disadvantaged Business enterprises.

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS TO RESPONDENTS

The Work consists of the furnishing of all labor, materials, services, equipment, and appliances required for the delivery and the supplying of products and/or services as described herein and in the contract documents.

1. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION: Proposals must be received no later than the Proposal opening date and time specified above. All Proposals received after closing time will not be considered.

- A. To be considered as eligible, a Respondent shall have complied with all legal requirements to permit them to operate in the State of Texas.
- B. Proposals must be emailed, mailed or hand delivered to be considered.

2. WITHDRAWAL OF PROPOSALS: No Proposal may be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) days after Proposal opening, except by: 1) mutual consent of the BRA and Respondent; or 2) a previously submitted Proposals may be withdrawn upon written request received from Respondent prior to time established for receipt of Proposals.

3. SIGNATURE ON PROPOSALS: To be valid, Proposals must be signed by an authorized person. By such signature, Respondent agrees to strictly abide by the terms, conditions, and Scope of Services embodied in this Request for Proposal.

4. EXAMINATION OF PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS: Before submitting a Proposal, all Respondents shall examine the complete Proposal documents, including Proposal Notice, Instruction to Respondent, and Scope of Services, all of which are part of the Proposal documents.

5. ADDENDA: *Unless otherwise stated in the Proposal*, answers to all questions, inquiries, and request for additional information will be issued in the form of Addenda. During the Proposal period, prospective Respondent may be advised by Addenda of additions, deletions from, or changes in the requirements of the Proposal documents. The BRA will not be responsible for the authenticity or correctness of oral interpretations of the Proposal documents or for information obtained in any other manner than through the media of Addenda. Receipt of each Addendum shall be acknowledged by the Respondent.

Any questions concerning this Proposal should be emailed to **Stasi Vance**, Purchasing Agent no later than five (5) days prior to the opening of the Proposal. Mrs. Vance's email address is Stasi.Vance@Brazos.org. This is to allow the BRA sufficient time to respond to inquiries and provide information to all interested Respondents by Addendum. *Unless otherwise stated in the Proposal*, Addenda will be posted on the BRA web site at www.brazos.org, Doing Business, Purchasing and Professional Services, Request for Proposals.

Respondent is responsible for checking the BRA web site (www.brazos.org) for updates and Addenda until the time at which the submission is due. Failure to respond to all requirements, including those Addenda, shall be grounds for rejection of your Proposal.

6. TAXATION: The BRA is exempt under the Texas Sales Tax and Use Tax Laws, and the Respondent shall not include such taxes in the Proposal.

7. QUALIFICATION OF RESPONDENTS: The BRA reserves the right to reject any Proposal if the evidence submitted by, or investigation of, such Respondent fails to satisfy the BRA that such Respondent is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the contract and to complete the Services contemplated herein. Conditional Proposals will not be accepted.

8. CONSIDERATION OF PROPOSALS: Unless stated otherwise in the Advertisement or Request for Proposal, the properly identified Proposals received on time will be opened publicly and only the names of the Respondent will be read aloud. Respondents are invited to be present.

9. COMPLIANCE WITH SCOPE OF SERVICES AND RIGHT OF SELECTION: The Respondent shall abide by and comply with the true intent of the scope of services and not take advantage of any unintentional error or omission.

10. DEVIATION FROM SCOPE OF SERVICES: All deviations from the scope of services must be noted in detail by the Respondent, in writing, at the time of submittal of the formal Proposal. The absence of a written list of deviations at the time of submittal of the Proposal will be considered acceptance of the Scope of Services as written. Any deviations from the Scope of Services as written not previously submitted, as required by the above, will be grounds for rejection of the material and/or item when delivered.

In case of ambiguity or lack of clarity, the BRA reserves the right to consider the most advantageous Proposal or reject the Proposal.

11. REPRESENTATIONS: By execution and submission of this Proposal, the Respondent hereby represents and warrants to the BRA that Respondent has read and understands the Proposal Documents and this Proposal is made in accordance with the Proposal Documents.

12. INDEMNIFICATION: The Respondent shall comply with the requirements of all applicable laws, rules, and regulations and shall exonerate, indemnify and hold harmless the BRA from any and all liability or damages resulting from failure to do so.

In addition, the Respondent agrees to keep, save and hold the BRA harmless from any and all actions, liabilities, damages, judgments, costs and expenses including reasonable attorney's fees, in case an action is filed or does in any way accrue against the BRA, its officials, officers, and employees in consequence of the awarded contract for any negligent act or omission of the Respondent in the provision of services under the awarded contract, or that may result from the carelessness or lack of skill of the Respondent or the Respondent's officers, agent, contractors, assigns or employees. In the event a judgment is recovered against the BRA for any such liability, costs or expenses, such judgment shall be conclusive against the Respondent.

It is specifically understood and agreed by the Respondent that such indemnity is indemnity by the Respondent to indemnify and protect the BRA from liability, claims, suits, losses, damages or causes of action due to the Respondent's negligence, error or omission.

13. CRITERIA FOR AWARD: The BRA will select the most highly qualified Respondent on the basis of demonstrated competence and qualifications and then attempt to negotiate with that Respondent a contract at a fair and reasonable price. If a satisfactory contract cannot be negotiated with the most highly qualified Respondent, the BRA will select the next most highly qualified Respondent and attempt to negotiate a contract with that Respondent at a fair and reasonable price.

14. TERMINATION: The awarded contract may be terminated at any time by the BRA for any cause without penalty or liability. Upon receipt of such notice, the supplier shall immediately discontinue all services and actions. The BRA shall pay the Respondent promptly the accrued and unpaid amounts due for services to the date of termination, to the extent the services are approved by the BRA.

15. CHANGE OF CONTRACT PRICE: The agreed upon contract price may only be changed by change order or by a written amendment.

16. PAYMENT: Unless otherwise specified, payment for services and/or product will be processed within thirty (30) days from invoice date and acceptance of Services and/or product. Invoices presented for payment must be submitted in accordance with instructions contained on the purchase order including reference to purchase order number and submittal to the correct address for processing. Unit price on invoice shall be in two (2) decimal places only, i.e., \$.XX.

The BRA has set a goal to have as much paperwork submitted electronically. Respondents are asked to submit invoices electronically to the following Accounts Payable email address: accounts_payable@brazos.org. Respondents who use the electronic service should not mail the original invoice.

