



STATE OF MARYLAND BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

SOLICITATION NO. 2026-01

Issue Date: March 6, 2026

RECORDING AND TRANSCRIPTION SERVICES

SMALL BUSINESS RESERVE (SBR) DESIGNATION

Only Certified Small Businesses are eligible for this Contract award.

Prospective Offerors receiving this document from the Board of Public Works website, [eMaryland Marketplace Advantage](#), or source other than the Procurement Officer, wishing to assure receipt of changes or materials related to this RFP, must provide contact information to the Procurement Officer.

Minority Business Enterprises and Veteran-Owned Small Business Enterprises are encouraged to respond to this solicitation.

**STATE OF MARYLAND
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS**

NOTICE TO VENDORS

WHY NO BID? / SUGGESTIONS and IMPROVEMENTS

To help us improve State solicitations and to make our procurement process more responsive and business friendly, please provide comments or suggestions regarding this solicitation. Please return your comments with your response.

If you choose not to respond to this solicitation, please return this form to the Procurement Officer, Gabriel Gnall, at gabriel.gnall@maryland.gov.

**RECORDING AND TRANSCRIPTION SERVICES
Solicitation No: 2026-01**

1. If you decide not to respond to this solicitation, please indicate why below and your remarks:

- Other commitments preclude our participation at this time.
- The subject of the solicitation is not something we ordinarily provide.
- We are inexperienced in the work required.
- Specifications are unclear, too restrictive, etc. (Please explain below).
- The scope of work is beyond our present capacity.
- Doing business with the State of Maryland is too complicated. (Please explain below).
- We cannot be competitive.
- Time allotted for submitting a Proposal is insufficient.
- Start-up time is insufficient.
- Bonding/Insurance requirements are restrictive.
- Proposal requirements (other than specifications) are unreasonable or too risky.
- SBR, MBE, or VSBE requirements.
- Prior State of Maryland contract experience was unprofitable or otherwise unsatisfactory.
- Payment schedule too slow.
- Other: _____

2. If you respond to this solicitation, you may also wish to offer suggestions or express concerns in the REMARKS section. (Attach pages as needed. We value your comments!)

REMARKS:

Vendor Name: _____ Date: _____

Contact Person: _____ Phone (____) _____ - _____

Address: _____

E-mail Address: _____

**STATE OF MARYLAND
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS
RFP KEY INFORMATION SUMMARY SHEET**

Request for Proposals: **RECORDING AND TRANSCRIPTION SERVICES**

Solicitation Number: **2026-01**

RFP Issue Date: **March 6, 2026**

RFP Issuing Office: **Board of Public Works**
80 Calvert Street, Room 117
Annapolis, MD 21401
410-260-7335 (office)

Procurement Officer: **Gabriel Gnall, Procurement Advisor**
gabriel.gnall@maryland.gov

Contract Monitor: **Lisa Grigsby, Recording Secretary**
lisa.grigsby@maryland.gov
410-260-7335 (office)

Questions are to be sent to: **Gabriel Gnall, Procurement Advisor**
gabriel.gnall@maryland.gov
Before March 20, 2026

Proposals are to be sent to: **Gabriel Gnall, Procurement Advisor**
Board of Public Works
80 Calvert Street, Room 117
Annapolis, MD 21401
gabriel.gnall@maryland.gov

***Proposal Due (Closing)
Date & Time:*** **March 31, 2026, 1:00 P.M. Local Time**

SBR Designation: **YES – Only Certified Small Businesses are eligible for
Contract Award**

MBE Subcontracting Goal: **0%**

VSBE Subcontracting Goal: **0%**

NOTICE TO BIDDERS/OFFERORS SMALL BUSINESS RESERVE PROCUREMENT

This is a Small Business Reserve Procurement for which award will be limited to certified small business vendors. Only businesses that meet the statutory requirements set forth in State Finance and Procurement Article, §§14-50114-505, Annotated Code of Maryland, and that are certified by the Governor's Office of Small, Minority, and Women Business Affairs Small Business Reserve Program are eligible for award of a contract.

For the purposes of a Small Business Reserve Procurement, a small business is a for-profit business, other than a broker, that meets the following criteria:

- A. It is independently owned and operated;
- B. It is not a subsidiary of another business;
- C. It is not dominant in its field of operation; and
- D. Either:
 - (1) With respect to employees:
 - (a) Its wholesale operations did not employ more than 50 persons in its most recently completed 3 fiscal years;
 - (b) Its retail operations did not employ more than 25 persons in its most recently completed 3 fiscal years;
 - (c) Its manufacturing operations did not employ more than 100 persons in its most recently completed 3 fiscal years;
 - (d) Its service operations did not employ more than 100 persons in its most recently completed 3 fiscal years;
 - (e) Its construction operations did not employ more than 50 persons in its most recently completed 3 fiscal years; and
 - (f) The architectural and engineering services of the business did not employ more than 100 persons in its most recently completed 3 fiscal years; or
 - (2) With respect to gross sales:
 - (a) The gross sales of its wholesale operations did not exceed an average of \$4,000,000 in its most recently completed 3 fiscal years;
 - (b) The gross sales of its retail operations did not exceed an average of \$3,000,000 in its most recently completed 3 fiscal years;
 - (c) The gross sales of its manufacturing operations did not exceed an average of \$2,000,000 in its most recently completed 3 fiscal years;
 - (d) The gross sales of its service operations did not exceed an average of \$10,000,000 in its most recently completed 3 fiscal years;
 - (e) The gross sales of its construction operations did not exceed an average of \$7,000,000 in its most recently completed 3 fiscal years; and
 - (f) The gross sales of its architectural and engineering operations did not exceed an average of \$4,500,000 in its most recently completed 3 fiscal years.

Note: If a business has not existed for 3 years, the employment and gross sales average or averages shall be the average for each year or part of a year during which the business has been in existence.

Further information on the certification process is available at eMaryland Marketplace (eMMA) and the following weblinks: <https://gomdsmallbiz.maryland.gov/pages/sbr-program.aspx>
<https://gomdsmallbiz.maryland.gov/Pages/SBR-Registration.aspx>
<https://emma.maryland.gov/page.aspx/en/usr/login?ReturnUrl=%2fpage.aspx%2fen%2fbuy%2fhomepage>

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SECTION 1 - GENERAL INFORMATION

1.1 Summary Statement

- 1.1.1 The Maryland Board of Public Works is issuing this Request for Proposals to obtain recording and transcription services for Board meetings.
- 1.1.2 It is the State's intention to obtain services, as specified in this RFP, from a Contract between the selected Offeror and the State. The anticipated duration of services to be provided under this Contract is three years with two 1-year renewal options. See RFP Section 1.4 for more information.
- 1.1.3 The Board intends to make a single award as a result of this RFP. See RFP Section 1.15 for more information.
- 1.1.4 An Offeror must be able to provide all services and meet all the requirements requested in this solicitation. The successful Offeror (the Contractor) is responsible for Contract performance throughout the Contract term.
- 1.1.5 Small Business Reserve (SBR) Designation: Only Certified Small Businesses (CSB) are eligible for this Contract award.

1.2 Abbreviations and Definitions

For purposes of this RFP, the following terms have the meanings indicated.

1. **Board of Public Works, BPW, or the Board** – The Maryland Board of Public Works.
2. **Business Days** – The official working days of the week to include Monday through Friday. Official working days exclude State holidays (see definition of “Normal State Business Hours”).
3. **COMAR** - Code of Maryland Regulations available at <https://dsd.maryland.gov/pages/COMARHome.aspx>
4. **Contract** – The Contract awarded to the successful Offeror pursuant to this RFP. The Contract will be in the form of **Attachment A**.
5. **Contract Commencement** - The date the Contract is signed by the Board. See Section 1.4.
6. **Contract Monitor** – The State representative for this Contract primarily responsible for Contract administration functions, including issuing written direction, invoice approval, monitoring this Contract to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the Contract, and achieving completion of the Contract on budget, on time, and within scope. The Contract Monitor may authorize in writing one or more State representatives to act on behalf of the Contract Monitor in the performance of these responsibilities.
7. **Contractor** – The selected Offeror that is awarded a Contract by the State.
8. **eMMA** – eMaryland Marketplace Advantage (see RFP Section 1.8).
9. **Go-Live Date** – The date, as specified in the Notice to Proceed, when the Contractor must begin providing all services required by this solicitation. See Section 1.4.

10. **Key Personnel** – All personnel identified in the solicitation as such, or personnel identified by the Offeror in its Proposal that are essential to the work being performed under the Contract. See RFP Sections 1.23 and 4.4.2.
11. **Local Time** – Time in the Eastern Time Zone as observed by the State. Unless otherwise specified, all stated times are Local Time.
12. **Minority Business Enterprise (MBE)** – Any legal entity as defined at COMAR 21.01.02.01B(54) that is certified by the Maryland Department of Transportation under COMAR 21.11.03.
13. **Normal State Business Hours** - Normal State business hours are 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Monday through Friday except State Holidays, which can be found at: www.dbm.maryland.gov – keyword: State Holidays.
14. **Notice to Proceed (NTP)** – A written notice from the Procurement Officer that, subject to the conditions of the Contract, work under the Contract is to begin as of a specified date. The start date listed in the NTP is the Go-Live Date and is the official start date of the Contract for the actual delivery of services as described in this solicitation. After Contract commencement, additional NTPs may be issued by either the Procurement Officer or the Contract Monitor regarding the start date for any service included within this solicitation with a delayed or non-specified implementation date.
15. **Offeror** – An entity that submits a Proposal in response to this RFP.
16. **Procurement Officer** – Before award of any Contract, the sole point of contact in the State for purposes of this solicitation. After Contract award, the Procurement Officer has responsibilities as detailed in the Contract (**Attachment A**) and is the only State representative who can authorize changes to the Contract. The Board may change the Procurement Officer at any time by written notice to the Contractor.
17. **Proposal** – As appropriate, either or both of an Offeror’s Technical or Financial Proposal.
18. **Request for Proposals (RFP)** – This Request for Proposals issued by the Board of Public Works, with the Solicitation Number and date of issuance indicated in the RFP Key Information Summary Sheet (near the beginning of the solicitation, after the Title Page and Notice to Vendors), including any addenda.
19. **State** – The State of Maryland.
20. **Total Proposal Price** - The Offeror’s total proposed price for services in response to this solicitation, included in the Financial Proposal with Attachment E – Price Form, and used in the financial evaluation of Proposals (see RFP Section 5.3).
21. **Veteran-owned Small Business Enterprise (VSBE)** – Business that is verified by the Center for Verification and Evaluation of the United States Department of Veterans Affairs as a veteran-owned small business. See COMAR 21.11.13.

1.3 Contract Type

The Contract resulting from this solicitation shall be an indefinite quantity contract with firm fixed unit prices as defined in COMAR 21.06.03.06.A(2) and 21.06.03.02.A(1) & (2).

1.4 Contract Duration

- 1.4.1 **Contract Commencement** - The Contract that results from this solicitation commences the date the Contract is signed by the State following any required approvals of the Contract, including approval by the Board of Public Works.
- 1.4.2 **Start Up Period** - The period of time from the date of Contract Commencement through the Go-Live Date (see Section 1.2 definition and Section 1.4.3). During the Start-up Period the Contractor shall perform start-up activities such as are necessary to enable the Contractor to begin the successful performance of Contract activities as of the Go-Live Date. No compensation will be paid to the Contractor for any activities it performs during the Start-up Period.
- 1.4.3 **Go-Live Date** - The date contained in the Notice to Proceed, anticipated to be on or about September 1, 202, when the Contractor shall begin performing all activities required by the Contract, including the requirements of this solicitation, and the offerings in its Technical Proposal, for the compensation described in its Financial Proposal.
- 1.4.4 **Contract Duration** - The Contract duration extends from the Contract Commencement to the Go-Live Date plus **three years from the Go-Live Date** for the provision of all services required by the Contract and the requirements of this solicitation. **The State, at the Board's sole discretion, may extend this Contract for two periods of one year each** at the prices quoted in the Financial Proposal Form for option years.
- 1.4.5 The Contractor's obligations to pay invoices to any subcontractors that provided services during the Contract term, as well as the audit, confidentiality, document retention, and indemnification obligations of the Contract (**Attachment A**) survive expiration or termination of the Contract and continue in effect until all such obligations are satisfied.

1.5 Procurement Officer

The Procurement Officer is the sole point of contact in the State for purposes of this solicitation before the award of any Contract (see Section 1.2).

The name and contact information of the Procurement Officer are indicated in the RFP Key Information Summary Sheet.

The Board may change the Procurement Officer at any time by written notice.

1.6 Contract Monitor

The Contract Monitor is the State representative for this Contract who is primarily responsible for Contract administration functions after Contract award (see Section 1.2).

The name and contact information of the Contract Monitor are indicated in the RFP Key Information Summary Sheet.

The Board may change the Contract Monitor at any time by written notice.

1.7 Pre-Proposal Conference

In lieu of a pre-proposal conference, prospective offerors are requested to submit any questions they have regarding the specifics of the RFP or the procurement in general as instructed in Section 1.9 below. Answers to all substantive questions that have not previously been answered, and are not clearly specific only to the requestor, will be distributed to all vendors that are known to have received a copy of the RFP.

1.8 eMaryland Marketplace Advantage

eMaryland Marketplace Advantage (eMMA) is the State's electronic commerce system administered by the Maryland Department of General Services.

In addition to distribution of the RFP, prospective offerors' questions and Procurement Officer's responses, addenda, and other solicitation-related information through the BPW website (<http://bpw.maryland.gov/Pages/default.aspx>), these materials will also be transmitted via eMMA.

To receive a contract award, a vendor must be registered on eMMA. Registration is free. Go to <https://procurement.maryland.gov/> and click on the "eMMA" links to begin the process. Each Offeror is requested to indicate its vendor number in the transmittal letter submitted with its Proposal.

1.9 Questions

Written questions from prospective Offerors will be accepted by the Procurement Officer via email. Identify in the subject line the Solicitation Number and Title. Questions are requested to be submitted at least five days before the Proposal due date.

The Procurement Officer, based on the availability of time to research and communicate an answer, shall decide whether an answer can be given before the Proposal due date. Time permitting, answers to all substantive questions that have not previously been answered, and are not clearly specific only to the requestor, will be distributed to all vendors that are known to have received a copy of the RFP in sufficient time for the answer to be taken into consideration in the Proposal.

1.10 Procurement Method

This Contract will be awarded in accordance with the Competitive Sealed Proposals method under COMAR 21.05.03.

1.11 Proposals Due (Closing) Date and Time

Proposals, in the number and form set forth in RFP Section 4.2 Proposals, must be received by the Procurement Officer at the Procurement Officer's address or in the Procurement Officer's email inbox no later than the Proposal Due date and time indicated in the RFP Key Information Summary Sheet to be considered.

Requests for extension of this time or date will not be granted. Offerors mailing Proposals should allow sufficient mail delivery time to ensure timely receipt by the Procurement Officer. Except as provided in COMAR 21.05.03.02.F and 21.05.02.10, Proposals received after the due date and time listed in this section will not be considered.

Proposals may be modified or withdrawn by written notice received by the Procurement Officer before the Proposal Due date and time.

Proposal documents may be submitted by e-mail. Proposals will not be opened publicly.

Vendors not responding to this solicitation are requested to submit the Notice to Vendors form, which includes company information and the reason(s) for not responding.

1.12 Multiple or Alternate Proposals

Multiple or alternate Proposals will not be accepted.

1.13 Economy of Preparation

Proposals should be prepared simply and economically and provide a straightforward and concise description of the Offeror's Proposal to meet the RFP requirements.

1.14 Public Information Act Notice

Offerors should give specific attention to the identification of those portions of their proposals that they deem to be confidential, proprietary information or trade secrets and provide any justification why such materials, upon request, should not be disclosed by the State under the Access to Public Records Act, State Government Article, Title 10, Subtitle 6, Annotated Code of Maryland." (Also, see RFP Section 4.4.2 Tab A-1). Confidential or proprietary information should be identified by page and section number and placed after the Title Page and before the Table of Contents in the Technical Proposal and if applicable, separately in the Financial Proposal.

Offerors are advised that, upon request for this information from a third party, the Procurement Officer is required to make an independent determination whether the information must be disclosed.

1.15 Award Basis

The Contract shall be awarded to the responsible Offeror submitting the Proposal that has been determined to be the most advantageous to the State, considering price and evaluation factors set forth in this RFP for providing the goods and services as specified in this RFP. See RFP Section 5 for further award information; COMAR 21.05.03.03F.

1.16 Oral Presentation

Offerors may be requested to make oral presentations to State representatives. Offerors must confirm in writing any substantive oral clarification of, or change in, their Proposals made in the course of discussions. Any such written clarifications or changes then become part of the Offeror's Proposal and are binding if the Contract is awarded. The Procurement Officer will notify Offerors of the time and place of oral presentations if they are conducted.

1.17 Duration of Proposal

Proposals submitted in response to this RFP are irrevocable for 180 days following the closing date for submission of Proposals or best and final offers if requested. This period may be extended at the Procurement Officer's request only with the Offeror's written agreement.

1.18 Revisions to the RFP

If it becomes necessary to revise this RFP before the due date for Proposals, the Board shall endeavor to provide addenda to all prospective Offerors that were sent this RFP, or which are otherwise known by the Procurement Officer to have obtained this RFP. In addition, addenda to the RFP will be posted on the Board's web page and through eMMA. It is the responsibility of all prospective Offerors to check all applicable websites for any addenda issued before the submission of Proposals. Addenda made after the due date for Proposals will be sent only to those

Offerors that submitted a timely Proposal and that remain under award consideration as of the issuance date of the addenda.

Acknowledgment of the receipt of all addenda to this RFP issued before the Proposal due date shall be included in the transmittal letter accompanying the Offeror's Technical Proposal (see RFP Section 4.4.2). Acknowledgement of the receipt of addenda to the RFP issued after the Proposal due date shall be in the manner specified in the addendum notice. Failure to acknowledge receipt of an addendum does not relieve the Offeror from complying with the terms, additions, deletions, or corrections set forth in the addendum.

1.19 Cancellations

The State reserves the right to cancel this RFP; accept or reject any or all Proposals, in whole or in part; waive or permit the cure of minor irregularities; and conduct discussions with all qualified or potentially qualified Offerors in any manner that serves the best interests of the State. The State also reserves the right, in its sole discretion, to award a Contract based upon the written Proposals received without discussions or negotiations.

1.20 Incurred Expenses

The State is not responsible for any costs incurred by any Offeror in preparing and submitting a Proposal, in making an oral presentation, in providing a demonstration, or in performing any activity related to submitting a Proposal in response to this RFP.

1.21 Protest/Disputes

Any protest or dispute related, respectively, to this solicitation or the resulting Contract shall be subject to the provisions of COMAR 21.10 Administrative and Civil Remedies.

1.22 Offeror Responsibilities

The selected Offeror is responsible for all products and services required by this RFP.

If an Offeror that seeks to perform or provide the services required by this RFP is the subsidiary of another entity, all information submitted by the Offeror, including references, financial reports, or experience and documentation (e.g., insurance policies, bonds, letters of credit) used to meet minimum qualifications, if any, shall pertain exclusively to the Offeror, unless the parent organization will guarantee the performance of the subsidiary. If applicable, the Offeror shall submit with its Proposal an explicit statement, signed by an authorized representative of the parent organization, stating that the parent organization will guarantee the performance of the subsidiary.

A parental guarantee of the performance of the Offeror will not automatically result in crediting the Offeror with the experience and/or qualifications of the parent under any evaluation criteria pertaining to the Offeror's experience and qualifications. Instead, the Offeror will be evaluated on the extent to which the State determines that the experience and qualification of the parent are transferred to and shared with the Offeror, the parent is directly involved in the performance of the Contract, and the value of the parent's participation as determined by the State.

1.23 Substitution of Personnel

If the solicitation requires that a particular individual or personnel be designated by the Offeror to work on the Contract (identified as "Key Personnel"), any substitution of Key Personnel or designated and approved backups to

the Key Personnel after the Contract has commenced must be approved in writing by the Contract Monitor before the substitution. If the Contractor substitutes Key Personnel or designated and approved backups without the prior written approval of the Contract Monitor, the Contract may be terminated for default which shall be in addition to, and not in lieu of, the State's remedies under the Contract or which otherwise may be available at law or in equity.

1.24 Mandatory Contractual Terms

By submitting a Proposal in response to this RFP, an Offeror, if selected for award, shall be deemed to have accepted the terms and conditions of this RFP and the Contract (**Attachment A**). Any exceptions to this RFP or the Contract must be clearly identified in the Executive Summary of the Technical Proposal. **The State may reject a Proposal that takes exception to these terms (see RFP Section 4.4.2).**

1.25 Bid/Proposal Affidavit

A Proposal submitted by an Offeror must be accompanied by a completed Bid/Proposal Affidavit (**Attachment B**).

1.26 Contract Affidavit

All Offerors are advised that if a Contract is awarded as a result of this solicitation, the successful Offeror will be required to complete a Contract Affidavit (**Attachment C**). This Affidavit must be provided within five Business Days of notification of proposed Contract award. This Contract Affidavit is also required to be submitted by the Contractor with any Contract renewal, including the exercise of any options or modifications that may extend the Contract term. For purposes of completing Section "B" of this Affidavit (Certification of Registration or Qualification with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation), note that a business entity that is organized outside of the State of Maryland is considered to be a "foreign" business.

1.27 Compliance with Laws/Arrearages

By submitting a Proposal in response to this RFP, the Offeror, if selected for award, agrees that it will comply with all federal, State, and local laws applicable to its activities and obligations under the Contract.

By submitting a response to this solicitation, each Offeror represents that it is not in arrears in the payment of any obligations due and owing the State, including the payment of taxes and employee benefits, and that it shall not become so in arrears during the term of the Contract if selected for Contract award.

1.28 Verification of Registration and Tax Payment

Before a business entity can do business in the State it must be registered with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation. SDAT is located at Suite 700, E. Pratt St., Baltimore, Maryland 21202-6377. The SDAT website is <https://dat.maryland.gov/Pages/default.aspx>.

It is strongly recommended that any potential Offeror complete registration before the due date for receipt of Proposals. An Offeror's failure to complete registration with SDAT may disqualify an otherwise successful Offeror from final consideration and recommendation for Contract award.

1.29 False Statements

Offerors are advised that State Finance and Procurement Article, §11-205.1, Annotated Code of Maryland, provides:

1.29.1 In connection with a procurement contract a person may not willfully:

- (a) falsify, conceal, or suppress a material fact by any scheme or device;
- (b) make a false or fraudulent statement or representation of a material fact; or
- (c) use a false writing or document that contains a false or fraudulent statement or entry of a material fact.

1.29.2 A person may not aid or conspire with another person to commit an act under RFP Section 1.29.1.

1.29.3 A person who violates any provision of this section is guilty of a felony and on conviction is subject to a fine not exceeding \$20,000 or imprisonment not exceeding five years or both.

1.30 Payments by Electronic Funds Transfer

By submitting a response to this solicitation, the Offeror agrees to accept payments by electronic funds transfer unless the State Comptroller grants an exemption. (Payment by EFT is mandatory for contracts exceeding \$200,000).

- The selected Offeror shall register using the COT/GAD X-10 Vendor Electronic Funds Registration Request Form.
- The COT/GAD X-10 form may be downloaded from the Comptroller's website at: <https://www.marylandtaxes.gov/forms/state-accounting/static-files/GADX10Form.pdf>
- A request for exemption must be submitted to the State Comptroller at the address specified on the COT/GAD X-10 form and must include the reason for the exemption.

1.31 Prompt Payment Policy

The State seeks to ensure the prompt payment of subcontractors on procurement contracts. Contracts are subject to the Prompt Payment Policy Directive issued by the Governor's Office of Minority Affairs (8/1/2008). Information is available at: <https://gomdsmallbiz.maryland.gov/documents/legislation/promptpaymentfaqs.pdf>. Moreover, the Contractor shall comply with the prompt payment requirements set forth in the Contract "Prompt Payment" clause (see **Attachment A**).

1.32 Electronic Procurement

- A. The Board may conduct procurement transactions by electronic means, including the solicitation, bidding, award, execution, and administration of a contract, as provided in the *Maryland Uniform Electronic Transactions Act*, Title 21, Commercial Law Article, Annotated Code of Maryland.
- B. An Offeror who participates in the solicitation process on a procurement contract for which electronic means has been authorized is deemed to have consented to conduct by electronic means all elements of that procurement that are specifically authorized under the solicitation or the Contract.
- C. "Electronic means" refers to exchanges or communications using electronic, digital, magnetic, wireless, optical, electromagnetic, or other means of electronically conducting transactions. "Electronic means" includes e-mail, internet-based communications, electronic funds transfer, specific electronic bidding platforms (e.g., *eMaryland Marketplace Advantage*) and electronic data interchange.
- D. In this solicitation, the following procurement transactions may be conducted by electronic means on the terms described:

1. The Procurement Officer may conduct the procurement using eMMA and email to issue:
 - (a) the solicitation (e.g., the RFP);
 - (b) any amendments;
 - (c) questions and responses;
 - (d) communications regarding the RFP or Proposal to any Offeror or potential Offeror;
 - (e) notices of award selection or non-selection; and
 - (f) the Procurement Officer's decision on any Bid protest or Contract claim.
 2. An Offeror or potential Offeror may use e-mail to:
 - (a) ask questions regarding the solicitation;
 - (b) reply to any material received from the Procurement Officer by electronic means that includes a Procurement Officer's request to reply by e-mail, but only on the terms specifically directed by the Procurement Officer;
 - (c) submit a "No Bid/Proposal Response" to the solicitation;
 - (d) Submit Proposal submission documents.
 3. The Procurement Officer, the Contract Monitor, and the Contractor may conduct day-to-day Contract administration, except as outlined in Section E of this subsection, using e-mail, or other electronic means if authorized by the Procurement Officer or Contract Monitor.
- E. In this solicitation, the following procurement transactions may **not** be conducted by electronic means:
1. Submission of specified documents that require original signatures (e.g., Contract, Contract modifications, etc.);
 2. Any transaction, submission, or communication where the Procurement Officer has directed that a response from the Contractor or Offeror be provided in writing or hard copy.
- F. Any e-mail transmission is authorized only to the e-mail addresses for the identified person as provided in the solicitation, the Contract, or in the direction from the Procurement Officer or Contract Monitor.

1.33 Living Wage Requirements

Maryland law requires that Contractors meeting certain conditions pay a living wage to covered employees on State service contracts over \$100,000. Sections 18-101 *et seq.*, State Finance and Procurement Article, Annotated Code of Maryland. The Commissioner of Labor and Industry at the Maryland Department of Labor, Division of Labor and Industry requires that a Contractor subject to the Living Wage law either submit payroll records for covered employees and a signed statement indicating that it paid a living wage to covered employees, or receive a waiver from Living Wage reporting requirements. *See* COMAR 21.11.10.05.

If subject to the Living Wage law, Contractor agrees that it will abide by all Living Wage law requirements including the reporting requirements in COMAR 21.11.10.05. Contractor understands that its failure to provide such documents is a material breach of the terms and conditions and may result in Contract termination, disqualification by the State from participating in State contracts, and other sanctions. See the Contract "Living Wage" clause (**Attachment A**).

Additional information regarding the State's living wage requirement is contained in **Attachment F**. Offerors must complete and submit the Maryland Living Wage Requirements Affidavit of Agreement (**Attachment F-1**) with their Proposal. If an Offeror fails to complete and submit the required documentation, the State may determine the Offeror is not responsible under State law.

Contractors and subcontractors subject to the Living Wage Law shall pay each covered employee at least the minimum amount set by law for the applicable Tier area. The specific living wage rate is determined by whether a majority of services take place in a Tier 1 Area or Tier 2 Area of the State. The Tier 1 Area includes Montgomery, Prince George's, Howard, Anne Arundel, and Baltimore Counties, and Baltimore City. The Tier 2 Area includes any county in the State not included in Tier 1. If the employees who perform the services are not located in the State, the Contract Monitor shall assign the tier based upon where the recipients of the services are located.

The Contract resulting from this solicitation will be determined to be a Tier 1 Contract or a Tier 2 Contract depending on the location(s) from which the Contractor provides 50% or more of the services. The Offeror must identify in its Proposal the location(s) from which services will be provided, including the location(s) from which 50% or more of the Contract services will be provided.

- If the Contractor provides 50% or more of the services from a location(s) in a Tier 1 jurisdiction(s) the Contract will be a Tier 1 Contract.
- If the Contractor provides 50% or more of the services from a location(s) in a Tier 2 jurisdiction(s), the Contract will be a Tier 2 Contract.
- If the Contractor provides more than 50% of the services from an out-of-State location, the State agency determines the wage tier based on where the majority of the service recipients are located. In this circumstance, this Contract will be determined to be a Tier 1 Contract.

Information pertaining to reporting obligations may be found by going to the Maryland Department of Labor, Division of Labor and Industry website <http://www.dllr.state.md.us/labor/prev/livingwage.shtml>.

NOTE: Whereas the Living Wage may change annually, the Contract price may not be changed because of a Living Wage change.

1.34 Conflict of Interest Disclosure

An Offeror shall disclose to the Procurement Officer any actual or potential conflict of interest as it arises, before or after award, in accordance with COMAR 21.05.08.08.

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SECTION 2 – MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

2.1 Offeror Minimum Qualification

The Offeror must provide proof with its Proposal that the following Minimum Qualification has been met:

The Offeror shall have at least three years of experience within the past five years in providing recording and transcription services in a public meeting setting. As proof of meeting this requirement, the Offeror shall provide with its Technical Proposal three references from within the past five years able to attest to the Offeror's experience in providing recording and transcription services in a public meeting setting.

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SECTION 3 – SCOPE OF WORK

3.1 Background and Purpose

The Maryland Board of Public Works, comprising of the Governor, Comptroller, and Treasurer, conduct regularly scheduled public meetings to hear testimony, discuss matters, and act on official business of the State of Maryland. The three Board members along with the Board's Executive Secretary run these meetings. The meetings are generally held in the Governor's Reception Room, 2nd Floor of the State House in Annapolis, Maryland. This room holds an average of 115 people, but the overall attendance may be higher due to individuals moving in and out of the room as the meetings progress.

The Board meets on average 23 times per year. Each meeting Agenda is available approximately 10 days before the meeting. Meeting dates are published online: <http://bpw.maryland.gov/Pages/default.aspx>. The meeting schedule is subject to change. The Contractor shall provide recording and transcription services for all Board meetings, even if scheduled with minimal notice, and regardless of how often or how many meetings are scheduled or where in the State the meetings are held.

The business conducted at these public meetings deals with issues of substantial importance to the citizens of the State of Maryland. It is common for the news media to attend and record these meetings. Presenters are not required to sign in, and the identification of the presenter, including their name, organization, company, or who they may represent, are – for the most part – provided verbally when the presenter is introduced to the Board during the meeting. Each Board of Public Works meeting must be reported verbatim, and transcripts prepared of the discussions and testimony of all meeting participants.

The Contractor shall display the highest degree of professionalism and decorum when present at the Board meetings and may not interrupt or disrupt the meetings.

Of prime importance to the Board is the Contractor's ability to produce and submit a high quality, accurate transcript, a clear and timely recording of the meeting, and the ability to handle sometimes difficult meetings with multiple participants/speakers.

3.2 Scope of Work - Requirements

3.2.1 Primary Services

The Contractor must record and transcribe Board meetings, provide MP3 audio files of the recordings, and prepare and provide verbatim transcripts of the meetings in Microsoft Word format.

- (a) Regular Board meetings are held every other Wednesday, typically starting on or around 10:00 a.m., and lasting no more than an hour on average based on recent trends. If meetings go longer, the Contractor is required to stay and continue providing services for the complete duration of the meeting. On occasion, meetings are canceled and rescheduled. The date and starting time of each meeting are subject to change. There are approximately 23 regular meetings held per year. The contractor will be paid a set Appearance Fee for the duration of the meeting, as established in their Financial Proposal.
- (b) The Contractor personnel must arrive at least 45 minutes before the meeting start time. All necessary equipment must be ready before the start of the meeting. A table and two chairs are available for use during the meetings. The Contractor personnel are not allowed to interrupt the meeting for any reason and must conduct all required work duties without disruption to the meeting.

- (c) Board meetings will typically generate approximately 1,000 pages of original transcript each year. However, the Board does not warrant or guarantee any business volume.
- (d) Meetings are normally held in Annapolis, Maryland. However, if a meeting is held elsewhere within a 50-mile radius of Annapolis, the Contractor is not entitled to compensation for travel or other expenses resulting from the change in meeting location. Meetings may also be held online.
- (e) Occasionally, the Board may call a special meeting on a date not on the published schedule.
- (f) The Board may also, at its discretion, require the Contractor to provide verbatim transcripts pursuant to this Contract for other Board-related meetings and hearings (average twice a year).
- (g) The Board reserves the right to reproduce and publish all transcripts.