17. CONFIDENTIALITY OF DOCUMENTS: The BRA is subject to the Texas Public Information Act (PIA). Any information submitted to the BRA by a Respondent shall be considered non-confidential and available to the public, except as follows:

In the event a Respondent considers a specific portion of their Proposal to be confidential and subject to an exception to disclosure under the PIA, such portion must be clearly identified and marked "CONFIDENTIAL". Do not mark an entire Proposal confidential, as

this is not in conformance with the PIA and is not acceptable. Only the specific portion or portions of the Proposal that the Respondent considers to be confidential pursuant to the PIA should be marked. **IF AN ENTIRE PROPOSAL IS MARKED CONFIDENTIAL, THE BRA WILL NOT TREAT ANY PORTION OF THE PROPOSAL AS CONFIDENTIAL AND THE PROPOSAL MAY BE REJECTED AS NON-CONFORMING.** The BRA will honor notations of confidentiality made in accordance with this paragraph and decline to release such information initially. However, final determination of whether a particular portion of a Proposal may in fact be withheld pursuant to the PIA will be made by the Texas Attorney General or a court of competent jurisdiction.

In the event a public information request is received for a portion of a Proposal that has been marked confidential, the BRA shall ask the affected Respondent if the information may be released. If the release is agreed to, the BRA shall release the information.

If the release is denied, the matter shall be referred to the Texas Attorney General's Office in accordance with the process set forth in the PIA. The Respondent shall be fully and solely responsible for submitting arguments and evidence within the statutory timeframes to the Texas Attorney General's Office regarding its claim of confidentiality. The BRA will **NOT** submit arguments on behalf of the Respondent.

The Texas Attorney General's office shall rule on the matter. In the event that it is determined by opinion or order of the Texas Attorney General or a court of competent jurisdiction that such information may not be withheld, then such information will be made available to the requester. If it is determined that the information may be withheld, BRA will withhold the information from the requestor.

Pricing information contained in Proposals or contracts is not considered confidential under the PIA and will be disclosed without making a request to the Texas Attorney General.

**LEGAL RESEARCH SOFTWARE
RFP NO. 21-08-1234**

SUBMITTAL SCHEDULE

Proposals are posted on the BRA website and prospective Respondents should check www.brazos.org> Doing Business>, Purchasing & Professional Services>, Request for Proposals for potential updates to Proposal requirements.

Tuesday, July 20, 2021	RFP is available to download from the BRA website at http://www.brazos.org/Doing-Business/Purchasing-Professional-Services/Request-for-Proposals , and click on “ <i>View this RFP</i> ”.
4:00 PM, Wednesday, July 28, 2021	Last date and time to ask questions or request additional information. Email questions to Stasi.Vance@Brazos.org .
4:00 PM, Friday, July 30, 2021	Post response to questions received as of the deadline or as soon thereafter, as an Addendum on the BRA website – www.brazos.org / Doing Business/Purchasing and Professional Services/Request for Proposals.
10:00 AM, Wednesday, August 11, 2021	Proposals are due.
2:00 PM Thursday, August 12, 2021	Proposals will be opened and read out loud virtually at the link below https://youtu.be/jxpHe8iJq9E

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
LEGAL RESEARCH SOFTWARE
RFP NO. 21-08-1234**

1. General

The Brazos River Authority is seeking a hosted legal research software solution that is able to support our legal research in one interface while ensuring security in the cloud. Approximate number of users for the software is estimated at five (5) government professional users as defined as an attorney, judge, librarian, researcher, investigator or analyst. Demos of the proposed software shall be conducted with BRA staff at scheduled times, to be determined after review and evaluation of submittals.

BRA will evaluate all relevant COVID-19, health, safety and business factors on all solicitations to determine when to initiate a notice to proceed on all projects, delivery of goods and/or services or procurement of construction related services to best attempt to balance BRA needs and to protect the health and safety of BRA employees, the employees of respondents and the public at large.

2. Scope of Services

Proposal price to include all labor, materials, tools, equipment and incidentals necessary to satisfactorily design, fabricate, manufacture, furnish, deliver components and complete assemblies.

Software shall provide access the following:

- a. Purchase and Sale of Real Property Analytical
- b. National Primary Enhanced
- c. TX Practice Library
- d. News
- e. Moore's Federal Practice – Criminal
- f. Moore's Federal Practice – Civil
- g. City Attorney Basic Library
- h. Construction Law
- i. Corbin on Contracts
- j. Labor and Equipment Law Library
- k. Civil Rights Analytical
- l. Modern Federal Jury Instructions – Civil
- m. Modern Federal Jury Instructions – Criminal
- n. Administrative Law
- o. Criminal Practice and Procedure Analytical

PHASE 1:

A. System Setup- IT Platform Access Via Internet

- (1) Instance Configuration & Deployment;
- (2) Establish a secure HTTPS Website & custom business URL, database, & system support on a private cloud-based hosting platform with high availability and redundancy. Dedicated databases & system support tools;
- (3) Organizational hierarchy, key users; and batch upload of user accounts & permissions.

B. System Support Tools- Contacts/ Permissions, App Manager, Help Me, Online Help, Site Management Tools, Utilization Index, Mobile

- (1) User responsibilities and permissions management;
- (2) On-line management of business operational hierarchy;
- (3) On-line Help and Support Request management;
- (4) Mobile App for iOS (Apple) and Android tablet and Smartphone devices.

C. Ready Implementation Support for Applications:

- (1) Deployment will include a series of Webinar-based sessions (60 or 30-mins each) targeting application training, follow-up Q&A, advanced functionality, implementation best practices, led by vendor's experts.

PHASE 2:

A. On-Going Services

- (1) Controlled Ongoing hosting & maintenance, user support, issue resolution;

B. Custom Support Services

- (1) Following setup and launch; Vendor will provide on-demand technical support as requested by Brazos River Authority authorized administrator.

C. Technical Support

- (1) Services shall include phone support and assistance;
- (2) Services shall include training delivery.

3. Base Proposal

Proposal price to include all labor, materials, tools, equipment and incidentals necessary to satisfactorily design, fabricate, manufacture, furnish, deliver components and complete assemblies.

4. Information Required in the RFP Submittal - Tab Format

The BRA specifically requests succinct submittals tailored to the general and discipline-specific scope of services summarized above. All submittals become the property of the BRA. Each Proposal submittal shall include the information requested below.

Tab A: Include the following:

- (1) Date your company was established and a brief history; number of employees; provide number and location of offices.
- (2) Provide name, title and office location of person who will be the principal contact for the BRA and the billing location if different.
- (3) Describe the types of organizations that your company typically serves and general nature of the work.
- (4) A list and description of similar services completed within the last five years under your current company name or any other company name similar in nature to this solicitation. This should include the name, the location, a brief description of scope of services, and a contact name and telephone number of a reference for each client. List litigation that your company has been a party to in the last five (5) years, under your current company name or any other company name. Include only litigation that involves business units in your company that are proposed for performing services under this RFP. To be fully responsive, provide the level of detail in the attached example, as well as a name and phone number to contact an authorized representative of your company in the event that the BRA needs to clarify your response. Failure to be fully responsive will be sufficient grounds for the BRA to disqualify your company.
- (5) Have you ever defaulted, failed to complete a contract or had a contract terminated by the other party? If so, where and why? Provide name and telephone number of the other party.