3.2.2 Duties of Contractor

The Contractor shall:

- (a) Furnish all labor, material and supplies and equipment necessary to perform the Contract.
- (b) Use two reliable and recognized methods of recording, including one method that will produce an audio recording immediately upon the conclusion of each meeting. Currently, on-site recording is performed via a laptop in the meeting room, and off-site recording through the live stream app. The audio recording must be provided in MP3 format. Due to the length of some Board meetings, and the need to keep MP3 audio files within a manageable file size so that they may be emailed and easily transferred, it is preferred that MP3 files be recorded at lower bit and sampling rates (ex. 32kbps; 22.05khz sampling for MP3, or a similar industry standard for speech recordings), as long as the speakers can be heard clearly in the recordings. Recordings of longer meetings (i.e., several hours) may be divided into multiple recordings. A central audio plug-in is made available at the Board meetings.
- (c) Most Board meetings are held in a hybrid format: in-person, with an online streaming component as well. For these hybrid format meetings, the Contractor must provide two individuals from the Contractor: one in-person at the meeting, and one virtual/online. If the Board meetings are conducted completely online/virtual (ex. due to inclement weather), the Contractor must provide only one individual attending virtually/online. The Board reserves the right to request an additional in-person transcriber for larger or longer meetings that may take place, with the Board providing at least three business days' notice in advance of the meeting to the Contractor. The Contractor shall ensure the speakers' names and titles are correctly recorded, assisting with technical malfunctions during meetings, and linking discussions with corresponding agenda items. All Contractor personnel shall conduct themselves in a professional manner and shall be appropriately dressed in business attire. The Board reserves the right to reject any Contractor personnel at any time and to require the Contractor to provide a replacement satisfactory to the Board as soon as reasonably possible. The Contractor is solely responsible for obtaining parking and security access cards for its personnel.
- (d) Transcribe verbatim all spoken testimony, argument, comments, instructions, objections, and other verbal statements.
- (e) Prepare transcripts of Board meetings in the following manner:

- (1) Each transcript page must be 8½” x 11” in size, with at least 22 lines per page. Margins on each transcript page may not exceed one inch on the right side of the page, one inch on the left side, and one inch on the top and bottom.
 - (2) Contractor shall produce meeting transcriptions in a “volume” for each meeting. A transcript “volume” for the purposes of this Contract is a bound file containing a title page or pages showing the meeting date, time and place; the members of the Board in attendance; the presiding officer; the name of each party appearing before the Board and the organization represented; and the names of the reporters responsible for the transcript. Contractor shall ensure the correct spelling of names. Each transcript volume shall contain a Table of Contents, correct references to the appropriate BPW agenda item(s); the identity of persons appearing before the Board; and page numbering, following the format provided by the BPW Office. The contractor will be paid a set Per Page Price and a Transcript Delivery fee per page, as established in their Financial Proposal.
 - (3) Each page and volume for any one meeting must be numbered and followed consecutively in subsequent pages and volumes. The meeting date shall be included at the top in the header of each page.
 - (4) If any public exhibits or presentation documents are provided during the Board meetings, the Contract Monitor will make reasonable business efforts to provide copies of such materials to the Contractor if needed as part of the transcript.
- (f) Ensure accuracy of all deliverables:
- (1) Ensure testimony is proofread to ensure complete accuracy.
 - (2) Ensure transcripts are free of misspelled words, omitted words, typographical errors, and other similar errors.
 - (3) Provide corrected pages to the Board the next Business Day after notification of errors, at Contractor’s expense.
- (g) If provided exhibits, keep all meeting or hearing exhibits in good order and condition and promptly return them to the Board with the appropriate transcript.
- (h) Furnish additional or expedited copies of a transcript at the request of an outside party, including any State agency, at the applicable “Per Page” price contained in the Contract, and bill the requester directly at the applicable “Transcript Delivery” fee contained in the Contract.

3.2.3 Deliverables

- (a) Contractor shall provide the MP3 audio recordings of each meeting to the Contract Monitor immediately following the conclusion of the meeting and before the Contractor leaves the meeting site (via email).
- (b) Contractor shall, by 4:00 P.M. on the fourth succeeding Business Day following the date of each meeting (typically Tuesday), provide the Contract Monitor with a digital transcript of the meeting in Microsoft Word format. This delivery period may be extended or reduced at the discretion of the Contract Monitor as circumstances may dictate. The Contractor shall be paid for its deliverables in accordance with the terms of the Contract and the rates set in the Financial Proposal.

3.3 Security Requirements

3.3.1 Employee Identification

- (a) Each person who is an employee or agent of the Contractor shall display his or her company ID badge at all times while on State premises. Upon request of authorized State personnel, each such employee or agent shall provide additional photo identification.
- (b) At all times at any facility, the Contractor's personnel shall cooperate with State site requirements that include being prepared to be escorted at all times, providing information for State badge issuance, and wearing the badge in a visible location at all times.

3.3.2 Criminal Background Check

The Contractor shall obtain from each prospective employee a signed statement permitting a criminal background check. The Contractor shall secure at its own expense a Maryland State Police or FBI background check and shall provide the Contract Monitor with completed checks on all new employees before assignment.

3.3.3 Information Technology

For purposes of this solicitation and the resulting Contract:

- (a) "Sensitive Data" means information that is protected against unwarranted disclosure, to include Personally Identifiable Information (PII), Protected Health Information (PHI) or other private/confidential data, as specifically determined by the State. Sensitive Data includes information about an individual that (1) can be used to distinguish or trace an individual's identity, such as name, social security number, date and place of birth, mother's maiden name, or biometric records; (2) is linked or linkable to an individual, such as medical, educational, financial, and employment information; (3) falls within the definition of "personal information" under Md. Code Ann., State Govt. § 14-3501(d); or (4) falls within the definition of "personal information" under Md. Code Ann., St. Fin. & Proc. § 10-1301(c).
- (b) The Contractor shall implement administrative, physical, and technical safeguards to protect State data (including Sensitive Data if applicable), and shall ensure that all such safeguards, including the manner in which State data is collected, accessed, used, stored, processed, disposed of and disclosed, comply with applicable data protection and privacy laws as well as the terms and conditions of this solicitation and resulting Contract.
- (c) The Contractor agrees to abide by all applicable federal, State and local laws concerning information security and comply with current State of Maryland Department of Information Technology Security Policy: <https://doit.maryland.gov/policies/ci/Pages/IT-Security-Policy.aspx> . The State IT Security Policy may be revised from time to time. The Contractor shall comply with all such revisions. Updated and revised versions of the State IT Policy and Standards are available online at: <https://doit.maryland.gov/Pages/default.aspx> – keyword: Security Policy.

3.4 Insurance Requirements

3.4.1 Contractor shall maintain:

- (a) Commercial General Liability Insurance to cover losses resulting from, or arising out of, action or inaction in the performance of the Contract by the Contractor, its agents, servants, employees, or subcontractors, with a limit of \$100,000 per occurrence and \$300,000 aggregate.
- (b) Errors and Omissions/Professional Liability insurance with a minimum limit of \$200,000 per claim and annual aggregate
- (c) Automobile or Commercial Truck Insurance as appropriate with Liability, Collision, and PIP limits no less than those required by the State where the vehicles are registered, but in no case less than those required by the State.
- (d) Crime Insurance to cover employee theft with minimum single loss limit of \$200,000 per loss, and single loss retention not to exceed \$10,000.

3.4.2 Within five Business Days of recommendation for Contract award, and before any work begins, the Contractor shall provide the Procurement Officer with current certificates of insurance, and shall update such certificates periodically, but no less than annually in multi-year contracts, as directed by the Contract Monitor. The copy of the Contractor's current certificate of insurance must contain the following:

- (a) Workers' Compensation – The Contractor shall maintain such insurance as necessary and required under Workers' Compensation Acts, the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act, and the Federal Employers' Liability Act.
- (b) Commercial General Liability (Section 3.4.1).
- (c) Errors and Omissions/Professional Liability (Section 3.4.1).
- (d) Automobile or Commercial Truck Insurance (Section 3.4.1).
- (e) Crime Insurance (Section 3.4.1).

3.4.3 The "State of Maryland, its officers, employees, and agents" must be listed as an additional insured on any Commercial General Liability, Auto Liability, Professional/Cyber Liability, and excess liability or umbrella policies with the exception of Worker's Compensation Insurance, which is currently handled by the Chesapeake Employer's Insurance Company (formerly Injured Worker's Insurance Fund). All insurance policies shall be endorsed to include a clause that requires that the insurance carrier provide the Contract Monitor, by certified mail, not less than 30 days' advance notice of any non-renewal, cancellation, or expiration. If the Contract Monitor receives a notice of non-renewal, the Contractor shall provide the Contract Monitor with an insurance policy from another carrier at least 15 days before the insurance policy then in effect expires. All insurance policies must be with a company licensed by the State to do business and to provide such policies.

3.5 Problem Escalation Procedure

3.5.1 The Contractor shall provide and maintain a Problem Escalation Procedure (PEP) for both routine and emergency situations. The PEP must state how the Contractor will address problem situations as they occur during the performance of the Contract (e.g., if the Contractor's designated employees are unable to attend a Board meeting due to a particular situation or circumstance), to resolve any issues in a timely manner. The PEP must include names and contact information, including phone numbers and email addresses, of increasingly senior Contractor personnel who are responsible for addressing problems within the Contractor's organization and timeframes, both routine and emergency, for escalating problems among them.

The Contractor shall provide contact information to the Contract Monitor, as well as to other State personnel as directed should the Contract Monitor not be available.

3.5.2 The Contractor must provide the PEP no later than ten Business Days after Contract Commencement. The PEP, including any revisions thereto, must also be provided within ten Business Days after any change in circumstance which changes the PEP.

Nothing in this section shall be construed to limit any rights of the Contract Monitor or the State that may be allowed by the Contract or applicable law.

3.6 Invoicing

3.6.1 General

- (a) All invoices for services must be submitted to the Contract Monitor. All invoices must include the following:
- Contractor name and address;
 - Remittance address;
 - Federal taxpayer identification number (or if sole proprietorship, individual social security number);
 - Invoice period (i.e., time period during which services covered by invoice were performed);
 - Invoice date;
 - Invoice number;
 - State assigned Contract number;
 - Goods or services provided, including number of appearances, number of pages transcribed, and number of transcript deliveries; and
 - Amount due.

Invoices submitted without the required information or otherwise not satisfying the requirements of a Proper Invoice as defined in COMAR 21.06.09 will not be processed for payment..

- (b) The Board reserves the right to reduce or withhold Contract payment if the Contractor does not provide the Board with all required deliverables within the time frame specified in the Contract or if the Contractor otherwise materially breaches the Contract until such time as the Contractor brings itself into full compliance with the Contract. Also see the “Living Wage” provision of the Contract, if applicable, which allows for withholding of payment under certain circumstances. Any action on the part of the Board, or dispute of action by the Contractor, shall be in accordance with the provisions of Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article §§ 15-215 through 15-223 and with COMAR 21.10.02.

3.6.2 Invoice Submission Schedule

Invoices are due within two weeks after each Board meeting for which services were performed.

3.7 Liquidated Damages

3.7.1 Late Delivery

The Board may assess a charge of \$100.00 per day for each Business Day a transcript is delivered late. The Board will not assess the charge when the delay is due to unforeseen circumstances beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Contractor.

3.7.2 Typographical Errors

The State may not pay the Contractor for pages requiring correction of typographical errors after delivery if the magnitude of corrections is determined to be unreasonable by the Contract Monitor. In such instances, the Contractor's invoice may be reduced by twice the per-page price for each page requiring correction.

3.8 End of Contract Transition

The Contractor shall cooperate in the orderly transition of services from the Contract awarded under this solicitation to any subsequent contract for similar services. The transition period shall begin approximately ninety days before the Contract end date, or the end date of any final exercised option or contract extension. The Contractor shall work toward a prompt and timely transition, proceeding in accordance with the directions of the Contract Monitor. The Contract Monitor may provide the Contractor with additional instructions to meet specific transition requirements before the Contract end.

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SECTION 4 – PROPOSAL FORMAT

4.1 Two Part Submission

Offerors shall submit Proposals in separate volumes:

- Volume I – TECHNICAL PROPOSAL
- Volume II – FINANCIAL PROPOSAL

4.2 Proposals

Electronic proposal submission is preferred; however, hard copies of proposals will also be accepted. If a Proposal is to be submitted exclusively by electronic means, the Technical and Financial Proposals shall be separate electronic documents as described below in Section 4.2.2. If the Proposal is submitted in a hard copy package as described below in Section 4.2.1, electronic versions must also be submitted as well as described in Section 4.2.2. Finally, all proposal submissions must also include an electronic redacted proposal submission as described in Section 4.2.3.

4.2.1 Hard Copy Proposals: Volume I – Technical Proposal and Volume II – Financial Proposal shall be submitted separately from one another. It is preferred that the name, email address, and telephone number of the Offeror be included on the outside of the packaging for each volume. Unless the resulting package will be unwieldy, the Board’s preference is for the two separately sealed Volumes to be submitted together in a single package including a label bearing:

- RFP title and number
- Offeror Name and address
- Closing date and time for receipt of Proposals

To the Procurement Officer (see Section 1.5 *Procurement Officer*) before the date and time for receipt of Proposals (see Section 1.11 *Proposals Due (Closing) Date and Time*).

4.2.2 Electronic Proposals:

An electronic version of Volume I -Technical Proposal in Microsoft Word format must be provided via email or secure cloud delivery with the Volume I - Technical Proposal submission.

An electronic version of Volume II - Financial Proposal in Microsoft Word format must be provided via email or secure cloud delivery with the Volume II - Financial Proposal submission, preferably in a separate email/secure cloud delivery from the Volume I – Technical Proposal email/secure cloud delivery submission.

Each email or secure cloud delivery must include in its subject line the RFP title and number, Offeror name, and volume number of the appropriate Proposal (Technical I or Financial II).

4.2.3 After submission of a hard copy and/or electronically submitted proposal, a separate electronic version of Volume I and Volume II in searchable Adobe .pdf format must be submitted via email or secure cloud delivery for Public Information Act requests. This copy must be redacted so that any confidential and proprietary information has been removed (see Section 1.14 *Public Information Act Notice*).

4.2.4 Beginning with Tab B (see RFP Section 4.4.2), all pages of the Technical Proposal must be consecutively numbered from beginning (Page 1) to end (Page “x”).

- 4.2.5 Proposals and any modifications to Proposals will be shown only to State employees, members of the Evaluation Committee, or other persons deemed by the Board to have a legitimate interest in them.

4.3 Delivery

Offerors may utilize email, secure cloud delivery, mail or hand-delivery for Proposals. **Email is the preferred method of proposal delivery.**

- 1.3.1 For U.S. Postal Service deliveries of hard copy proposals, any Proposal that has been received at the appropriate mailroom, or typical place of mail receipt, for the respective procuring unit by the time and date listed in the RFP will be deemed to be timely. If an Offeror chooses to use the U.S. Postal Service for delivery, the Board recommends that it use Express Mail, Priority Mail, or Certified Mail only as these are the only forms for which both the date and time of receipt can be verified by the Board. It could take several days or longer for an item sent by first class mail to make its way by normal internal mail to the procuring unit and an Offeror using first class mail will not be able to prove a timely delivery at the mailroom.
- 1.3.2 Hand-delivery of hard copy proposals is permissible, including delivery by commercial carrier acting as agent for the Offeror. For any type of direct (non-mail) delivery, an Offeror is advised to secure a dated, signed, and time-stamped (or otherwise indicated) receipt of delivery. **If hand-delivery is to be utilized, the Procurement Officer must be contacted in advance to arrange a meeting time for document delivery.**
- 1.3.3 After receipt, a Register of Proposals will be prepared that identifies each Offeror. The Register of Proposals will be open to inspection only after the Procurement Officer makes a determination recommending the award of the Contract.

4.4 Volume I – Technical Proposal

Note: Do NOT include pricing information in the Technical Proposal (Volume I). Pricing information is to be included only in the Financial Proposal (Volume II).

4.4.1 Format of Technical Proposal

For hard copy proposal sealed packages, as described in Section 4.2 *Proposals*, an unbound original and four copies are to be provided. Electronic versions shall be provided separately as described above. It is preferred that the Offeror's Technical Proposal include responses under the appropriate "TABs" as detailed below in Section 4.4.2. This Proposal organization will allow State officials and the Evaluation Committee (see RFP Section 5.1) to map Offeror responses directly to the RFP requirements and will aid in the evaluation process.

- 4.4.2 **The Technical Proposal** shall include the following documents and information in the order specified as follows. Each section of the Technical Proposal shall be separated by a TAB as detailed below:

TAB A: Title Page and Table of Contents

The Technical Proposal should begin with a Title Page bearing the name and address of the Offeror and the name and number of this RFP. A Table of Contents shall follow the Title Page for the Technical Proposal, organized by section, subsection, and page number.

TAB A-1: Claim of Confidentiality (If applicable)

Any information which is claimed to be confidential is to be noted by reference and included after the Title Page and before the Table of Contents, and if applicable, also in the Offeror's Financial

Proposal. An explanation for each claim of confidentiality shall be included (see Section 1.14 “Public Information Act Notice”). The entire Proposal should not be given a blanket confidentiality designation. Any confidentiality designation must apply to specific sections, pages, or portions of pages of the Proposal.