Tab B: Include the following:

- (1) Complete and submit the attached Request for Proposals – Proposal Form
- (2) Complete and submit the attached W-9 form.
- (3) Complete and submit the attached "Conflicts of Interest Questionnaire [CIQ]" form.
- (4) Complete and submit Non-Collusion Affidavit form
- (5) Complete and submit Vendor Compliance to State Law form
- (6) Submit detailed implementation plan.
- (7) Submit detailed post-implementation plan.

- (8) References, minimum of three using proposed software.
- (9) Submit information such as brochures, technical sheets, and or data sheets showing the requirements of the specifications contained in this RFP.

6. Selection Process

Proposals will be evaluated and the Respondent whose proposal is determined to be the most advantageous to the BRA when considering the relative importance of price and the other evaluation factors included in the request for proposals will be selected. Scoring will be based on the following factors:

Cost	50%
Functionality to Specifications	25%
Quality and detail of implementation plan	10%
Quality of post-implementation customer support resources	10%
References on proposed software	5%

7. RFP Inquiries

All inquiries, including clarifying questions, related to this RFP shall **only** be directed to the Purchasing Agent via e-mail to submissions@brazos.org. The Purchasing Agent will direct any inquiries to the appropriate BRA staff, a response will be issued and if warranted, an Addendum will be posted on the BRA's website at www.brazos.org. **Failure to adhere to this restriction during the advertising, evaluation, and selection phases will result in the rejection of a Respondent's Proposal.**

8. Respondent's Past Performance

BRA will consider Respondent's past performance and may conduct reference checks with other entities regarding past performance. BRA may examine Respondent's performance including, but not limited to: the Vendor Performance Tracking System, notices of termination, cure notices, assessments of liquidated damages, litigation, audit reports, repeated negative performance, records of repeated non-responsiveness to performance issues, and non-renewals of contracts. Such sources of Respondent performance may include any governmental entity, whether an agency or political subdivision of the State of Texas, another state, or the Federal government. Further, BRA may initiate such examinations of Respondent performance based upon media reports. Any such investigations shall be at the sole discretion of BRA, and any negative findings, as determined by BRA, may result in non-award to Respondent.

9. Conflict of Interest

Pursuant to Chapter 176 of the Local Government Code, any person or agent of a person who contracts or seeks to contract for the sale or purchase of property, goods, or services with a local government entity (i.e., Brazos River Authority) must disclose in the Conflicts of Interest Questionnaire Form ("CIQ") the person's affiliation or business relationship that might cause a conflict of interest with the local government entity. By law, the CIQ must be filed with the BRA Records Management Officer no later than seven (7) days after the date the person begins contract discussions or negotiations with the BRA, or submits an application or response to a Request for Proposals, correspondence, or another writing related to a potential agreement with the BRA. Updated Questionnaires must be filed in conformance with Chapter 176.

A copy of the CIQ is attached. If you have any questions about compliance, please consult your own legal counsel. Compliance is the individual responsibility of each person or agent of a person who is subject to the filing requirement. An offense under Chapter 176 carries a penalty up to a Class A misdemeanor.

10. Disclosure of Interested Parties

Pursuant to Section 2252.908 of the Government Code, the selected Firm in contracts for the sale or purchase of property, goods, or services with a local government entity (i.e., BRA) anticipated to have a value of at least \$250,000/\$500,000 must submit a Disclosure of Interested Parties Form to the local government entity that discloses all persons at the Selected Firm who have a controlling interest in the selected Firm or who actively participated in facilitating the contract or negotiating the terms of the contract.

The requirements of Section 2252.908 of the Government Code are subject to change, and if you have any questions about compliance, please consult your own legal counsel.

https://www.ethics.state.tx.us/whatsnew/elf_info_form1295.htm

11. Term of Agreement

The term of this Contract shall be for a period of one (1) year, commencing on the Effective Date, and may be renewed annually by subsequent agreement of the parties.

12. Contract

The executed contract between BRA and the selected Respondent shall be a standard form contract.

The BRA reserves the right to award contract(s) without any negotiations and reserves the right to not make awards. The BRA reserves the right to conduct studies and other investigations as necessary to evaluate any submittal. Submission of a proposal confers no legal right upon any Respondent.

The decision of BRA, or its designee with regard to the above, shall be administratively final. BRA, in its sole discretion, may waive administrative deficiencies and/or minor technicalities in submittals received.

13. Insurance Requirements

OMITTED

14. Testing

The BRA reserves the right to inspect and test the submitted product. The BRA in its sole discretion may disqualify a submitted product as non-conforming to the specifications if the product does not meet the requirements of the specifications during testing.

15. Recycled and Recyclable Products

The BRA encourages the use of recycled products and products that may be recycled or reused.

16. Delivery of Proposal Submittals

Proposals may be submitted in one of the following manners:

Electronic Transmission. Email transmission to submissions@brazos.org. Emailed proposal submissions shall be an attachment, in a Portable Document Format (PDF). Proposals shall be clearly identified in the Subject Line as follows: RFP Title, RFP Number and RFP Due Date. The BRA shall not be responsible for submissions that are not properly identified. Proper identification of Respondent's proposal is the sole responsibility of the Respondent and failure to do so may result in the submission not being included in the proposal opening.

Drop Box Submission Prior to Proposal Submission Deadline: Hand delivery of one sealed, clearly identified original signed paper copy submission may be received up to the proposal submission deadline contained in the solicitation at the Brazos River Authority Georgetown Regional Office, 4407 IH 35, Suite 101, Georgetown, Texas 78626 utilizing the secure drop box located at the entrance of the office building. The BRA shall not be responsible for submissions that are not properly identified. Proper identification of Respondent's proposal is the sole responsibility of the Respondent

and failure to do so may result in the submission not being included in the proposal opening.

Mail-In Delivery: Mailed by commercial carrier, overnight or express mail, one sealed clearly identified original signed paper copy submission may be accepted by the Purchasing Agent or other designee up to the proposal submission deadline contained in the solicitation at the Brazos River Authority Georgetown Regional Office, 4407 IH 35, Suite 101, Georgetown, Texas 78626. The BRA shall not be responsible for submissions that are not properly identified. Proper identification of Respondent's proposal is the sole responsibility of the Respondent and failure to do so may result in the submission not being included in the proposal opening.



Brazos River Authority



**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS – PROPOSAL FORM
LEGAL RESEARCH SOFTWARE
RFP No. 21-08-1234**

Base Proposed Item	Description	Quantity	Proposed Amount
1	Legal Research Software License (Per Person) Name and Manufacturer:	1	\$ _____
2	Set Up, Installation and Training for Proposed Software (Lump Sum)	1	\$ _____

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS AND
RECEIPT OF ADDENDA**

RESPONDENT MUST ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS AND ADDENDA BY SIGNING BELOW AND SUBMITTING THIS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT WITH YOUR PROPOSAL. FAILURE TO SIGN THIS ACKNOWLEDGEMENT WILL DISQUALIFY THE PROPOSAL AS NON-RESPONSIVE. SIGNATURE MAY BE DIGITAL, ELECTRONIC OR HAND WRITTEN.

This acknowledgement shall become part of your response and the subsequent contract documents if applicable.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS:

Respondent hereby acknowledges that it has received and read the Request for Proposals and all Addenda, and that this Proposal is made in accordance with the provisions thereof. Respondent acknowledges that this Proposal meets or exceeds all terms, requirements, conditions, and/or specifications set forth in the Request for Proposal and Addenda, and exceptions or deviations from such terms, requirements, conditions, and/or specifications, if any, have been clearly and conspicuously identified as such in the Proposal.

Does your company have ten (10) or more full time employees? Check one box only.

YES

NO

Name of Firm (Respondent)

Signature – Authorized Representative

Printed Name

Date

E-mail Address

Telephone Number

NON-COLLUSION AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF _____ §

By the signature below, the signatory for the bidder certifies that neither he nor the firm, corporation, partnership or institution represented by the signatory or anyone acting for the firm bidding this project has violated the antitrust laws of this State, codified at Section 15.01, *et seq.*, Texas Business and Commerce Code, or the Federal antitrust laws, nor communicated directly or indirectly the bid made to any competitor or any other person engaged in the same line of business, nor has the signatory or anyone acting for the firm, corporation or institution submitting a bid committed any other act of collusion related to the development and submission of this bid proposal.

Signature:

Printed _____
Name:
Printed _____
Name:
Title: _____
Company: _____
Date: _____

SUBSCRIBED and sworn to before me the undersigned authority by _____ the _____ of, _____ on behalf of said bidder.

Notary Public in and for the
State of Texas

My commission expires: _____

Request for Taxpayer Identification Number and Certification

**Give Form to the
requester. Do not
send to the IRS.**

Print or type See Specific Instructions on page 2.	1 Name (as shown on your income tax return). Name is required on this line; do not leave this line blank.	
	2 Business name/disregarded entity name, if different from above	
	3 Check appropriate box for federal tax classification; check only one of the following seven boxes: <input type="checkbox"/> Individual/sole proprietor or single-member LLC <input type="checkbox"/> Limited liability company. Enter the tax classification (C=C corporation, S=S corporation, P=partnership) ▶ _____ Note. For a single-member LLC that is disregarded, do not check LLC; check the appropriate box in the line above for the tax classification of the single-member owner. <input type="checkbox"/> Other (see instructions) ▶	4 Exemptions (codes apply only to certain entities, not individuals; see instructions on page 3): Exempt payee code (if any) _____ Exemption from FATCA reporting code (if any) _____ <i>(Applies to accounts maintained outside the U.S.)</i>
	5 Address (number, street, and apt. or suite no.)	Requester's name and address (optional) BRAZOS RIVER AUTHORITY P O BOX 7555 WACO TX 76714-7555
	6 City, state, and ZIP code	
	7 List account number(s) here (optional)	

Part I Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. The TIN provided must match the name given on line 1 to avoid backup withholding. For individuals, this is generally your social security number (SSN). However, for a resident alien, sole proprietor, or disregarded entity, see the Part I instructions on page 3. For other entities, it is your employer identification number (EIN). If you do not have a number, see <i>How to get a TIN</i> on page 3. Note. If the account is in more than one name, see the instructions for line 1 and the chart on page 4 for guidelines on whose number to enter.																																																							
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Part II Certification Under penalties of perjury, I certify that:	
1. The number shown on this form is my correct taxpayer identification number (or I am waiting for a number to be issued to me); and 2. I am not subject to backup withholding because: (a) I am exempt from backup withholding, or (b) I have not been notified by the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) that I am subject to backup withholding as a result of a failure to report all interest or dividends, or (c) the IRS has notified me that I am no longer subject to backup withholding; and 3. I am a U.S. citizen or other U.S. person (defined below); and 4. The FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that I am exempt from FATCA reporting is correct.	
Certification instructions. You must cross out item 2 above if you have been notified by the IRS that you are currently subject to backup withholding because you have failed to report all interest and dividends on your tax return. For real estate transactions, item 2 does not apply. For mortgage interest paid, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, contributions to an individual retirement arrangement (IRA), and generally, payments other than interest and dividends, you are not required to sign the certification, but you must provide your correct TIN. See the instructions on page 3.	

Sign Here	Signature of U.S. person ▶	Date ▶
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General Instructions

Section references are to the Internal Revenue Code unless otherwise noted.

Future developments. Information about developments affecting Form W-9 (such as legislation enacted after we release it) is at www.irs.gov/fw9.

Purpose of Form

An individual or entity (Form W-9 requester) who is required to file an information return with the IRS must obtain your correct taxpayer identification number (TIN) which may be your social security number (SSN), individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN), adoption taxpayer identification number (ATIN), or employer identification number (EIN), to report on an information return the amount paid to you, or other amount reportable on an information return. Examples of information returns include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Form 1099-INT (interest earned or paid)
- Form 1099-DIV (dividends, including those from stocks or mutual funds)
- Form 1099-MISC (various types of income, prizes, awards, or gross proceeds)
- Form 1099-B (stock or mutual fund sales and certain other transactions by brokers)
- Form 1099-S (proceeds from real estate transactions)
- Form 1099-K (merchant card and third party network transactions)

- Form 1098 (home mortgage interest), 1098-E (student loan interest), 1098-T (tuition)
- Form 1099-C (canceled debt)
- Form 1099-A (acquisition or abandonment of secured property)

Use Form W-9 only if you are a U.S. person (including a resident alien), to provide your correct TIN.

If you do not return Form W-9 to the requester with a TIN, you might be subject to backup withholding. See What is backup withholding? on page 2.

By signing the filled-out form, you:

1. Certify that the TIN you are giving is correct (or you are waiting for a number to be issued),
2. Certify that you are not subject to backup withholding, or
3. Claim exemption from backup withholding if you are a U.S. exempt payee. If applicable, you are also certifying that as a U.S. person, your allocable share of any partnership income from a U.S. trade or business is not subject to the withholding tax on foreign partners' share of effectively connected income, and
4. Certify that FATCA code(s) entered on this form (if any) indicating that you are exempt from the FATCA reporting, is correct. See *What is FATCA reporting?* on page 2 for further information.

Note. If you are a U.S. person and a requester gives you a form other than Form W-9 to request your TIN, you must use the requester's form if it is substantially similar to this Form W-9.

Definition of a U.S. person. For federal tax purposes, you are considered a U.S. person if you are:

- An individual who is a U.S. citizen or U.S. resident alien;
- A partnership, corporation, company, or association created or organized in the United States or under the laws of the United States;
- An estate (other than a foreign estate); or
- A domestic trust (as defined in Regulations section 301.7701-7).