TAB B: Transmittal Letter

A Transmittal Letter must accompany the Technical Proposal. The purpose of this letter is to transmit the Proposal and acknowledge the receipt of any addenda. The Transmittal Letter should be brief and signed by an individual who is authorized to commit the Offeror to the services and requirements as stated in this RFP. The Transmittal Letter should include the following:

- Offeror name and address
- Offeror primary contact: name, title, email, telephone number
- Solicitation Title and Solicitation Number that the Proposal responds to
- Signature, typed name, title of individual authorized to commit the Offeror to its Proposal
- Federal Employer Identification Number, or if an individual, Social Security Number
- Offeror’s eMaryland Marketplace Advantage (eMMA) number
- Offeror’s MBE certification number (if applicable)
- Statement of acceptance of all State RFP and Contract terms and conditions (see Section 1.24); if any exceptions are taken, they are to be noted in the Executive Summary (see Section 4.4.2, TAB C)
- Acknowledgement of all addenda to this RFP

TAB C: Executive Summary and any Exceptions to Requirements

The Offeror shall condense and highlight the contents of the Technical Proposal in a brief, separate section titled *Executive Summary*. In addition, the *Executive Summary* shall indicate whether the Offeror is the subsidiary of another entity, and if so, whether all information submitted by the Offeror pertains exclusively to the Offeror. If not, the subsidiary Offeror shall include a guarantee of performance from its parent organization as part of its *Executive Summary* (see RFP Section 1.22 for more information).

The *Executive Summary* must also identify any exceptions the Offeror has taken to the requirements of this RFP, the Contract (**Attachment A**), or any other attachments. Exceptions to terms and conditions may result in having the Proposal deemed unacceptable or classified as not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award.

If the Offeror has taken no exceptions to the requirements of this RFP, the Contract (**Attachment A**), or any other attachments, the *Executive Summary* shall so state.

TAB D: Minimum Qualifications Documentation

The Offeror shall submit any Minimum Qualifications documentation that may be required, as set forth in Section 2, *Offeror Minimum Qualifications*.

TAB E: Offeror Technical Response to RFP Requirements and Proposed Work Plan

- (a) The Offeror shall address each Scope of Work requirement (Section 3.2) in its Technical Proposal and describe how its proposed services will meet or exceed the requirements. Any paragraph in the Technical Proposal that responds to a Scope of Work (Section 3.2) requirement shall include an explanation of how the work will be done. Any exception to a

requirement, term, or condition may result in having the Proposal classified as not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award or the Offeror deemed not responsible.

- (b) The Offeror shall give a definitive **section-by-section** description of the proposed plan to meet the requirements of the RFP, i.e., a Work Plan. The Work Plan shall include the specific methodology and techniques to be used by the Offeror in providing the required services as outlined in RFP Section 3, Scope of Work. The description shall include an outline of the overall management concepts employed by the Offeror and a project management plan, including project control mechanisms and overall timelines. Project deadlines considered contract deliverables must be recognized in the Work Plan.
- (c) The Offeror shall identify the locations from which it proposes to provide the services, including, if applicable, any current facilities that it operates, and any required or proposed construction to satisfy the State's requirements as outlined in this RFP.
- (d) The Offeror shall provide a draft Problem Escalation Procedure that includes, at a minimum, titles of individuals to be contacted by the Contract Monitor should problems arise under the Contract and explain how problems with work under the Contract will be escalated in order to resolve any issues in a timely manner. Final procedures shall be submitted as indicated in RFP Section 3.5.
- (e) The Offeror shall provide a detailed description of the Offeror's quality control process or procedures to ensure accuracy and quality of the product.
- (f) The Offeror shall provide a description of its proposed method of verbatim transcription and back up recording. The Offeror shall include a description of its equipment and other resources and how they relate to the production of an accurate recording and transcription.
- (g) The Offeror shall provide a description of its transcription process, including transcribing poor-quality recordings.
- (h) The Offeror shall provide a description of how the delivery of an audio recording at the conclusion of the meeting will be accomplished.
- (i) The Offeror shall provide a description of any unique or significant characteristics of the Offeror which enable it to provide superior service.

TAB F: Experience and Qualifications of Proposed Staff

The Offeror shall identify the number and types of staff proposed to be used under the Contract.

The Offeror shall describe in detail how the proposed staff's experience and qualifications relate to their specific responsibilities, as detailed in the Work Plan. The Offeror shall include individual resumes for the Key Personnel who are to be assigned to the project if the Offeror is awarded the Contract. Each resume should include the amount of experience the individual has had relative to the Scope of Work set forth in this solicitation. Any letters of intended commitment to work on the project shall be included in this section.

The Offeror shall provide an organizational chart outlining personnel and their related duties. The Offeror shall include job titles and the percentage of time each individual will spend on assigned tasks. Offerors using job titles other than those commonly used by industry standards must provide a crosswalk reference document.

TAB G: Offeror Qualifications and Capabilities

The Offeror shall include information on past experience with similar projects and services. The Offeror shall describe how its organization can meet the requirements of this RFP and shall also include the following information:

- a. The number of years the Offeror has provided similar services
- b. The number of clients and geographic locations that the Offeror currently serves
- c. The names and titles of headquarters or regional management personnel who may be involved with supervising the services to be performed under this Contract
- d. The Offeror's process for resolving billing errors
- e. An organizational chart that identifies the complete structure of the Offeror, including any parent company, headquarters, regional offices, and subsidiaries of the Offeror

TAB H: References

At least three references from customers who are capable of documenting the Offeror's ability to provide the services specified in this RFP. References used to meet any Offeror Minimum Qualifications (see RFP Section 2) may be used to meet this request. Each reference shall be from a client for whom the Offeror has provided services within the past five years and shall include the following information:

- a. name of client organization
- b. name, title, telephone number, and e-mail address, if available, of point of contact for client organization
- c. value, type, duration, and description of services provided

The Board reserves the right to request additional references or use references not provided by an Offeror.

TAB I: List of Current or Prior State Contracts

Provide a list of all contracts with any entity of the State of Maryland for which the Offeror is currently performing services or for which services have been completed within the last five years. For each identified contract, the Offeror is to provide:

- a. the State contracting entity
- b. brief description of the services/goods provided
- c. dollar value of the contract
- d. term of the contract
- e. State employee contact person (name, title, telephone number, e-mail)
- f. whether the contract was terminated before the end of the term specified in the original contract, including whether any available renewal option was not exercised

Information obtained regarding the Offeror's level of performance on State contracts will be used by the Procurement Officer to determine the responsibility of the Offeror and considered as part of the Offeror Qualifications and Capabilities evaluation criteria of the RFP.

TAB J: Financial Capability

An Offeror must include in its Proposal a commonly accepted method to prove its fiscal integrity. If available, the Offeror shall include financial statements, preferably a profit and loss statement and a balance sheet for the last two years (independently audited preferred).

In addition, the Offeror may supplement its response to this Section by including one or more of the following with its response.

- a. Dunn and Bradstreet Rating
- b. Standard and Poor's Rating
- c. Lines of credit
- d. Evidence of a successful financial track record
- e. Evidence of adequate working capital

TAB K: Certificate of Insurance

The Offeror shall provide a copy of its current certificate of insurance showing the types and limits of insurance in effect as of the Proposal submission date. The current insurance types and limits do not have to be the same as described in Section 3.4 as of the time of proposal submission. See Section 5.6 for the required insurance certificate submission for the recommended Offeror.

TAB L: Subcontractors

The Offeror shall provide a complete list of all subcontractors proposed to work on the Contract if the Offeror receives an award (if any). This list shall include a full description of the duties each subcontractor will perform and why/how each subcontractor was deemed the most qualified for this project.

TAB M: Legal Action Summary

This summary shall include:

- a. A statement as to whether there are any outstanding legal actions or potential claims against the Offeror and a brief description of any action.
- b. A brief description of any settled or closed legal actions or claims against the Offeror over the past five years.
- c. A description of any judgments against the Offeror within the past five years, including the case name, court case docket number, and what the final ruling or determination was from the court.
- d. In instances where litigation is on-going and the Offeror has been directed not to disclose information by the court, provide the name of the judge and location of the court.

TAB N: Economic Benefit Factors

The Offeror shall submit with its Proposal a narrative describing benefits that will accrue to the Maryland economy as a direct or indirect result of its performance of this contract. Proposals will be evaluated to assess the benefit to Maryland's economy specifically offered. The economic benefit offered should be consistent with the Offeror's Total Proposal Price from Attachment E, the Financial Proposal Form. See COMAR 21.05.03.03A(3).

Proposals that identify specific benefits as being contractually enforceable commitments will be rated more favorably than Proposals that do not identify specific benefits as contractual commitments, all other factors being equal.

Offerors shall identify any performance guarantees that will be enforceable by the State if the full level of promised benefit is not achieved during the Contract term.

As applicable, for the full duration of the Contract, including any renewal period, or until the commitment is satisfied, the Contractor shall provide to the Procurement Officer or other designated agency personnel reports of the actual attainment of each benefit listed in response to this section. These benefit attainment reports shall be provided quarterly, unless elsewhere in these specifications a different reporting frequency is stated.

Please note that in responding to this section, the following do not generally constitute economic benefits to be derived from this Contract:

- a. generic statements that the State will benefit from the Offeror's superior performance under the Contract;
- b. descriptions of the number of Offeror employees located in Maryland other than those that will be performing work under this Contract; or
- c. tax revenues from Maryland based employees or locations, other than those that will be performing, or used to perform, work under this Contract.

Discussion of Maryland-based employees or locations may be appropriate if the Offeror makes some projection or guarantee of increased or retained presence based upon being awarded this Contract.

Examples of economic benefits to be derived from a contract may include any of the following. For each factor identified below, identify the specific benefit and contractual commitments and provide a breakdown of expenditures in that category:

- The Contract dollars to be recycled into Maryland's economy in support of the Contract, through the use of Maryland subcontractors, suppliers and joint venture partners. Do not include actual fees or rates paid to subcontractors or information from your Financial Proposal;
- The number and types of jobs for Maryland residents resulting from the Contract. Indicate job classifications, number of employees in each classification and the aggregate payroll to which the Offeror has committed, including contractual commitments at both prime and, if applicable, subcontract levels. If no new positions or subcontracts are anticipated as a result of this Contract, so state explicitly;
- Tax revenues to be generated for Maryland and its political subdivisions as a result of the Contract. Indicate tax category (sales taxes, payroll taxes, inventory taxes and estimated personal income taxes for new employees). Provide a forecast of the total tax revenues resulting from the Contract;
- Subcontract dollars committed to Maryland small businesses and MBEs; and
- Other benefits to the Maryland economy which the Offeror promises will result from awarding the Contract to the Offeror, including contractual commitments. Describe the benefit, its value to the Maryland economy, and how it will result from, or because of the Contract award. Offerors may commit to benefits that are not directly attributable to the Contract, but for which the Contract award may serve as a catalyst or impetus.

TAB O: Additional Required Technical Submissions

The following documents shall be completed, signed, and included in the Technical Proposal, under TAB O:

- a. Completed Bid/Proposal Affidavit (**Attachment B**).
- b. Completed Maryland Living Wage Requirements Affidavit of Agreement (**Attachment F-1**).
- c. A Signed Statement from the Offeror's Parent Organization Guaranteeing Performance of the Offeror (**Only If Required: see RFP Section 1.22**).

4.5 Volume II – Financial Proposal

The Financial Proposal shall contain all price information in the format specified. The Offeror shall complete the Financial Proposal Form only as provided in the Financial Proposal Instructions (**Attachment D**) and the Financial Proposal Form itself (**Attachment E**).

For Hard Copy sealed package proposal submissions, the Offeror shall submit an unbound original and four copies of the Financial Proposal (**Attachment E**) under separate sealed cover from the Technical Proposal and clearly identified in the format identified in Section 4.2.1 above. Electronic versions shall be provided separately as described above in Section 4.2.2.

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SECTION 5 – EVALUATION COMMITTEE, EVALUATION CRITERIA, AND SELECTION PROCEDURE

5.1 Evaluation Committee

Evaluation of Proposals will be performed in accordance with COMAR 21.05.03 by a committee established for that purpose and based on the evaluation criteria set forth below. The Evaluation Committee will review Proposals, participate in any Offeror oral presentations and discussions, and provide input to the Procurement Officer. The Board may use the services of individuals outside of the established Evaluation Committee for advice and assistance as it deems appropriate.

5.2 Technical Proposal Evaluation Criteria

The criteria to be used to evaluate each Technical Proposal are listed below in descending order of importance.

- 5.2.1 Offeror Qualifications and Capabilities, including any proposed subcontractors
See RFP § 4.4.2, TABs G through M
- 5.2.2 Proposed Staff Experience and Qualifications
See RFP § 4.4.2, TAB F
- 5.2.3 Offeror’s Technical Response to RFP Requirements and Work Plan
See RFP § 4.4.2, TAB E

The Offeror is best served by demonstrating a comprehensive understanding of work requirements and mastery of the subject matter, including an explanation of how the work will be done. Proposals that include limited responses to work requirements such as “concur” or “will comply” will receive a lower ranking than Proposals that demonstrate an understanding of the work requirements and include plans to meet or exceed them.

- 5.2.4 Economic Benefit to State of Maryland
See RFP § 4.4.2, TAB N

5.3 Financial Proposal Evaluation Criteria

All Qualified Offerors (see Section 5.5.2.4) will be ranked from the lowest (most advantageous) to the highest (least advantageous) price based on the **Total Proposal Price** within the guidelines set forth in this RFP and as submitted on **Attachment E - Financial Proposal Form**.

5.4 Reciprocal Preference

Although Maryland law does not generally authorize procuring units to favor resident Offerors in awarding procurement contracts, other states do grant their resident businesses preferences over Maryland contractors. Therefore, COMAR 21.05.01.04 permits procuring units to apply a reciprocal preference in favor of a Maryland resident business under the following conditions:

- The Maryland resident business is a responsible Offeror;
- The most advantageous offer is from a responsible Offeror whose principal office or principal operations through which it would provide the services required under this RFP is in another state;

- The other state gives a preference to its resident businesses through law, policy, or practice; and
- The Maryland resident preference does not conflict with a federal law or grant affecting the procurement Contract.

The preference given is identical to the preference that the other state, through law, policy, or practice, gives to its resident businesses.

5.5 Selection Procedures

5.5.1 General

The Contract will be awarded in accordance with the Competitive Sealed Proposals method found at COMAR 21.05.03. The Competitive Sealed Proposals method allows for the State to conduct discussions with Offerors and for Offerors to revise Proposals during these discussions. The State may conduct discussions with all Offerors that have submitted Proposals that are determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for contract award or potentially so. The State may also make an award without holding discussions.

In either case (i.e., with or without discussions), the State may determine an Offeror to be not responsible or an Offeror's Proposal to be not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award at any time after the initial closing date for receipt of Proposals and prior to Contract award. If the State finds an Offeror to be not responsible or an Offeror's Technical Proposal to be not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award, that Offeror's Financial Proposal will subsequently be returned if the Financial Proposal is unopened at the time of the determination.

5.5.2 Selection Process Sequence

5.5.2.1 Determine if Offeror Minimum Qualifications (see RFP Section 2) have been satisfied.

5.5.2.2 Evaluate and rank Technical Proposals on technical merit. During this review, oral presentations and discussions may be held. The purpose of such discussions will be to assure a full understanding of the State's requirements and the Offeror's ability to perform the services, as well as to facilitate arrival at a Contract that is most advantageous to the State. The State will contact Offerors if discussions are scheduled.

5.5.2.3 Offerors confirm in writing any substantive oral clarifications of, or changes in, their Technical Proposals made in the course of discussions. Any such written clarifications or changes become part of the Offeror's Technical Proposal. Technical Proposals are given a final review and ranked.

5.5.2.4 The Financial Proposal of each Qualified Offeror (a responsible Offeror determined to have submitted an acceptable Proposal) will be evaluated and ranked separately from the Technical evaluation. After a review of the Financial Proposals of Qualified Offerors, the Evaluation Committee or Procurement Officer may again conduct discussions to further evaluate the Offeror's entire Proposal.

5.5.2.5 When in the best interest of the State, the Procurement Officer may permit Qualified Offerors to revise their initial Proposals and submit in writing Best and Final Offers. The State may make an award without requesting Best and Final Offers.

5.5.3 Award Determination

Upon completion of the Technical Proposal and Financial Proposal evaluations and rankings, each Offeror will receive an overall ranking. The Procurement Officer will recommend award of the Contract to the

responsible Offeror that submitted the Proposal determined to be the most advantageous to the State. In making this most advantageous Proposal determination, technical factors will receive equal weight with financial factors.

5.6 Documents Required upon Notice of Recommendation for Contract Award

Upon receipt of a Notification of Recommendation for Contract Award, the apparent awardee shall complete, sign, and submit the following documents within five Business Days:

- a. Contract (**Attachment A**),
- b. Contract Affidavit (**Attachment C**),
- c. Certificate of Insurance (copy) with the prescribed limits set forth in Section 3.4 “Insurance Requirements,” listing the State as an additional insured, if applicable; ***see Section 3.4.**

RFP ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A – Contract

This is the sample contract used by the Board. It is provided with the RFP for informational purposes. You do not have to submit the sample contract with your Proposal. Upon notification of recommendation for award, a final contract will be sent to the recommended awardee for signature. The recommended awardee must return to the Procurement Officer two signed copies of the Contract and Contract Affidavit within five Business Days after notification of recommendation of award. Upon Contract award, a fully signed copy will be returned to the Contractor.

Attachment B – Bid/Proposal Affidavit

This affidavit must be completed and submitted with the Technical Proposal.

Attachment C – Contract Affidavit

This affidavit must be completed and submitted by the recommended awardee with the Contract described in Attachment A above.