Special rules for partnerships. Partnerships that conduct a trade or business in the United States are generally required to pay a withholding tax under section 1446 on any foreign partners' share of effectively connected taxable income from such business. Further, in certain cases where a Form W-9 has not been received, the rules under section 1446 require a partnership to presume that a partner is a foreign person, and pay the section 1446 withholding tax. Therefore, if you are a U.S. person that is a partner in a partnership conducting a trade or business in the United States, provide Form W-9 to the partnership to establish your U.S. status and avoid section 1446 withholding on your share of partnership income.

In the cases below, the following person must give Form W-9 to the partnership for purposes of establishing its U.S. status and avoiding withholding on its allocable share of net income from the partnership conducting a trade or business in the United States:

- In the case of a disregarded entity with a U.S. owner, the U.S. owner of the disregarded entity and not the entity;
- In the case of a grantor trust with a U.S. grantor or other U.S. owner, generally, the U.S. grantor or other U.S. owner of the grantor trust and not the trust; and
- In the case of a U.S. trust (other than a grantor trust), the U.S. trust (other than a grantor trust) and not the beneficiaries of the trust.

Foreign person. If you are a foreign person or the U.S. branch of a foreign bank that has elected to be treated as a U.S. person, do not use Form W-9. Instead, use the appropriate Form W-8 or Form 8233 (see Publication 515, Withholding of Tax on Nonresident Aliens and Foreign Entities).

Nonresident alien who becomes a resident alien. Generally, only a nonresident alien individual may use the terms of a tax treaty to reduce or eliminate U.S. tax on certain types of income. However, most tax treaties contain a provision known as a "saving clause." Exceptions specified in the saving clause may permit an exemption from tax to continue for certain types of income even after the payee has otherwise become a U.S. resident alien for tax purposes.

If you are a U.S. resident alien who is relying on an exception contained in the saving clause of a tax treaty to claim an exemption from U.S. tax on certain types of income, you must attach a statement to Form W-9 that specifies the following five items:

1. The treaty country. Generally, this must be the same treaty under which you claimed exemption from tax as a nonresident alien.
2. The treaty article addressing the income.
3. The article number (or location) in the tax treaty that contains the saving clause and its exceptions.
4. The type and amount of income that qualifies for the exemption from tax.
5. Sufficient facts to justify the exemption from tax under the terms of the treaty article.

Example. Article 20 of the U.S.-China income tax treaty allows an exemption from tax for scholarship income received by a Chinese student temporarily present in the United States. Under U.S. law, this student will become a resident alien for tax purposes if his or her stay in the United States exceeds 5 calendar years. However, paragraph 2 of the first Protocol to the U.S.-China treaty (dated April 30, 1984) allows the provisions of Article 20 to continue to apply even after the Chinese student becomes a resident alien of the United States. A Chinese student who qualifies for this exception (under paragraph 2 of the first protocol) and is relying on this exception to claim an exemption from tax on his or her scholarship or fellowship income would attach to Form W-9 a statement that includes the information described above to support that exemption.

If you are a nonresident alien or a foreign entity, give the requester the appropriate completed Form W-8 or Form 8233.

Backup Withholding

What is backup withholding? Persons making certain payments to you must under certain conditions withhold and pay to the IRS 28% of such payments. This is called "backup withholding." Payments that may be subject to backup withholding include interest, tax-exempt interest, dividends, broker and barter exchange transactions, rents, royalties, nonemployee pay, payments made in settlement of payment card and third party network transactions, and certain payments from fishing boat operators. Real estate transactions are not subject to backup withholding.

You will not be subject to backup withholding on payments you receive if you give the requester your correct TIN, make the proper certifications, and report all your taxable interest and dividends on your tax return.

Payments you receive will be subject to backup withholding if:

1. You do not furnish your TIN to the requester,
2. You do not certify your TIN when required (see the Part II instructions on page 3 for details),

3. The IRS tells the requester that you furnished an incorrect TIN,

4. The IRS tells you that you are subject to backup withholding because you did not report all your interest and dividends on your tax return (for reportable interest and dividends only), or

5. You do not certify to the requester that you are not subject to backup withholding under 4 above (for reportable interest and dividend accounts opened after 1983 only).

Certain payees and payments are exempt from backup withholding. See *Exempt payee code* on page 3 and the separate Instructions for the Requester of Form W-9 for more information.

Also see *Special rules for partnerships* above.

What is FATCA reporting?

The Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) requires a participating foreign financial institution to report all United States account holders that are specified United States persons. Certain payees are exempt from FATCA reporting. See *Exemption from FATCA reporting code* on page 3 and the Instructions for the Requester of Form W-9 for more information.

Updating Your Information

You must provide updated information to any person to whom you claimed to be an exempt payee if you are no longer an exempt payee and anticipate receiving reportable payments in the future from this person. For example, you may need to provide updated information if you are a C corporation that elects to be an S corporation, or if you no longer are tax exempt. In addition, you must furnish a new Form W-9 if the name or TIN changes for the account; for example, if the grantor of a grantor trust dies.

Penalties

Failure to furnish TIN. If you fail to furnish your correct TIN to a requester, you are subject to a penalty of \$50 for each such failure unless your failure is due to reasonable cause and not to willful neglect.

Civil penalty for false information with respect to withholding. If you make a false statement with no reasonable basis that results in no backup withholding, you are subject to a \$500 penalty.

Criminal penalty for falsifying information. Willfully falsifying certifications or affirmations may subject you to criminal penalties including fines and/or imprisonment.

Misuse of TINs. If the requester discloses or uses TINs in violation of federal law, the requester may be subject to civil and criminal penalties.

Specific Instructions

Line 1

You must enter one of the following on this line; do not leave this line blank. The name should match the name on your tax return.

If this Form W-9 is for a joint account, list first, and then circle, the name of the person or entity whose number you entered in Part I of Form W-9.

a. **Individual.** Generally, enter the name shown on your tax return. If you have changed your last name without informing the Social Security Administration (SSA) of the name change, enter your first name, the last name as shown on your social security card, and your new last name.

Note. ITIN applicant: Enter your individual name as it was entered on your Form W-7 application, line 1a. This should also be the same as the name you entered on the Form 1040/1040A/1040EZ you filed with your application.

b. **Sole proprietor or single-member LLC.** Enter your individual name as shown on your 1040/1040A/1040EZ on line 1. You may enter your business, trade, or "doing business as" (DBA) name on line 2.

c. **Partnership, LLC that is not a single-member LLC, C Corporation, or S Corporation.** Enter the entity's name as shown on the entity's tax return on line 1 and any business, trade, or DBA name on line 2.

d. **Other entities.** Enter your name as shown on required U.S. federal tax documents on line 1. This name should match the name shown on the charter or other legal document creating the entity. You may enter any business, trade, or DBA name on line 2.

e. **Disregarded entity.** For U.S. federal tax purposes, an entity that is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner is treated as a "disregarded entity." See Regulations section 301.7701-2(c)(2)(iii). Enter the owner's name on line 1. The name of the entity entered on line 1 should never be a disregarded entity. The name on line 1 should be the name shown on the income tax return on which the income should be reported. For example, if a foreign LLC that is treated as a disregarded entity for U.S. federal tax purposes has a single owner that is a U.S. person, the U.S. owner's name is required to be provided on line 1. If the direct owner of the entity is also a disregarded entity, enter the first owner that is not disregarded for federal tax purposes. Enter the disregarded entity's name on line 2, "Business name/disregarded entity name." If the owner of the disregarded entity is a foreign person, the owner must complete an appropriate Form W-8 instead of a Form W-9. This is the case even if the foreign person has a U.S. TIN.