Attachment D – Financial Proposal Instructions

Instructions for completing the Financial Proposal Form.

Attachment E – Financial Proposal Form

The Financial Proposal Form must be completed and submitted in the Financial Proposal package.

Attachment F – Maryland Living Wage Requirements for Service Contracts and Affidavit of Agreement

Living Wage Affidavit of Agreement must be completed and submitted with the Technical Proposal.

ATTACHMENT A – CONTRACT

RECORDING AND TRANSCRIPTION SERVICES

THIS CONTRACT (the “Contract”) is made this (“Xth”) day of (month), (year) by and between (Contractor’s name) and the STATE OF MARYLAND, acting through the Board of Public Works.

In consideration of the promises and the covenants herein contained, the adequacy and sufficiency of which is duly acknowledged by the parties, the parties agree as follows:

1. Definitions

In this Contract, the following words have the meanings indicated:

- 1.1 “COMAR” means Code of Maryland Regulations.
- 1.2 “Contract” means this agreement between (Contractor’s name) and the State of Maryland, acting through the Board of Public Works.
- 1.3 “Contract Monitor” means the following Board employee identified as the Contract Monitor:

Lisa Grigsby
Recording Secretary
Board of Public Works
80 Calvert Street, Room 117
Annapolis, MD 21401
Lisa.Grigsby@Maryland.gov
410-260-7335 (office)
- 1.4 “Contractor” means (Contractor’s name) whose principal business address is (Contractor’s primary address) and whose principal office in Maryland is (Contractor’s local address), whose Federal Employer Identification Number or Social Security Number is (Contractor’s FEIN), and whose eMaryland Marketplace Advantage vendor ID number is (eMMA Number).
- 1.5 “Board” means the State of Maryland Board of Public Works.
- 1.6 “Financial Proposal” means the Contractor’s Financial Proposal dated (Financial Proposal date).
- 1.7 “Procurement Officer” means the following Board employee identified as the Procurement Officer:

Gabriel Gnall
Procurement Advisor
Board of Public Works
80 Calvert Street, Room 117
Annapolis, MD 21401
Gabriel.Gnall@Maryland.gov
410-260-7335 (office)
- 1.8 “RFP” means the Request for Proposals for Recording and Transcription Services, Solicitation # 2026-01, and any addenda thereto issued in writing by the State.

1.9 “State” means the State of Maryland.

1.10 “Technical Proposal” means the Contractor’s Technical Proposal dated **(Technical Proposal date)**.

2. Scope of Contract

2.1 The Contractor shall provide deliverables, programs, goods, and services specific to the Contract for Recording and Transcription Services awarded in accordance with Exhibits A-C listed in this section and incorporated as part of this Contract. If there is any conflict between this Contract and the Exhibits, the terms of the Contract shall govern. If there is any conflict among the Exhibits, the following order of precedence shall determine the prevailing provision:

Exhibit A – The RFP

Exhibit B – State Contract Affidavit, executed by the Contractor and dated **(date of Attachment C)**

Exhibit C – The Contractor’s Proposal (Technical and Financial)

2.2 The Procurement Officer may, at any time, by written order, make unilateral changes in the work within the general scope of the Contract. No other order, statement, or conduct of the Procurement Officer or any other person shall be treated as a change or entitle the Contractor to an equitable adjustment under this section. Except as otherwise provided in this Contract, if any change under this section causes an increase or decrease in the Contractor’s cost of, or the time required for, the performance of any part of the work, whether or not changed by the order, an equitable adjustment in the Contract price shall be made and the Contract modified in writing accordingly. The Contractor must assert in writing its right to an adjustment under this section within thirty (30) days of receipt of written change order and shall include a written statement setting forth the nature and cost of such claim. No claim by the Contractor shall be allowed if asserted after final payment under this Contract. Failure to agree to an adjustment under this section shall be a dispute under the Disputes clause. Nothing in this section shall excuse the Contractor from proceeding with the Contract as changed.

2.3 Without limiting the rights of the Procurement Officer under Section 2.2 above, the Contract may be modified by mutual agreement of the parties, provided: (a) the modification is made in writing; (b) all parties sign the modification; and (c) all approvals by the required agencies as described in COMAR Title 21, are obtained.

3. Period of Performance.

3.1 The term of this Contract begins on the date the Contract is signed by the Board. The Contractor shall provide services under this Contract as of the Go-Live date contained in the written Notice to Proceed. From this Go-Live date, the Contract shall be for a period of three years (approximately beginning September 1, 2026, and ending on August 30, 2029).

3.2 The State, at its sole option, has the unilateral right to extend the term of the Contract for two additional successive one-year terms at the prices quoted in the Financial Proposal for Option Years.

3.4 The Contractor’s obligation to pay invoices to subcontractors providing products/services in connection with this Contract, as well as the audit; confidentiality; document retention; patents, copyrights & intellectual property; warranty; indemnification obligations; and limitations of liability under this Contract; and any other obligations specifically identified, shall survive expiration or termination of the Contract.

3.5 No-Cost Extensions. In accordance with BPW Advisory 1995-1 item 7.b, in the event there are unspent funds remaining on the Contract, prior to the Contract's expiration date the Procurement Officer may modify the Contract to extend the Contract beyond its expiration date for a period up to, but not exceeding, one-third of the base term of the Contract (e.g., eight-month extension on a two-year contract) for the performance of

work within the Contract's scope of work. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary, no funds may be added to the Contract in connection with any such extension.

4. Consideration and Payment

- 4.1 In consideration of the satisfactory performance of the work set forth in this Contract, the State shall pay the Contractor in accordance with the terms of this Contract and at the prices quoted in the Bid. Unless properly modified (see above Section 2), payment to the Contractor pursuant to this Contract, including the Initial Term and any Renewal Term, shall not exceed the Contracted amount.
- 4.2 The Contractor shall send the original of each invoice and signed authorization to invoice to the Contract Monitor. Unless a payment is unauthorized, deferred, delayed, or set-off under COMAR 21.02.07, payments to the Contractor pursuant to this Contract shall be made no later than 30 days, or within 15 days for an SBR contract, after the State's receipt of a proper invoice from the Contractor.

The Contractor may be eligible to receive late payment interest at the rate of 9% per annum if:

- (1) The Contractor submits an invoice for the late payment interest within thirty days after the date of the State's payment of the amount on which the interest accrued; and
- (2) A contract claim has not been filed under State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 15, Subtitle 2, Annotated Code of Maryland.

The State is not liable for interest:

- (1) Accruing more than one year after the 31st day after the agency receives the proper invoice; or
- (2) On any amount representing unpaid interest. Charges for late payment of invoices are authorized only as prescribed by Title 15, Subtitle 1, of the State Finance and Procurement Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, or by the Public Service Commission of Maryland with respect to regulated public utilities, as applicable.

Final payment under this Contract will not be made until after certification is received from the Comptroller of the State that all taxes have been paid.

Electronic funds transfer shall be used by the State to pay Contractor pursuant to this Contract and any other State payments due Contractor unless the State Comptroller's Office grants Contractor an exemption.

- 4.3 In addition to any other available remedies, if, in the opinion of the Procurement Officer, the Contractor fails to perform in a satisfactory and timely manner, the Procurement Officer may refuse or limit approval of any invoice for payment, and may cause payments to the Contractor to be reduced or withheld until such time as the Contractor meets performance standards as established by the Procurement Officer.
- 4.4 Payment of an invoice by the State is not evidence that services were rendered as required under this Contract.

5. Rights to Records

- 5.1 The Contractor agrees that all documents and materials including, but not limited to, software, reports, drawings, studies, specifications, estimates, tests, maps, photographs, designs, graphics, mechanical, artwork, computations, and data prepared by the Contractor for purposes of this Contract shall be the sole property of the State and shall be available to the State at any time. The State shall have the right to use the same without restriction and without compensation to the Contractor other than that specifically provided by this Contract.
- 5.2 The Contractor agrees that at all times during the term of this Contract and thereafter, works created as a Deliverable under this Contract (as defined in Section 7.2), and services performed under this Contract shall be "works made for hire" as that term is interpreted under U.S. copyright law. To the extent that any products created as a Deliverable under this Contract are not works made for hire for the State, the Contractor hereby relinquishes, transfers, and assigns to the State all of its rights, title, and interest (including all intellectual

property rights) to all such products created under this Contract, and will cooperate reasonably with the State in effectuating and registering any necessary assignments.

- 5.3 The Contractor shall report to the Contract Monitor, promptly and in written detail, each notice or claim of copyright infringement received by the Contractor with respect to all data delivered under this Contract.
- 5.4 The Contractor shall not affix any restrictive markings upon any data, documentation, or other materials provided to the State hereunder and if such markings are affixed, the State shall have the right at any time to modify, remove, obliterate, or ignore such warnings.
- 5.5 Upon termination or expiration of the Contract, the Contractor, at its own expense, shall deliver any equipment, software or other property provided by the State to the place designated by the Procurement Officer.

6. Exclusive Use

- 6.1 The State shall have the exclusive right to use, duplicate, and disclose any data, information, documents, records, or results, in whole or in part, in any manner for any purpose whatsoever, that may be created or generated by the Contractor in connection with this Contract. If any material, including software, is capable of being copyrighted, the State shall be the copyright owner and Contractor may copyright material connected with this project only with the express written approval of the State.
- 6.2 Except as may otherwise be set forth in this Contract, Contractor shall not use, sell, sub-lease, assign, give, or otherwise transfer to any third party any other information or material provided to Contractor by the State or developed by Contractor relating to the Contract, except as provided for in Section 8 Confidential or Proprietary Information and Documentation.

7. Patents, Copyrights, and Intellectual Property

- 7.1. All copyrights, patents, trademarks, trade secrets, and any other intellectual property rights existing prior to the Effective Date of this Contract shall belong to the party that owned such rights immediately prior to the Effective Date (“Pre-Existing Intellectual Property”). If any design, device, material, process, or other item provided by Contractor is covered by a patent or copyright or which is proprietary to or a trade secret of another, the Contractor shall obtain the necessary permission or license to permit the State to use such item or items pursuant to its rights granted under the Contract.
- 7.2 Except for (1) information created or otherwise owned by the State or licensed by the State from third parties, including all information provided by the State to Contractor; (2) materials created by Contractor or its subcontractor(s) specifically for the State under the Contract (“Deliverables”), except for any Contractor Pre-Existing Intellectual Property included therein; and (3) the license rights granted to the State, all right, title, and interest in the intellectual property embodied in the solution, including the know-how and methods by which the solution is provided and the processes that make up the solution, will belong solely and exclusively to Contractor and its licensors, and the State will have no rights to the same except as expressly granted in this Contract. Any SaaS Software developed by Contractor during the performance of the Contract will belong solely and exclusively to Contractor and its licensors. For all Software provided by the Contractor under the Contract, Contractor hereby grants to the State a nonexclusive, irrevocable, unlimited, perpetual, non-cancelable, and non-terminable right to use and make copies of the Software and any modifications to the Software. For all Contractor Pre-Existing Intellectual Property embedded in any Deliverables, Contractor grants to the State a license to use such Contractor Pre-Existing Intellectual Property in connection with its permitted use of such Deliverable. During the period between delivery of a Deliverable by Contractor and the date of payment therefor by the State in accordance with this Contract (including throughout the duration of any payment dispute discussions), subject to the terms and conditions contained herein, Contractor grants the

State a royalty-free, non-exclusive, limited license to use such Deliverable and to use any Contractor Materials contained therein in accordance with this Contract.

- 7.3. Subject to the terms of Section 10, Contractor shall defend, indemnify and hold harmless the State and its agents and employees, from and against any and all claims, costs, losses, damages, liabilities, judgments and expenses (including without limitation reasonable attorneys' fees) arising out of or in connection with any third party claim that the Contractor-provided products/services infringe, misappropriate or otherwise violate any third party intellectual property rights. Contractor shall not enter into any settlement involving third party claims that contains any admission of or stipulation to any guilt, fault, liability or wrongdoing by the State or that adversely affects the State's rights or interests, without the State's prior written consent.
- 7.4. Without limiting Contractor's obligations under Section 5.3, if an infringement claim occurs, or if the State or the Contractor believes such a claim is likely to occur, Contractor (after consultation with the State and at no cost to the State): (a) shall procure for the State the right to continue using the allegedly infringing component or service in accordance with its rights under this Contract; or (b) replace or modify the allegedly infringing component or service so that it becomes non-infringing and remains compliant with all applicable specifications.
- 7.5. Except as otherwise provided herein, Contractor shall not acquire any right, title or interest (including any intellectual property rights subsisting therein) in or to any goods, Software, technical information, specifications, drawings, records, documentation, data or any other materials (including any derivative works thereof) provided by the State to the Contractor. Notwithstanding anything to the contrary herein, the State may, in its sole and absolute discretion, grant the Contractor a license to such materials, subject to the terms of a separate writing executed by the Contractor and an authorized representative of the State as well as all required State approvals.
- 7.6. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, neither Contractor nor any of its subcontractors shall use any Software or technology in a manner that will cause any patents, copyrights or other intellectual property which are owned or controlled by the State or any of its affiliates (or for which the State or any of its subcontractors has received license rights) to become subject to any encumbrance or terms and conditions of any third party or open source license (including, without limitation, any open source license listed on <http://www.opensource.org/licenses/alphabetical>) (each an "Open Source License"). These restrictions, limitations, exclusions and conditions shall apply even if the State or any of its subcontractors becomes aware of or fails to act in a manner to address any violation or failure to comply therewith. No act by the State or any of its subcontractors that is undertaken under this Contract as to any Software or technology shall be construed as intending to cause any patents, copyrights or other intellectual property that are owned or controlled by the State (or for which the State has received license rights) to become subject to any encumbrance or terms and conditions of any open source license.
- 7.7. The Contractor shall report to the State, promptly and in written detail, each notice or claim of copyright infringement received by the Contractor with respect to all Deliverables delivered under this Contract.
- 7.8. The Contractor shall not affix (or permit any third party to affix), without the State's consent, any restrictive markings upon any Deliverables that are owned by the State, and if such markings are affixed, the State shall have the right at any time to modify, remove, obliterate, or ignore such warnings.

8. Confidential or Proprietary Information and Documentation

- 8.1 Subject to the Maryland Public Information Act and any other applicable laws including, without limitation, HIPAA, the HI-TECH Act, and the Maryland Medical Records Act and regulations promulgated pursuant thereto, all confidential or proprietary information and documentation relating to either party (including without limitation, any information or data stored within the Contractor's computer systems or cloud infrastructure, if applicable) shall be held in confidence by the other party. Each party shall, however, be permitted to disclose, as provided by and consistent with applicable law, relevant confidential information to its officers, agents, and Contractor Personnel to the extent that such disclosure is necessary for the

performance of their duties under this Contract. Each officer, agent, and Contractor Personnel to whom any of the State's confidential information is to be disclosed shall be advised by Contractor provided that each officer, agent, and Contractor Personnel to whom any of the State's confidential information is to be disclosed shall be advised by Contractor of the obligations hereunder, and bound by, confidentiality at least as restrictive as those of set forth in this Contract.

- 8.2 The provisions of this section shall not apply to information that: (a) is lawfully in the public domain; (b) has been independently developed by the other party without violation of this Contract; (c) was already rightfully in the possession of such party; (d) was supplied to such party by a third party lawfully in possession thereof and legally permitted to further disclose the information; or (e) which such party is required to disclose by law.

9. Loss of Data

In the event of loss of any State data or records where such loss is due to the act or omission of the Contractor or any of its subcontractors or agents, the Contractor shall be responsible for restoring or recreating, as applicable, such lost data in the manner and on the schedule set by the Contract Monitor. The Contractor shall ensure that all data is backed up and recoverable by the Contractor. At no time shall any Contractor actions (or any failures to act when Contractor has a duty to act) damage or create any vulnerabilities in data bases, systems, platforms, and applications with which the Contractor is working hereunder.

10. Indemnification and Notification of Legal Requests

- 10.1. At its sole cost and expense, Contractor shall (i) indemnify and hold the State, its employees and agents harmless from and against any and all claims, demands, actions, suits, damages, liabilities, losses, settlements, judgments, costs and expenses (including but not limited to attorneys' fees and costs), whether or not involving a third party claim, which arise out of or relate to the Contractor's, or any of its subcontractors', performance of this Contract and (ii) cooperate, assist, and consult with the State in the defense or investigation of any such claim, demand, action or suit. Contractor shall not enter into any settlement involving third party claims that contains any admission of or stipulation to any guilt, fault, liability or wrongdoing by the State or that adversely affects the State's rights or interests, without the State's prior written consent.
- 10.2. The State has no obligation: (i) to provide legal counsel or defense to the Contractor or its subcontractors in the event that a suit, claim or action of any character is brought against the Contractor or its subcontractors as a result of or relating to the Contractor's obligations or performance under this Contract, or (ii) to pay any judgment or settlement of any such suit, claim or action. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Contractor shall promptly notify the Procurement Officer of any such claims, demands, actions, or suits.
- 10.3. Notification of Legal Requests. In the event the Contractor receives a subpoena or other validly issued administrative or judicial process, or any discovery request in connection with any litigation, requesting State Pre-Existing Intellectual Property, of other information considered to be the property of the State, including but not limited to State data stored with or otherwise accessible by the Contractor, the Contractor shall not respond to such subpoena, process or other legal request without first notifying the State, unless prohibited by law from providing such notice. The Contractor shall promptly notify the State of such receipt providing the State with a reasonable opportunity to intervene in the proceeding before the time that Contractor is required to comply with such subpoena, other process or discovery request.

11. Non-Hiring of Employees

No official or employee of the State, as defined under Md. Code Ann., General Provisions Article, § 5-101, whose duties as such official or employee include matters relating to or affecting the subject matter of this

Contract, shall, during the pendency and term of this Contract and while serving as an official or employee of the State, become or be an employee of the Contractor or any entity that is a subcontractor on this Contract.

12. Disputes

This Contract shall be subject to the provisions of Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 15, Subtitle 2, and COMAR 21.10 (Administrative and Civil Remedies). Pending resolution of a claim, the Contractor shall proceed diligently with the performance of the Contract in accordance with the Procurement Officer's decision. Unless a lesser period is provided by applicable statute, regulation, or the Contract, the Contractor must file a written notice of claim with the Procurement Officer within thirty (30) days after the basis for the claim is known or should have been known, whichever is earlier.

Contemporaneously with or within thirty (30) days of the filing of a notice of claim, but no later than the date of final payment under the Contract, the Contractor must submit to the Procurement Officer its written claim containing the information specified in COMAR 21.10.04.02.

13. Maryland Law Prevails

13.1 This Contract shall be construed, interpreted, and enforced according to the laws of the State of Maryland.

13.2 The Maryland Uniform Computer Information Transactions Act (Commercial Law Article, Title 22 of the Annotated Code of Maryland), does not apply to this Contract or to any purchase order or Notice to Proceed issued under this Contract, or any software, or any software license required hereunder.

13.3 Any and all references to the Maryland Code, Annotated contained in this Contract shall be construed to refer to such Code sections as are from time to time amended.

14. Nondiscrimination in Employment

The Contractor agrees: (a) not to discriminate in any manner against an employee or applicant for employment because of race, color, religion, creed, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identification, marital status, national origin, ancestry, genetic information, or any otherwise unlawful use of characteristics, or disability of a qualified individual with a disability unrelated in nature and extent so as to reasonably preclude the performance of the employment, or the individual's refusal to submit to a genetic test or make available the results of a genetic test; (b) to include a provision similar to that contained in subsection (a), above, in any underlying subcontract except a subcontract for standard commercial supplies or raw materials; and (c) to post and to cause subcontractors to post in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment, notices setting forth the substance of this clause.

15. Contingent Fee Prohibition

The Contractor warrants that it has not employed or retained any person, partnership, corporation, or other entity, other than a bona fide employee or agent working for the Contractor to solicit or secure the Contract, and that the Contractor has not paid or agreed to pay any person, partnership, corporation, or other entity, other than a bona fide employee or agent, any fee or any other consideration contingent on the making of this Contract.

16. Non-Availability of Funding

If the General Assembly fails to appropriate funds or if funds are not otherwise made available for continued performance for any fiscal period of this Contract succeeding the first fiscal period, this Contract shall be canceled automatically as of the beginning of the fiscal year for which funds were not appropriated or otherwise made available; provided, however, that this will not affect either the State's or the Contractor's

rights under any termination clause in this Contract. The effect of termination of the Contract hereunder will be to discharge both the Contractor and the State from future performance of the Contract, but not from their rights and obligations existing at the time of termination. The Contractor shall be reimbursed for the reasonable value of any nonrecurring costs incurred but not amortized in the price of the Contract. The State shall notify the Contractor as soon as it has knowledge that funds may not be available for the continuation of this Contract for each succeeding fiscal period beyond the first.

17. Termination for Default

If the Contractor fails to fulfill its obligations under this Contract properly and on time, fails to provide any required annual and renewable bond 30 days prior to expiration of the current bond then in effect, or otherwise violates any provision of the Contract, the State may terminate the Contract by written notice to the Contractor. The notice shall specify the acts or omissions relied upon as cause for termination. All finished or unfinished work provided by the Contractor shall, at the State's option, become the State's property. The State shall pay the Contractor fair and equitable compensation for satisfactory performance prior to receipt of notice of termination, less the amount of damages caused by the Contractor's breach. If the damages are more than the compensation payable to the Contractor, the Contractor will remain liable after termination and the State can affirmatively collect damages. Termination hereunder, including the termination of the rights and obligations of the parties, shall be governed by the provisions of COMAR 21.07.01.11B.

18. Termination for Convenience

The performance of work under this Contract may be terminated by the State in accordance with this clause in whole, or from time to time in part, whenever the State shall determine that such termination is in the best interest of the State. The State will pay all reasonable costs associated with this Contract that the Contractor has incurred up to the date of termination, and all reasonable costs associated with termination of the Contract. However, the Contractor shall not be reimbursed for any anticipatory profits that have not been earned up to the date of termination. Termination hereunder, including the determination of the rights and obligations of the parties, shall be governed by the provisions of COMAR 21.07.01.12A (2).

19. Delays and Extensions of Time

19.1 Time is an essential element of the Contract.

19.2 The Contractor agrees to prosecute the work continuously and diligently and no charges or claims for damages shall be made by it for any delays or hindrances from any cause whatsoever during the progress of any portion of the work specified in this Contract.

19.3 Time extensions will be granted only for excusable delays that arise from unforeseeable causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of the Contractor, including but not restricted to, acts of God, acts of the public enemy, acts of the State in either its sovereign or contractual capacity, acts of another Contractor in the performance of a contract with the State, fires, floods, epidemics, quarantine restrictions, strikes, freight embargoes, or delays of subcontractors or suppliers arising from unforeseeable causes beyond the control and without the fault or negligence of either the Contractor or the subcontractors or suppliers.

20. Suspension of Work

The State unilaterally may order the Contractor in writing to suspend, delay, or interrupt all or any part of its performance for such period of time as the Procurement Officer may determine to be appropriate for the convenience of the State.

21. Financial Disclosure

The Contractor shall comply with the provisions of Election Law Article §14-104, Annotated Code of Maryland. That section requires a business to file with the State Board of Elections certain specified information, including disclosure of beneficial ownership of the business, within 30 days of the date the aggregate value of any contracts, leases, or other agreements that the business enters into with the State of Maryland or its agencies during a calendar year reaches \$200,000.

22. Political Contribution Disclosure

- 22.1 The Contractor shall comply with Election Law Article, Title 14, Annotated Code of Maryland, which requires that every person that enters into a single contract with the State, a unit of the State, a county, a municipal corporation, or other political subdivision of the State, in which the cumulative consideration is at least \$200,000, shall file the following reports and statements:
- 22.2 Within 15 business days after the award of the contract a Registration Statement shall be filed with the State Board of Elections that includes (a) the person's name and address; (b) any resident agent of the Contractor business located in the State; (c) if known, each person who has a beneficial ownership of the Contractor business entity; and (d) any other information required by the State Board of Elections. Beneficial ownership means (i) any ownership interest of 5% or more in a business; (ii) any ownership interest of 5% or more in one or more entities in a chain of parent and subsidiary entities, any one of which participates in at least 5% of the capital or profits of a business; or (iii) possession of an interest that exists under a contract, a relationship, an understanding, or any other arrangement and entitles a person to benefits substantially equivalent to an ownership interest of 5% or more of a business.
- 22.3 Within 15 business days after filing the Registration Statement, the Contractor shall file with the State Board of Elections an Initial Contribution Statement covering the preceding 24 months disclosing (a) the name of each candidate, if any, to whom one or more applicable contributions in a cumulative amount of \$500 or more were made during the reporting period; (b) the office sought by each candidate named in item (a) of this paragraph; (c) the amount of aggregate contributions made to each candidate named in item (a) of this paragraph; (d) the name of each unit of a governmental entity with which the person had a single contract involving cumulative consideration of at least \$200,000 during the reporting period; (e) the nature and amount of public business done with each unit of a governmental entity in item (d) of this paragraph; and (f) if the public business was done or the contribution was made by another person but is attributed to the person filing the statement, the name of the person who did the public business or made the contribution and the relationship of that person to the person filing the statement.
- 22.4 Throughout the contract term the Contractor shall file a Semi-annual Statement with the State Board of Elections containing the information required for the Initial Contribution Statement on or before (a) May 31, to cover the six (6) month period ending April 30; and (b) November 30, to cover the six (6) month period ending October 31.
- 22.5 Additional information is available on the State Board of Elections Website:
http://www.elections.state.md.us/campaign_finance/index.html.

23. Retention of Records

The Contractor and subcontractors shall retain and maintain all records and documents in any way relating to this Contract for (i) three (3) years after final payment by the State hereunder, or (ii) any applicable federal or State retention requirements (such as HIPAA) or condition of award, , whichever is longer, and shall make them available for inspection and audit by authorized representatives of the State, as designated by the Procurement Officer, at all reasonable times. The Contractor shall provide copies of all documents requested by the State, including, but not limited to itemized billing documentation containing the dates, hours spent

and work performed by the Contractor and its subcontractors under the Contract. All records related in any way to the Contract are to be retained for the entire time provided under this section.

24. Right to Audit

- 24.1 The State reserves the right, at its sole discretion and at any time, to perform an audit of the Contractor's performance under this Contract. An audit is defined as a planned and documented independent activity performed by qualified personnel, including but not limited to State and federal auditors, to determine by investigation, examination, or evaluation of objective evidence from data, statements, records, operations and performance practices (financial or otherwise) the Contractor's compliance with the Contract, including but not limited to adequacy and compliance with established procedures and internal controls over the services performed pursuant to the Contract.
- 24.2 Upon three (3) Business Days' notice, the State shall be provided reasonable access to Contractor's records to perform any such audits. The State may conduct these audits with any or all of its own internal resources or by securing the services of a third party accounting or audit firm, solely at the State's election. The State may copy any record related to the services performed pursuant to the Contract. The Contractor agrees to fully cooperate and assist in any audit conducted by or on behalf of the State, including, by way of example only, making records and employees available as, where, and to the extent requested by the State and by assisting the auditors in reconciling any audit variances. Contractor shall not be compensated for providing any such cooperation and assistance.
- 24.3 The right to audit shall include any of the Contractor's subcontractors including but not limited to any lower tier subcontractor(s). The Contractor shall ensure the State has the right to audit such subcontractor(s).

25. Compliance with Laws

The Contractor hereby represents and warrants that:

- a. It is qualified to do business in the State and that it will take such action as, from time to time hereafter, may be necessary to remain so qualified;
- b. It is not in arrears with respect to the payment of any monies due and owing the State, or any department or unit thereof, including but not limited to the payment of taxes and employee benefits, and that it shall not become so in arrears during the Term;
- c. It shall comply with all federal, State and local laws, regulations, and ordinances applicable to its activities and obligations under this Contract; and
- d. It shall obtain, at its expense, all licenses, permits, insurance, and governmental approvals, if any, necessary to the performance of its obligations under this Contract.

26. Cost and Price Certification

- 26.1 The Contractor, by submitting cost or price information certifies that, to the best of its knowledge, the information submitted is accurate, complete, and current as of the date of its Proposal.
- 26.2 The price under this Contract and any change order or modification hereunder, including profit or fee, shall be adjusted to exclude any significant price increases occurring because the Contractor furnished cost or price information which, as of the date of its Proposal, was inaccurate, incomplete, or not current.

27. Subcontracting; Assignment

The Contractor may not subcontract any of its obligations under this Contract without obtaining the prior written approval of the Procurement Officer, nor may the Contractor assign this Contract or any of its rights or obligations hereunder, without the prior written approval of the Procurement Officer, each at the State's sole and absolute discretion; provided, however, that a Contractor may assign monies receivable under a contract after written notice to the State. Any subcontracts shall include such language as may be required in various clauses contained within this Contract, exhibits, and attachments. The Contract shall not be assigned until all approvals, documents, and affidavits are completed and properly registered. The State shall not be responsible for fulfillment of the Contractor's obligations to its subcontractors.

28. Limitations of Liability

- 28.1 Contractor shall be liable for any loss or damage to the State occasioned by the acts or omissions of Contractor, its subcontractors, agents or employees as follows:
- (a) For infringement of patents, trademarks, trade secrets and copyrights as provided in Section 7 "Patents, Copyrights, Intellectual Property" of this Contract;
 - (b) Without limitation for damages for bodily injury (including death) and damage to real property and tangible personal property; and
 - (c) For all other claims, damages, loss, costs, expenses, suits or actions in any way related to this Contract and regardless of the basis on which the claim is made, Contractor's liability shall be unlimited.
- 28.2 Contractor's indemnification obligations for Third party claims arising under Section 10 ("Indemnification") of this Contract are included in this limitation of liability only if the State is immune from liability. Contractor's indemnification liability for third party claims arising under Section 10 of this Contract shall be unlimited if the State is not immune from liability for claims arising under Section 10.
- 28.3. In no event shall the existence of a subcontract operate to release or reduce the liability of Contractor hereunder. For purposes of this Contract, Contractor agrees that all subcontractors are agents of Contractor and Contractor is responsible for performance of the services and compliance with the relevant obligations hereunder by its subcontractors.

29. Commercial Nondiscrimination

- 29.1 As a condition of entering into this Contract, Contractor represents and warrants that it will comply with the State's Commercial Nondiscrimination Policy, as described under Title 19 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland. As part of such compliance, Contractor may not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, sexual identity, genetic information or an individual's refusal to submit to a genetic test or make available the results of a genetic test or on the basis of disability, or otherwise unlawful forms of discrimination in the solicitation, selection, hiring, or commercial treatment of subcontractors, vendors, suppliers, or commercial customers, nor shall Contractor retaliate against any person for reporting instances of such discrimination. Contractor shall provide equal opportunity for subcontractors, vendors, and suppliers to participate in all of its public sector and private sector subcontracting and supply opportunities, provided that this clause does not prohibit or limit lawful efforts to remedy the effects of marketplace discrimination that have occurred or are occurring in the marketplace. Contractor understands that a material violation of this clause shall be considered a material breach of this Contract and may result in termination of this Contract, disqualification of Contractor from participating in State contracts, or other sanctions. This clause is not enforceable by or for the benefit of, and creates no obligation to, any third party.

29.2 As a condition of entering into this Contract, upon the request of the Commission on Civil Rights, and only after the filing of a complaint against Contractor under Title 19 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, as amended from time to time, Contractor agrees to provide within 60 days after the request a complete list of the names of all subcontractors, vendors, and suppliers that Contractor has used in the past four (4) years on any of its contracts that were undertaken within the State of Maryland, including the total dollar amount paid by Contractor on each subcontract or supply contract. Contractor further agrees to cooperate in any investigation conducted by the State pursuant to the State Commercial Nondiscrimination Policy as set forth under Title 19 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland, and to provide any documents relevant to any investigation that are requested by the State. Contractor understands that violation of this clause is a material breach of this Contract and may result in Contract termination, disqualification by the State from participating in State contracts, and other sanctions.

29.3 The Contractor shall include the language from 29.1, or similar clause approved in writing by the State, in all subcontracts.

30. Prompt Pay Requirements

30.1 This contract and all subcontracts issued under this contract at any tier are subject to the provisions of State Finance and Procurement Article, §15-226, Annotated Code of Maryland, and COMAR 21.10.08. In §§30.2 – 30.4, the terms “undisputed amount,” “prime contractor,” “contractor,” “subcontractor,” and “supplier” have the meanings stated in COMAR 21.10.08.01.

30.2 A contractor shall promptly pay its subcontractors or suppliers an undisputed amount to which a subcontractor or supplier is entitled for work performed under this contract within 10 days after the contractor receives a progress payment or final payment for work under this contract.

30.3 If a contractor fails to make payment within the period prescribed in §30.2, a subcontractor or supplier may request a remedy in accordance with COMAR 21.10.08.

30.4 A contractor shall include in its subcontracts at any tier for work under this contract wording that incorporates the provisions, duties, and obligations of §§ 30.2 – 30.4 State Finance and Procurement Article §15-226, Annotated Code of Maryland, and COMAR 21.10.08.

30.5 An act, failure to act, or decision of a Procurement Officer or a representative of the State concerning a withheld payment between the Contractor and a subcontractor or supplier under this **Section 30**, may not:

(a) Affect the rights of the contracting parties under any other provision of law;

(b) Be used as evidence on the merits of a dispute between the State and the Contractor in any other proceeding; or

(c) Result in liability against or prejudice the rights of the State.

30.6 The remedies enumerated above are in addition to those provided under COMAR 21.11.03.13 with respect to subcontractors or suppliers that have contracted pursuant to the MBE program.

30.7 To ensure compliance with certified MBE subcontracting participation goals, the Statemay, consistent with COMAR 21.11.03.13, take the following measures:

- (a) Verify that the certified MBEs listed in the MBE participation schedule actually are performing work and receiving compensation as set forth in the MBE participation schedule. This verification may include, as appropriate:
 - i. Inspecting any relevant records of the Contractor;
 - ii. Inspecting the jobsite; and
 - iii. Interviewing subcontractors and workers.