Line 2

If you have a business name, trade name, DBA name, or disregarded entity name, you may enter it on line 2.

Line 3

Check the appropriate box in line 3 for the U.S. federal tax classification of the person whose name is entered on line 1. Check only one box in line 3.

Limited Liability Company (LLC). If the name on line 1 is an LLC treated as a partnership for U.S. federal tax purposes, check the "Limited Liability Company" box and enter "P" in the space provided. If the LLC has filed Form 8832 or 2553 to be taxed as a corporation, check the "Limited Liability Company" box and in the space provided enter "C" for C corporation or "S" for S corporation. If it is a single-member LLC that is a disregarded entity, do not check the "Limited Liability Company" box; instead check the first box in line 3 "Individual/sole proprietor or single-member LLC."

Line 4, Exemptions

If you are exempt from backup withholding and/or FATCA reporting, enter in the appropriate space in line 4 any code(s) that may apply to you.

Exempt payee code.

- Generally, individuals (including sole proprietors) are not exempt from backup withholding.
- Except as provided below, corporations are exempt from backup withholding for certain payments, including interest and dividends.
- Corporations are not exempt from backup withholding for payments made in settlement of payment card or third party network transactions.
- Corporations are not exempt from backup withholding with respect to attorneys' fees or gross proceeds paid to attorneys, and corporations that provide medical or health care services are not exempt with respect to payments reportable on Form 1099-MISC.

The following codes identify payees that are exempt from backup withholding. Enter the appropriate code in the space in line 4.

- 1—An organization exempt from tax under section 501(a), any IRA, or a custodial account under section 403(b)(7) if the account satisfies the requirements of section 401(f)(2)
- 2—The United States or any of its agencies or instrumentalities
- 3—A state, the District of Columbia, a U.S. commonwealth or possession, or any of their political subdivisions or instrumentalities
- 4—A foreign government or any of its political subdivisions, agencies, or instrumentalities
- 5—A corporation
- 6—A dealer in securities or commodities required to register in the United States, the District of Columbia, or a U.S. commonwealth or possession
- 7—A futures commission merchant registered with the Commodity Futures Trading Commission
- 8—A real estate investment trust
- 9—An entity registered at all times during the tax year under the Investment Company Act of 1940
- 10—A common trust fund operated by a bank under section 584(a)
- 11—A financial institution
- 12—A middleman known in the investment community as a nominee or custodian
- 13—A trust exempt from tax under section 664 or described in section 4947

The following chart shows types of payments that may be exempt from backup withholding. The chart applies to the exempt payees listed above, 1 through 13.

IF the payment is for . . .	THEN the payment is exempt for . . .
Interest and dividend payments	All exempt payees except for 7
Broker transactions	Exempt payees 1 through 4 and 6 through 11 and all C corporations. S corporations must not enter an exempt payee code because they are exempt only for sales of noncovered securities acquired prior to 2012.
Barter exchange transactions and patronage dividends	Exempt payees 1 through 4
Payments over \$600 required to be reported and direct sales over \$5,000 ¹	Generally, exempt payees 1 through 5 ²
Payments made in settlement of payment card or third party network transactions	Exempt payees 1 through 4

¹ See Form 1099-MISC, Miscellaneous Income, and its instructions.

² However, the following payments made to a corporation and reportable on Form 1099-MISC are not exempt from backup withholding: medical and health care payments, attorneys' fees, gross proceeds paid to an attorney reportable under section 6045(f), and payments for services paid by a federal executive agency.

Exemption from FATCA reporting code. The following codes identify payees that are exempt from reporting under FATCA. These codes apply to persons submitting this form for accounts maintained outside of the United States by certain foreign financial institutions. Therefore, if you are only submitting this form for an account you hold in the United States, you may leave this field blank. Consult with the person requesting this form if you are uncertain if the financial institution is subject to these requirements. A requester may indicate that a code is not required by providing you with a Form W-9 with "Not Applicable" (or any similar indication) written or printed on the line for a FATCA exemption code.

- A—An organization exempt from tax under section 501(a) or any individual retirement plan as defined in section 7701(a)(37)
- B—The United States or any of its agencies or instrumentalities
- C—A state, the District of Columbia, a U.S. commonwealth or possession, or any of their political subdivisions or instrumentalities
- D—A corporation the stock of which is regularly traded on one or more established securities markets, as described in Regulations section 1.1472-1(c)(1)(i)
- E—A corporation that is a member of the same expanded affiliated group as a corporation described in Regulations section 1.1472-1(c)(1)(i)
- F—A dealer in securities, commodities, or derivative financial instruments (including notional principal contracts, futures, forwards, and options) that is registered as such under the laws of the United States or any state
- G—A real estate investment trust
- H—A regulated investment company as defined in section 851 or an entity registered at all times during the tax year under the Investment Company Act of 1940
- I—A common trust fund as defined in section 584(a)
- J—A bank as defined in section 581
- K—A broker
- L—A trust exempt from tax under section 664 or described in section 4947(a)(1)
- M—A tax exempt trust under a section 403(b) plan or section 457(g) plan

Note. You may wish to consult with the financial institution requesting this form to determine whether the FATCA code and/or exempt payee code should be completed.

Line 5

Enter your address (number, street, and apartment or suite number). This is where the requester of this Form W-9 will mail your information returns.

Line 6

Enter your city, state, and ZIP code.

Part I. Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN)

Enter your TIN in the appropriate box. If you are a resident alien and you do not have and are not eligible to get an SSN, your TIN is your IRS individual taxpayer identification number (ITIN). Enter it in the social security number box. If you do not have an ITIN, see *How to get a TIN* below.

If you are a sole proprietor and you have an EIN, you may enter either your SSN or EIN. However, the IRS prefers that you use your SSN.

If you are a single-member LLC that is disregarded as an entity separate from its owner (see *Limited Liability Company (LLC)* on this page), enter the owner's SSN (or EIN, if the owner has one). Do not enter the disregarded entity's EIN. If the LLC is classified as a corporation or partnership, enter the entity's EIN.

Note. See the chart on page 4 for further clarification of name and TIN combinations.