Verification shall include a review of:

- i. The Contractor's monthly report listing unpaid invoices over thirty (30) days old from certified MBE subcontractors and the reason for nonpayment; and
 - ii. The monthly report of each certified MBE subcontractor, which lists payments received from the Contractor in the preceding thirty (30) days and invoices for which the subcontractor has not been paid.
- (b) If the State determines that the Contractor is not in compliance with certified MBE participation goals, then the State will notify the Contractor in writing of its findings, and will require the Contractor to take appropriate corrective action. Corrective action may include, but is not limited to, requiring the Contractor to compensate the MBE for work performed as set forth in the MBE participation schedule.
 - (c) If the State determines that the Contractor is in material noncompliance with MBE Contract provisions and refuses or fails to take the corrective action that the State requires, then the State may:
 - i. Terminate the Contract;
 - ii. Refer the matter to the Office of the Attorney General for appropriate action; or
 - iii. Initiate any other specific remedy identified by the Contract, including the contractual remedies required by any applicable laws, regulations, and directives regarding the payment of undisputed amounts.
 - (d) Upon completion of the Contract, but before final payment or release of retainage or both, the Contractor shall submit a final report, in affidavit form under the penalty of perjury, of all payments made to, or withheld from, MBE subcontractors.

31. Living Wage

If a Contractor subject to the Living Wage law fails to submit all records required under COMAR 21.11.10.05 to the Commissioner of Labor and Industry at the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation, the State may withhold payment of any invoice or retainage. The State may require certification from the Commissioner on a quarterly basis that such records were properly submitted.

32. Variations in Estimated Quantities

Unless specifically indicated otherwise in the State's solicitation or other controlling documents related to the Scope of Work, any sample amounts provided are estimates only and the State does not guarantee a minimum or maximum number of units or usage in the performance of this Contract.

33. Risk of Loss; Transfer of Title

Risk of loss for conforming supplies, equipment, materials and Deliverables furnished to the State hereunder shall remain with the Contractor until such supplies, equipment, materials and Deliverables are received and accepted by the State, following which, title shall pass to the State.

34. Effect of Contractor Bankruptcy

All rights and licenses granted by the Contractor under this Contract are and shall be deemed to be rights and licenses to “intellectual property,” and the subject matter of this Contract, including services, is and shall be deemed to be “embodiments of intellectual property” for purposes of and as such terms are used and interpreted under § 365(n) of the United States Bankruptcy Code (“Code”) (11 U.S.C. § 365(n) (2010)). The State has the right to exercise all rights and elections under the Code and all other applicable bankruptcy, insolvency and similar laws with respect to this Contract (including all executory statements of works). Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, if the Contractor or its estate becomes subject to any bankruptcy or similar proceeding: (a) subject to the State’s rights of election, all rights and licenses granted to the State under this Contract shall continue subject to the respective terms and conditions of this Contract; and (b) the State shall be entitled to a complete duplicate of (or complete access to, as appropriate) all such intellectual property and embodiments of intellectual property, and the same, if not already in the State’s possession, shall be promptly delivered to the State, unless the Contractor elects to and does in fact continue to perform all of its obligations under this Contract.

35. Miscellaneous

- 35.1 Any provision of this Contract which contemplates performance or observance subsequent to any termination or expiration of this Contract shall survive termination or expiration of this Contract and continue in full force and effect.
- 35.2 If any term contained in this Contract is held or finally determined to be invalid, illegal, or unenforceable in any respect, in whole or in part, such term shall be severed from this Contract, and the remaining terms contained herein shall continue in full force and effect, and shall in no way be affected, prejudiced, or disturbed thereby.
- 35.3 The headings of the sections contained in this Contract are for convenience only and shall not be deemed to control or affect the meaning or construction of any provision of this Contract.
- 35.4 This Contract may be executed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, and all of which together shall constitute one and the same instrument. Signatures provided by facsimile or other electronic means, e.g, and not by way of limitation, in Adobe .PDF sent by electronic mail, shall be deemed to be original signatures.

36. Contract Monitor and Procurement Officer

- 36.1 The State representative for this Contract who is primarily responsible for Contract administration functions, including issuing written direction, invoice approval, monitoring this Contract to ensure compliance with the terms and conditions of the Contract, monitoring MBE and VSBE compliance, and achieving completion of the Contract on budget, on time, and within scope. The Contract Monitor may authorize in writing one or more State representatives to act on behalf of the Contract Monitor in the performance of the Contract Monitor’s responsibilities. The State may change the Contract Monitor at any time by written notice to the Contractor.
- 36.2 The Procurement Officer has responsibilities as detailed in the Contract, and is the only State representative who can authorize changes to the Contract. The State may change the Procurement Officer at any time by written notice to the Contractor.

37. Notices

All notices hereunder shall be in writing and either delivered personally or sent by certified or registered mail, postage prepaid, as follows:

If to the State: **Lisa Grigsby**
Recording Secretary
Board of Public Works
80 Calvert Street, Room 117
Annapolis, MD 21401

If to the Contractor: _____

(OPTIONAL CONTRACT CLAUSE: The following optional clause may be required under certain conditions: If a Contractor intends to rely on its Parent Company in some manner while performing on the State Contract, the following clause should be included and completed for the Contractor's Parent Company to guarantee performance of the Contractor. See RFP Section 1.22. The guarantor/Contractor's Parent Company should be named as a party and signatory to the Contract and should be in good standing with SDAT.)

38. Parent Company Guarantee

(Corporate name of Contractor's Parent Company) hereby guarantees absolutely the full, prompt, and complete performance by **(Contractor)** of all the terms, conditions and obligations contained in this Contract, as it may be amended from time to time, including any and all exhibits that are now or may become incorporated hereunto, and other obligations of every nature and kind that now or may in the future arise out of or in connection with this Contract, including any and all financial commitments, obligations, and liabilities. **(Corporate name of Contractor's Parent Company)** may not transfer this absolute guaranty to any other person or entity without the prior express written approval of the State, which approval the State may grant, withhold, or qualify in its sole and absolute subjective discretion. **(Corporate name of Contractor's Parent Company)** further agrees that if the State brings any claim, action, suit or proceeding against **(Contractor)**, **(Corporate name of Contractor's Parent Company)** may be named as a party, in its capacity as Absolute Guarantor.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the parties have executed this Contract as of the date hereinabove set forth.

CONTRACTOR

STATE OF MARYLAND
BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS

By: _____

By: _____

Date _____

Date _____

Approved for form and legal sufficiency
this ____ day of _____, 20__.

ATTACHMENT B – BID/PROPOSAL AFFIDAVIT

A. AUTHORITY

I hereby affirm that I, _____ (name of affiant) am the _____ (title) and duly authorized representative of _____ (name of business entity) and that I possess the legal authority to make this affidavit on behalf of the business for which I am acting.

B. CERTIFICATION REGARDING COMMERCIAL NONDISCRIMINATION

The undersigned Bidder/Offeror hereby certifies and agrees that the following information is correct: In preparing its bid/proposal on this project, the Bidder/Offeror has considered all proposals submitted from qualified, potential subcontractors and suppliers, and has not engaged in “discrimination” as defined in §19–103 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland; to wit: discrimination in the solicitation, selection, or commercial treatment of any subcontractor, vendor, supplier, or commercial customer on the basis of race, color, religion, ancestry or national origin, sex, age, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or on the basis of disability or other unlawful forms of discrimination. Without limiting the foregoing, “discrimination” also includes retaliating against any person or other entity for reporting any incident of “discrimination”. Without limiting any other provision of the solicitation for bids/proposals on this project, it is understood and agreed that, if this certification is false, such false certification will constitute grounds for the State to reject the bid/proposal submitted by the Bidder/Offeror on this project, and terminate any contract awarded based on the bid/proposal. As part of its bid or proposal, the Bidder/Offeror shall provide to the State a list of all instances within the immediate past 4 years where there has been a final adjudicated determination in a legal or administrative proceeding in the State of Maryland that the Bidder/Offeror discriminated against its subcontractors, vendors, suppliers, or commercial customers, and a description of the status or resolution of that complaint, including any remedial action taken. As a condition of submitting a bid or proposal to the State, the Bidder/Offeror agrees to comply with the State’s Commercial Nondiscrimination Policy as described under Title 19 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland.

B-1. Certification Regarding Minority Business Enterprises.

The undersigned Bidder/Offeror hereby certifies and agrees that it has fully complied with the State Minority Business Enterprise Law, State Finance and Procurement Article, §14-308(a)(2), Annotated Code of Maryland, which

provides that, except as otherwise provided by law, a contractor may not identify a certified minority business enterprise in a bid or proposal and:

- (1) Fail to request, receive, or otherwise obtain authorization from the certified minority business enterprise to identify the certified minority proposal;
- (2) Fail to notify the certified minority business enterprise before execution of the contract of its inclusion in the bid or proposal;
- (3) Fail to use the certified minority business enterprise in the performance of the contract; or
- (4) Pay the certified minority business enterprise solely for the use of its name in the bid or proposal.

Without limiting any other provision of the solicitation on this project, it is understood that if the certification is false, such false certification constitutes grounds for the State to reject the bid submitted by the bidder on this project, and terminate any contract awarded based on the bid.

B-2. Certification Regarding Veteran-Owned Small Business Enterprises.

The undersigned Bidder/Offeror hereby certifies and agrees that it has fully complied with the State veteran-owned small business enterprise law, State Finance and Procurement Article, §14-605, Annotated Code of Maryland, which provides that a person may not:

- (1) Knowingly and with intent to defraud, fraudulently obtain, attempt to obtain, or aid another person in fraudulently obtaining or attempting to obtain public money, procurement contracts, or funds expended under a procurement contract to which the person is not entitled under this title;
- (2) Knowingly and with intent to defraud, fraudulently represent participation of a veteran-owned small business enterprise in order to obtain or retain a bid preference or a procurement contract;
- (3) Willfully and knowingly make or subscribe to any statement, declaration, or other document that is fraudulent or false as to any material matter, whether or not that falsity or fraud is committed with the knowledge or consent of the person authorized or required to present the declaration, statement, or document;
- (4) Willfully and knowingly aid, assist in, procure, counsel, or advise the preparation or presentation of a declaration, statement, or other document that is fraudulent or false as to any material matter, regardless of whether that falsity or fraud is committed with the knowledge or consent of the person authorized or required to present the declaration, statement, or document;
- (5) Willfully and knowingly fail to file any declaration or notice with the unit that is required by COMAR 21.11.12; or
- (6) Establish, knowingly aid in the establishment of, or exercise control over a business found to have violated a provision of §B-2(1)—(5) of this regulation.

C. AFFIRMATION REGARDING BRIBERY CONVICTIONS

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the above business (as is defined in Section 16-101(b) of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland), or any of its officers, directors, partners, controlling stockholders, or any of its employees directly involved in the business's contracting activities including obtaining or performing contracts with public bodies has been convicted of, or has had probation before judgment imposed pursuant to Criminal Procedure Article, §6-220, Annotated Code of Maryland, or has pleaded nolo contendere to a charge of, bribery, attempted bribery, or conspiracy to bribe in violation of Maryland law, or of the law of any other state or federal law, except as follows (indicate the reasons why the affirmation cannot be given and list any conviction, plea, or imposition of probation before judgment with the date, court, official or administrative body, the sentence or disposition, the name(s) of person(s) involved, and their current positions and responsibilities with the business):

D. AFFIRMATION REGARDING OTHER CONVICTIONS

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the above business, or any of its officers, directors, partners, controlling stockholders, or any of its employees directly involved in the business's contracting activities including obtaining or performing contracts with public bodies, has:

- (1) Been convicted under state or federal statute of:
 - (a) A criminal offense incident to obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public or private contract; or
 - (b) Fraud, embezzlement, theft, forgery, falsification or destruction of records or receiving stolen property;
- (2) Been convicted of any criminal violation of a state or federal antitrust statute;
- (3) Been convicted under the provisions of Title 18 of the United States Code for violation of the Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organization Act, 18 U.S.C. §1961 et seq., or the Mail Fraud Act, 18 U.S.C. §1341 et seq., for acts in connection with the submission of bids or proposals for a public or private contract;
- (4) Been convicted of a violation of the State Minority Business Enterprise Law, §14-308 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland;
- (5) Been convicted of a violation of §11-205.1 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland;
- (6) Been convicted of conspiracy to commit any act or omission that would constitute grounds for conviction or liability under any law or statute described in subsections (1)—(5) above;
- (7) Been found civilly liable under a state or federal antitrust statute for acts or omissions in connection with the submission of bids or proposals for a public or private contract;
- (8) Been found in a final adjudicated decision to have violated the Commercial Nondiscrimination Policy under Title 19 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland with regard to a public or private contract;
- (9) Been convicted of a violation of one or more of the following provisions of the Internal Revenue Code:
 - (a) §7201, Attempt to Evade or Defeat Tax;
 - (b) §7203, Willful Failure to File Return, Supply Information, or Pay Tax,
 - (c) §7205, Fraudulent Withholding Exemption Certificate or Failure to Supply Information,
 - (d) §7206, Fraud and False Statements, or
 - (e) §7207 Fraudulent Returns, Statements, or Other Documents;
- (10) Been convicted of a violation of 18 U.S.C. §286 Conspiracy to Defraud the Government with Respect to Claims, 18 U.S.C. §287, False, Fictitious, or Fraudulent Claims, or 18 U.S.C. §371, Conspiracy to Defraud the United States;
- (11) Been convicted of a violation of the Tax-General Article, Title 13, Subtitle 7 or Subtitle 10, Annotated Code of Maryland;
- (12) Been found to have willfully or knowingly violated State Prevailing Wage Laws as provided in the State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 17, Subtitle 2, Annotated Code of Maryland, if:
 - (a) A court:
 - (i) Made the finding; and
 - (ii) Decision became final; or
 - (b) The finding was:
 - (i) Made in a contested case under the Maryland Administrative Procedure Act; and
 - (ii) Not overturned on judicial review;
- (13) Been found to have willfully or knowingly violated State Living Wage Laws as provided in the State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 18, Annotated Code of Maryland, if:
 - (a) A court:
 - (i) Made the finding; and
 - (ii) Decision became final; or
 - (b) The finding was:
 - (i) Made in a contested case under the Maryland Administrative Procedure Act; and
 - (ii) Not overturned on judicial review;

(14) Been found to have willfully or knowingly violated the Labor and Employment Article, Title 3, Subtitles 3, 4, or 5, or Title 5, Annotated Code of Maryland, if:

(a) A court:

- (i) Made the finding; and
- (ii) Decision became final; or

(b) The finding was:

- (i) Made in a contested case under the Maryland Administrative Procedure Act; and
- (ii) Not overturned on judicial review; or

(15) Admitted in writing or under oath, during the course of an official investigation or other proceedings, acts or omissions that would constitute grounds for conviction or liability under any law or statute described in §§B and C and subsections D(1)—(14) of this regulation, except as follows (indicate reasons why the affirmations cannot be given, and list any conviction, plea, or imposition of probation before judgment with the date, court, official or administrative body, the sentence or disposition, the name(s) of the person(s) involved and their current positions and responsibilities with the business, and the status of any debarment):

_____.

E. AFFIRMATION REGARDING DEBARMENT

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the above business, or any of its officers, directors, partners, controlling stockholders, or any of its employees directly involved in the business's contracting activities, including obtaining or performing contracts with public bodies, has ever been suspended or debarred (including being issued a limited denial of participation) by any public entity, except as follows (list each debarment or suspension providing the dates of the suspension or debarment, the name of the public entity and the status of the proceedings, the name(s) of the person(s) involved and their current positions and responsibilities with the business, the grounds of the debarment or suspension, and the details of each person's involvement in any activity that formed the grounds of the debarment or suspension).

_____.

F. AFFIRMATION REGARDING DEBARMENT OF RELATED ENTITIES

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

- (1) The business was not established and it does not operate in a manner designed to evade the application of or defeat the purpose of debarment pursuant to Sections 16-101, et seq., of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland; and
- (2) The business is not a successor, assignee, subsidiary, or affiliate of a suspended or debarred business, except as follows (you must indicate the reasons why the affirmations cannot be given without qualification):

_____.

G. SUB-CONTRACT AFFIRMATION

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the above business, has knowingly entered into a contract with a public body under which a person debarred or suspended under Title 16 of the State Finance and Procurement Article of the Annotated Code of Maryland will provide, directly or indirectly, supplies, services, architectural services, construction related services, leases of real property, or construction.

H. AFFIRMATION REGARDING COLLUSION

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Neither I, nor to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, the above business has:

- (1) Agreed, conspired, connived, or colluded to produce a deceptive show of competition in the compilation of the accompanying bid or offer that is being submitted;
- (2) In any manner, directly or indirectly, entered into any agreement of any kind to fix the bid price or price proposal of the bidder or offeror or of any competitor, or otherwise taken any action in restraint of free competitive bidding in connection with the contract for which the accompanying bid or offer is submitted.