How to get a TIN. If you do not have a TIN, apply for one immediately. To apply for an SSN, get Form SS-5, Application for a Social Security Card, from your local SSA office or get this form online at www.ssa.gov. You may also get this form by calling 1-800-772-1213. Use Form W-7, Application for IRS Individual Taxpayer Identification Number, to apply for an ITIN, or Form SS-4, Application for Employer Identification Number, to apply for an EIN. You can apply for an EIN online by accessing the IRS website at www.irs.gov/businesses and clicking on Employer Identification Number (EIN) under Starting a Business. You can get Forms W-7 and SS-4 from the IRS by visiting IRS.gov or by calling 1-800-TAX-FORM (1-800-829-3676).

If you are asked to complete Form W-9 but do not have a TIN, apply for a TIN and write "Applied For" in the space for the TIN, sign and date the form, and give it to the requester. For interest and dividend payments, and certain payments made with respect to readily tradable instruments, generally you will have 60 days to get a TIN and give it to the requester before you are subject to backup withholding on payments. The 60-day rule does not apply to other types of payments. You will be subject to backup withholding on all such payments until you provide your TIN to the requester.

Note. Entering "Applied For" means that you have already applied for a TIN or that you intend to apply for one soon.

Caution: A disregarded U.S. entity that has a foreign owner must use the appropriate Form W-8.

Part II. Certification

To establish to the withholding agent that you are a U.S. person, or resident alien, sign Form W-9. You may be requested to sign by the withholding agent even if items 1, 4, or 5 below indicate otherwise.

For a joint account, only the person whose TIN is shown in Part I should sign (when required). In the case of a disregarded entity, the person identified on line 1 must sign. Exempt payees, see *Exempt payee code* earlier.

Signature requirements. Complete the certification as indicated in items 1 through 5 below.

1. Interest, dividend, and barter exchange accounts opened before 1984 and broker accounts considered active during 1983. You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification.

2. Interest, dividend, broker, and barter exchange accounts opened after 1983 and broker accounts considered inactive during 1983. You must sign the certification or backup withholding will apply. If you are subject to backup withholding and you are merely providing your correct TIN to the requester, you must cross out item 2 in the certification before signing the form.

3. Real estate transactions. You must sign the certification. You may cross out item 2 of the certification.

4. Other payments. You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification unless you have been notified that you have previously given an incorrect TIN. "Other payments" include payments made in the course of the requester's trade or business for rents, royalties, goods (other than bills for merchandise), medical and health care services (including payments to corporations), payments to a nonemployee for services, payments made in settlement of payment card and third party network transactions, payments to certain fishing boat crew members and fishermen, and gross proceeds paid to attorneys (including payments to corporations).

5. Mortgage interest paid by you, acquisition or abandonment of secured property, cancellation of debt, qualified tuition program payments (under section 529), IRA, Coverdell ESA, Archer MSA or HSA contributions or distributions, and pension distributions. You must give your correct TIN, but you do not have to sign the certification.

What Name and Number To Give the Requester

For this type of account:	Give name and SSN of:
1. Individual	The individual
2. Two or more individuals (joint account)	The actual owner of the account or, if combined funds, the first individual on the account ¹
3. Custodian account of a minor (Uniform Gift to Minors Act)	The minor ²
4. a. The usual revocable savings trust (grantor is also trustee) b. So-called trust account that is not a legal or valid trust under state law	The grantor-trustee ¹ The actual owner ¹
5. Sole proprietorship or disregarded entity owned by an individual	The owner ³
6. Grantor trust filing under Optional Form 1099 Filing Method 1 (see Regulations section 1.671-4(b)(2)(i)(A))	The grantor*

For this type of account:	Give name and EIN of:
7. Disregarded entity not owned by an individual	The owner
8. A valid trust, estate, or pension trust	Legal entity ⁴
9. Corporation or LLC electing corporate status on Form 8832 or Form 2553	The corporation
10. Association, club, religious, charitable, educational, or other tax-exempt organization	The organization
11. Partnership or multi-member LLC	The partnership
12. A broker or registered nominee	The broker or nominee
13. Account with the Department of Agriculture in the name of a public entity (such as a state or local government, school district, or prison) that receives agricultural program payments	The public entity
14. Grantor trust filing under the Form 1041 Filing Method or the Optional Form 1099 Filing Method 2 (see Regulations section 1.671-4(b)(2)(i)(B))	The trust

¹ List first and circle the name of the person whose number you furnish. If only one person on a joint account has an SSN, that person's number must be furnished.

² Circle the minor's name and furnish the minor's SSN.

³ You must show your individual name and you may also enter your business or DBA name on the "Business name/disregarded entity" name line. You may use either your SSN or EIN (if you have one), but the IRS encourages you to use your SSN.

⁴ List first and circle the name of the trust, estate, or pension trust. (Do not furnish the TIN of the personal representative or trustee unless the legal entity itself is not designated in the account title.) Also see *Special rules for partnerships* on page 2.

*Note. Grantor also must provide a Form W-9 to trustee of trust.

Note. If no name is circled when more than one name is listed, the number will be considered to be that of the first name listed.

Secure Your Tax Records from Identity Theft

Identity theft occurs when someone uses your personal information such as your name, SSN, or other identifying information, without your permission, to commit fraud or other crimes. An identity thief may use your SSN to get a job or may file a tax return using your SSN to receive a refund.

To reduce your risk:

- Protect your SSN,
- Ensure your employer is protecting your SSN, and
- Be careful when choosing a tax preparer.

If your tax records are affected by identity theft and you receive a notice from the IRS, respond right away to the name and phone number printed on the IRS notice or letter.

If your tax records are not currently affected by identity theft but you think you are at risk due to a lost or stolen purse or wallet, questionable credit card activity or credit report, contact the IRS Identity Theft Hotline at 1-800-908-4490 or submit Form 14039.

For more information, see Publication 4535, Identity Theft Prevention and Victim Assistance.

Victims of identity theft who are experiencing economic harm or a system problem, or are seeking help in resolving tax problems that have not been resolved through normal channels, may be eligible for Taxpayer Advocate Service (TAS) assistance. You can reach TAS by calling the TAS toll-free case intake line at 1-877-777-4778 or TTY/TDD 1-800-829-4059.

Protect yourself from suspicious emails or phishing schemes. Phishing is the creation and use of email and websites designed to mimic legitimate business emails and websites. The most common act is sending an email to a user falsely claiming to be an established legitimate enterprise in an attempt to scam the user into surrendering private information that will be used for identity theft.

The IRS does not initiate contacts with taxpayers via emails. Also, the IRS does not request personal detailed information through email or ask taxpayers for the PIN numbers, passwords, or similar secret access information for their credit card, bank, or other financial accounts.

If you receive an unsolicited email claiming to be from the IRS, forward this message to phishing@irs.gov. You may also report misuse of the IRS name, logo, or other IRS property to the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration (TIGTA) at 1-800-366-4484. You can forward suspicious emails to the Federal Trade Commission at: spam@uce.gov or contact them at www.ftc.gov/idtheft or 1-877-IDTHEFT (1-877-438-4338).

Visit IRS.gov to learn more about identity theft and how to reduce your risk.

Privacy Act Notice

Section 6109 of the Internal Revenue Code requires you to provide your correct TIN to persons (including federal agencies) who are required to file information returns with the IRS to report interest, dividends, or certain other income paid to you; mortgage interest you paid; the acquisition or abandonment of secured property; the cancellation of debt; or contributions you made to an IRA, Archer MSA, or HSA. The person collecting this form uses the information on the form to file information returns with the IRS, reporting the above information. Routine uses of this information include giving it to the Department of Justice for civil and criminal litigation and to cities, states, the District of Columbia, and U.S. commonwealths and possessions for use in administering their laws. The information also may be disclosed to other countries under a treaty, to federal and state agencies to enforce civil and criminal laws, or to federal law enforcement and intelligence agencies to combat terrorism. You must provide your TIN whether or not you are required to file a tax return. Under section 3406, payers must generally withhold a percentage of taxable interest, dividend, and certain other payments to a payee who does not give a TIN to the payer. Certain penalties may also apply for providing false or fraudulent information.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE
For vendor doing business with local governmental entity

FORM CIQ

This questionnaire reflects changes made to the law by H.B. 23, 84th Leg., Regular Session.

This questionnaire is being filed in accordance with Chapter 176, Local Government Code, by a vendor who has a business relationship as defined by Section 176.001(1-a) with a local governmental entity and the vendor meets requirements under Section 176.006(a).

By law this questionnaire must be filed with the records administrator of the local governmental entity not later than the 7th business day after the date the vendor becomes aware of facts that require the statement to be filed. See Section 176.006(a-1), Local Government Code.

A vendor commits an offense if the vendor knowingly violates Section 176.006, Local Government Code. An offense under this section is a misdemeanor.

OFFICE USE ONLY

Date Received

1 Name of vendor who has a business relationship with local governmental entity.

2 Check this box if you are filing an update to a previously filed questionnaire. (The law requires that you file an updated completed questionnaire with the appropriate filing authority not later than the 7th business day after the date on which you became aware that the originally filed questionnaire was incomplete or inaccurate.)

3 Name of local government officer about whom the information is being disclosed.

Name of Officer

4 Describe each employment or other business relationship with the local government officer, or a family member of the officer, as described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A). Also describe any family relationship with the local government officer. Complete subparts A and B for each employment or business relationship described. Attach additional pages to this Form CIQ as necessary.

A. Is the local government officer or a family member of the officer receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from the vendor?

Yes No

B. Is the vendor receiving or likely to receive taxable income, other than investment income, from or at the direction of the local government officer or a family member of the officer AND the taxable income is not received from the local governmental entity?

Yes No

5 Describe each employment or business relationship that the vendor named in Section 1 maintains with a corporation or other business entity with respect to which the local government officer serves as an officer or director, or holds an ownership interest of one percent or more.

6 Check this box if the vendor has given the local government officer or a family member of the officer one or more gifts as described in Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding gifts described in Section 176.003(a-1).

7

Signature of vendor doing business with the governmental entity

Date

CONFLICT OF INTEREST QUESTIONNAIRE
For vendor doing business with local governmental entity

A complete copy of Chapter 176 of the Local Government Code may be found at <http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/Docs/LG/htm/LG.176.htm>. For easy reference, below are some of the sections cited on this form.

Local Government Code § 176.001(1-a): "Business relationship" means a connection between two or more parties based on commercial activity of one of the parties. The term does not include a connection based on:

- (A) a transaction that is subject to rate or fee regulation by a federal, state, or local governmental entity or an agency of a federal, state, or local governmental entity;
- (B) a transaction conducted at a price and subject to terms available to the public; or
- (C) a purchase or lease of goods or services from a person that is chartered by a state or federal agency and that is subject to regular examination by, and reporting to, that agency.

Local Government Code § 176.003(a)(2)(A) and (B):

(a) A local government officer shall file a conflicts disclosure statement with respect to a vendor if:

(2) the vendor:

(A) has an employment or other business relationship with the local government officer or a family member of the officer that results in the officer or family member receiving taxable income, other than investment income, that exceeds \$2,500 during the 12-month period preceding the date that the officer becomes aware that

(i) a contract between the local governmental entity and vendor has been executed;
or

(ii) the local governmental entity is considering entering into a contract with the vendor;

(B) has given to the local government officer or a family member of the officer one or more gifts that have an aggregate value of more than \$100 in the 12-month period preceding the date the officer becomes aware that:

- (i) a contract between the local governmental entity and vendor has been executed; or
- (ii) the local governmental entity is considering entering into a contract with the vendor.

Local Government Code § 176.006(a) and (a-1)

(a) A vendor shall file a completed conflict of interest questionnaire if the vendor has a business relationship with a local governmental entity and:

(1) has an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer of that local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, described by Section 176.003(a)(2)(A);

(2) has given a local government officer of that local governmental entity, or a family member of the officer, one or more gifts with the aggregate value specified by Section 176.003(a)(2)(B), excluding any gift described by Section 176.003(a-1); or

(3) has a family relationship with a local government officer of that local governmental entity.

(a-1) The completed conflict of interest questionnaire must be filed with the appropriate records administrator not later than the seventh business day after the later of:

(1) the date that the vendor:

(A) begins discussions or negotiations to enter into a contract with the local governmental entity; or

(B) submits to the local governmental entity an application, response to a request for proposals or bids, correspondence, or another writing related to a potential contract with the local governmental entity; or

(2) the date the vendor becomes aware:

(A) of an employment or other business relationship with a local government officer, or a family member of the officer, described by Subsection (a);

(B) that the vendor has given one or more gifts described by Subsection (a); or

(C) of a family relationship with a local government officer.

VENDOR COMPLIANCE TO STATE LAW

Section 2252.002, Texas Government Code, provides that, in order to be awarded a contract as low bidder, non-resident bidders (out-of-state contractors whose corporate offices or principal place of business are outside of the State of Texas) bid projects for construction, improvements, supplies or services in Texas at an amount lower than the lowest Texas resident bidder by the same amount that a Texas resident bidder would be required to underbid a non-resident bidder in order to obtain a comparable contract in the State in which the non-resident's principal place of business is located. The appropriate blanks in Section A must be filled out by all out-of-state or non-resident bidders in order for your bid to meet specifications. The failure of out-of-state or non-resident contractors to do so will automatically disqualify that bidder. Resident bidders must check the box in Section B.

A. Non-resident vendors in _____ (give state), our principal place of business, are required to be _____ percent lower than resident bidders by state law. A copy of the statute is attached.

Non-resident vendors in _____ (give state), our principal place of business, are not required to underbid resident bidders.

B. Our principal place of business or corporate office is in the State of Texas.

Please Check or mark with an "X"

BIDDER:

_____ By: _____ Company
(please print)

_____ Signature: _____
(please print)

_____ Title: _____
(please print)

City / State _____ Zip _____

THIS FORM MUST BE RETURNED