I. CERTIFICATION OF TAX PAYMENT

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT: Except as validly contested, the business has paid, or has arranged for payment of, all taxes due the State of Maryland and has filed all required returns and reports with the Comptroller of the Treasury, the State Department of Assessments and Taxation, and the Maryland Department of Labor, as applicable, and will have paid all withholding taxes due the State of Maryland prior to final settlement.

J. CONTINGENT FEES

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

The business has not employed or retained any person, partnership, corporation, or other entity, other than a bona fide employee, bona fide agent, bona fide salesperson, or commercial selling agency working for the business, to solicit or secure the Contract, and that the business has not paid or agreed to pay any person, partnership, corporation, or other entity, other than a bona fide employee, bona fide agent, bona fide salesperson, or commercial selling agency, any fee or any other consideration contingent on the making of the Contract.

K. CERTIFICATION REGARDING INVESTMENTS IN IRAN

- (1) The undersigned certifies that, in accordance with State Finance and Procurement Article, §17-705, Annotated Code of Maryland:
 - (a) It is not identified on the list created by the Board of Public Works as a person engaging in investment activities in Iran as described in State Finance and Procurement Article, §17-702, Annotated Code of Maryland; and
 - (b) It is not engaging in investment activities in Iran as described in State Finance and Procurement Article, §17-702, Annotated Code of Maryland.
2. The undersigned is unable to make the above certification regarding its investment activities in Iran due to the following activities: _____

L. CONFLICT MINERALS ORIGINATED IN THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (FOR SUPPLIES AND SERVICES CONTRACTS)

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

The business has complied with the provisions of State Finance and Procurement Article, §14-413, Annotated Code of Maryland governing proper disclosure of certain information regarding conflict minerals originating in the Democratic Republic of Congo or its neighboring countries as required by federal law.

M. I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

Any claims of environmental attributes made relating to a product or service included in the bid or proposal are consistent with the Federal Trade Commission's Guides for the Use of Environmental Marketing Claims as provided

in 16 CFR §260, that apply to claims about the environmental attributes of a product, package, or service in connection with the marketing, offering for sale, or sale of such item or service.

N. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I ACKNOWLEDGE THAT this Affidavit is to be furnished to the Procurement Officer and may be distributed to units of: (1) the State of Maryland; (2) counties or other subdivisions of the State of Maryland; (3) other states; and (4) the federal government. I further acknowledge that this Affidavit is subject to applicable laws of the United States and the State of Maryland, both criminal and civil, and that nothing in this Affidavit or any contract resulting from the submission of this bid or proposal shall be construed to supersede, amend, modify or waive, on behalf of the State of Maryland, or any unit of the State of Maryland having jurisdiction, the exercise of any statutory right or remedy conferred by the Constitution and the laws of Maryland with respect to any misrepresentation made or any violation of the obligations, terms and covenants undertaken by the above business with respect to (1) this Affidavit, (2) the contract, and (3) other Affidavits comprising part of the contract.

I DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE AND AFFIRM UNDER THE PENALTIES OF PERJURY THAT THE CONTENTS OF THIS AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF.

Date: _____

By: _____ (print name of Authorized Representative and Affiant)

_____ (signature of Authorized Representative and Affiant)

SUBMIT THIS AFFIDAVIT WITH BID/PROPOSAL

ATTACHMENT C – CONTRACT AFFIDAVIT

A. AUTHORITY

I hereby affirm that I, _____ (name of affiant) am the _____ (title) and duly authorized representative of _____ (name of business entity) and that I possess the legal authority to make this affidavit on behalf of the business for which I am acting.

B. CERTIFICATION OF REGISTRATION OR QUALIFICATION WITH THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF ASSESSMENTS AND TAXATION

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

The business named above is a (check applicable box):

- (1) Corporation — domestic or foreign;
- (2) Limited Liability Company — domestic or foreign;
- (3) Partnership — domestic or foreign;
- (4) Statutory Trust — domestic or foreign;
- (5) Sole Proprietorship.

and is registered or qualified as required under Maryland Law. I further affirm that the above business is in good standing both in Maryland and (IF APPLICABLE) in the jurisdiction where it is presently organized, and has filed all of its annual reports, together with filing fees, with the Maryland State Department of Assessments and Taxation. The name and address of its resident agent (IF APPLICABLE) filed with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation is:

Name and Department ID
Number: _____ Address: _____

and that if it does business under a trade name, it has filed a certificate with the State Department of Assessments and Taxation that correctly identifies that true name and address of the principal or owner as:

Name and Department ID
Number: _____ Address: _____

C. FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE AFFIRMATION

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

I am aware of, and the above business will comply with, the provisions of State Finance and Procurement Article, §13-221, Annotated Code of Maryland, which require that every business that enters into contracts, leases, or other agreements with the State of Maryland or its agencies during a calendar year under which the business is to receive in the aggregate \$200,000 or more shall, within 30 days of the time when the aggregate value of the contracts, leases, or other agreements reaches \$200,000, file with the Secretary of State of Maryland certain specified information to include disclosure of beneficial ownership of the business.

D. POLITICAL CONTRIBUTION DISCLOSURE AFFIRMATION

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

I am aware of, and the above business will comply with, Election Law Article, Title 14, Annotated Code of Maryland, which requires that every person that enters into a procurement contract with the State, a county, or a municipal corporation, or other political subdivision of the State, during a calendar year in which the person receives a contract with a governmental entity in the amount of \$200,000 or more, shall file with the State Board of Elections statements disclosing: (a) any contributions made during the reporting period to a candidate for elective office in any primary or general election; and (b) the name of each candidate to whom one or more contributions in a cumulative amount of \$500 or more were made during the reporting period. The statement shall be filed with the State Board of Elections: (a) before execution of a contract by the State, a county, a municipal corporation, or other political subdivision of the State, and shall cover the 24 months prior to when a contract was awarded; and (b) if the contribution is made after the execution of a contract, then twice a year, throughout the contract term, on or before: (i) May 31, to cover the six (6) month period ending April 30; and (ii) November 30, to cover the six (6) month period ending October 31.

E. DRUG AND ALCOHOL-FREE WORKPLACE

(Applicable to all contracts unless the contract is for a law enforcement agency and the agency head or the agency head's designee has determined that application of COMAR 21.11.08 and this certification would be inappropriate in connection with the law enforcement agency's undercover operations.)

I CERTIFY THAT:

(1) Terms defined in COMAR 21.11.08 shall have the same meanings when used in this certification.

(2) By submission of its Bid/Proposal, the business, if other than an individual, certifies and agrees that, with respect to its employees to be employed under a contract resulting from this solicitation, the business shall:

(a) Maintain a workplace free of drug and alcohol abuse during the term of the contract;

(b) Publish a statement notifying its employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of drugs, and the abuse of drugs or alcohol is prohibited in the business' workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of these prohibitions;

(c) Prohibit its employees from working under the influence of drugs or alcohol;

(d) Not hire or assign to work on the contract anyone who the business knows, or in the exercise of due diligence should know, currently abuses drugs or alcohol and is not actively engaged in a bona fide drug or alcohol abuse assistance or rehabilitation program;

(e) Promptly inform the appropriate law enforcement agency of every drug-related crime that occurs in its workplace if the business has observed the violation or otherwise has reliable information that a violation has occurred;

(f) Establish drug and alcohol abuse awareness programs to inform its employees about:

- (i) The dangers of drug and alcohol abuse in the workplace;
- (ii) The business's policy of maintaining a drug and alcohol-free workplace;
- (iii) Any available drug and alcohol counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and
- (iv) The penalties that may be imposed upon employees who abuse drugs and alcohol in the workplace;

(g) Provide all employees engaged in the performance of the contract with a copy of the statement required by §E(2)(b), above;

(h) Notify its employees in the statement required by §E(2)(b), above, that as a condition of continued employment on the contract, the employee shall:

- (i) Abide by the terms of the statement; and
- (ii) Notify the employer of any criminal drug or alcohol abuse conviction for an offense occurring in the workplace not later than 5 days after a conviction;

(i) Notify the procurement officer within 10 days after receiving notice under §E(2)(h)(ii), above, or otherwise receiving actual notice of a conviction;

(j) Within 30 days after receiving notice under §E(2)(h)(ii), above, or otherwise receiving actual notice of a conviction, impose either of the following sanctions or remedial measures on any employee who is convicted of a drug or alcohol abuse offense occurring in the workplace:

- (i) Take appropriate personnel action against an employee, up to and including termination; or
- (ii) Require an employee to satisfactorily participate in a bona fide drug or alcohol abuse assistance or rehabilitation program; and

(k) Make a good faith effort to maintain a drug and alcohol-free workplace through implementation of §E(2)(a)—(j), above.

(3) If the business is an individual, the individual shall certify and agree as set forth in §E(4), below, that the individual shall not engage in the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of drugs or the abuse of drugs or alcohol in the performance of the contract.

(4) I acknowledge and agree that:

(a) The award of the contract is conditional upon compliance with COMAR 21.11.08 and this certification;

(b) The violation of the provisions of COMAR 21.11.08 or this certification shall be cause to suspend payments under, or terminate the contract for default under COMAR 21.07.01.11 or 21.07.03.15, as applicable; and

(c) The violation of the provisions of COMAR 21.11.08 or this certification in connection with the contract may, in the exercise of the discretion of the Board of Public Works, result in suspension and debarment of the business under COMAR 21.08.03.

F. CERTAIN AFFIRMATIONS VALID

I FURTHER AFFIRM THAT:

To the best of my knowledge, information, and belief, each of the affirmations, certifications, or acknowledgements contained in that certain Bid/Proposal Affidavit dated _____, 20____, and executed by me for the purpose of obtaining the contract to which this Exhibit is attached remains true and correct in all respects as if made as of the date of this Contract Affidavit and as if fully set forth herein.

I DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE AND AFFIRM UNDER THE PENALTIES OF PERJURY THAT THE CONTENTS OF THIS AFFIDAVIT ARE TRUE AND CORRECT TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE, INFORMATION, AND BELIEF.

Date: _____

By: _____ (printed name of Authorized Representative and Affiant)

_____ (signature of Authorized Representative and Affiant)

ATTACHMENT D – FINANCIAL PROPOSAL INSTRUCTIONS

In order to assist Offerors in the preparation of their Financial Proposal and to comply with the requirements of this solicitation, Financial Proposal Instructions and a Financial Proposal Form have been prepared. Offerors shall submit their Financial Proposal on the Financial Proposal Form in accordance with the instructions on the Financial Proposal Form and as specified herein. Do not alter the Financial Proposal Form or the Proposal may be determined to be not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award. The Financial Proposal Form is to be signed and dated, where requested, by an individual who is authorized to bind the Offeror to the prices entered on the Financial Proposal Form.

The Financial Proposal Form is used to calculate the Offeror's TOTAL PROPOSAL PRICE. Follow these instructions carefully when completing your Financial Proposal Form:

- A) All Unit and Extended Prices must be clearly entered in dollars and cents, e.g., \$24.15. Make your decimal points clear and distinct.
- B) All Unit Prices must be the actual price per unit the State will pay for the specific item or service identified in this RFP and may not be contingent on any other factor or condition in any manner.
- C) All calculations shall be rounded to the nearest cent, i.e., .344 shall be .34 and .345 shall be .35.
- D) Any goods or services required through this RFP and proposed by the vendor at **No Cost to the State** must be clearly entered in the Unit Price, if appropriate, and Extended Price with **\$0.00**.
- E) Every blank in every Financial Proposal Form shall be filled in. Any changes or corrections made to the Financial Proposal Form by the Offeror prior to submission shall be initialed and dated.
- F) Except as instructed on the Financial Proposal Form, nothing shall be entered on or attached to the Financial Proposal Form that alters or proposes conditions or contingencies on the prices. Alterations and/or conditions may render the Proposal not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award.
- G) It is imperative that the prices included on the Financial Proposal Form have been entered correctly and calculated accurately by the Offeror and that the respective total prices agree with the entries on the Financial Proposal Form. Any incorrect entries or inaccurate calculations by the Offeror will be treated as provided in COMAR 21.05.03.03E and 21.05.02.12, and may cause the Proposal to be rejected.
- H) If option years are included, Offerors must submit pricing for each option year. Any option to renew will be exercised at the sole discretion of the State and will comply with all terms and conditions in force at the time the option is exercised. If exercised, the option period shall be for a period identified in the RFP at the prices entered in the Financial Proposal Form.
- I) All Financial Proposal prices entered below are to be fully loaded prices that include all costs/expenses associated with the provision of services as required by the RFP. The Financial Proposal price shall include all labor, profit/overhead, general operating, administrative, and all other expenses and costs necessary to perform the work set forth in the solicitation. No other amounts will be paid to the Contractor. If labor rates are requested, those amounts shall be fully loaded rates; no overtime amounts will be paid.
- J) Unless indicated elsewhere in the RFP, sample amounts used for calculations on the Financial Proposal Form are typically estimates for evaluation purposes only. Unless stated otherwise in the RFP, the Board does not guarantee a minimum or maximum number of units or usage in the performance of this Contract.
- K) Failure to adhere to any of these instructions may result in the Proposal being determined not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award.

ATTACHMENT E – FINANCIAL PROPOSAL FORM

The Financial Proposal Form shall contain all price information in the format specified on these pages. Complete the Financial Proposal Form only as provided in the Financial Proposal Instructions. Do not amend, alter or leave blank any items on the Financial Proposal Form. Offerors must submit pricing for each Year, including both Option Years. Failure to adhere to any of these instructions may result in the Proposal being determined not reasonably susceptible of being selected for award. Sample amounts used for calculations in the Financial Proposal Form are estimates for evaluation purposes only, and not minimum or maximum amounts of guaranteed work.

YEAR 1

Appearance Fee:	\$ _____	per BPW meeting x <u>23</u> meetings =	\$ _____	+
Per Page Price:	\$ _____	per page x <u>1,000</u> pages =	\$ _____	+
Transcript Delivery:	\$ _____	per page x <u>23</u> meetings =	\$ _____	=
Year 1 Total:			\$ _____	(a)

YEAR 2

Appearance Fee:	\$ _____	per BPW meeting x <u>23</u> meetings =	\$ _____	+
Per Page Price:	\$ _____	per page x <u>1,000</u> pages =	\$ _____	+
Transcript Delivery:	\$ _____	per page x <u>23</u> meetings =	\$ _____	=
Year 2 Total:			\$ _____	(b)

YEAR 3

Appearance Fee:	\$ _____	per BPW meeting x <u>23</u> meetings =	\$ _____	+
Per Page Price:	\$ _____	per page x <u>1,000</u> pages =	\$ _____	+
Transcript Delivery:	\$ _____	per page x <u>23</u> meetings =	\$ _____	=
Year 3 Total:			\$ _____	(c)

OPTION YEAR 1

Appearance Fee:	\$ _____	per BPW meeting x <u>23</u> meetings =	\$ _____	+
Per Page Price:	\$ _____	per page x <u>1,000</u> pages =	\$ _____	+
Transcript Delivery:	\$ _____	per page x <u>23</u> meetings =	\$ _____	=
Option Year 1 Total:			\$ _____	(d)

OPTION YEAR 2

Appearance Fee:	\$ _____	per BPW meeting x <u>23</u> meetings =	\$ _____	+
Per Page Price:	\$ _____	per page x <u>1,000</u> pages =	\$ _____	+
Transcript Delivery:	\$ _____	per page x <u>23</u> meetings =	\$ _____	=
Option Year 2 Total:			\$ _____	(e)

TOTAL PROPOSAL PRICE (a)+(b)+(c)+(d)+(e) = **\$ _____**
(TOTAL PROPOSAL PRICE)

Submitted By:
 Authorized Signature: _____ Date: _____
 Printed Name and Title: _____
 Offeror Name : _____
 Offeror Address: _____
 Location(s) from which services will be performed (City/State): _____
 FEIN: _____ eMMA # _____
 Offeror Contact Information: Telephone: (____) ____ -- _____ E-mail: _____

Living Wage Requirements for Service Contracts

- A. This contract is subject to the Living Wage requirements under Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 18, and the regulations proposed by the Commissioner of Labor and Industry (Commissioner). The Living Wage generally applies to a Contractor or Subcontractor who performs work on a State contract for services that is valued at \$100,000 or more. An employee is subject to the Living Wage if he/she is at least 18 years old or will turn 18 during the duration of the contract; works at least 13 consecutive weeks on the State Contract and spends at least one-half of the employee’s time during any work week on the State Contract.
- B. The Living Wage Law does not apply to:
- (1) A Contractor who:
 - (a) Has a State contract for services valued at less than \$100,000, or
 - (b) Employs 10 or fewer employees and has a State contract for services valued at less than \$500,000.
 - (2) A Subcontractor who:
 - (a) Performs work on a State contract for services valued at less than \$100,000,
 - (b) Employs 10 or fewer employees and performs work on a State contract for services valued at less than \$500,000, or
 - (c) Performs work for a Contractor not covered by the Living Wage Law as defined in B(1)(b) above, or B(3) or C below.
 - (3) Service contracts for the following:
 - (a) Services with a Public Service Company;
 - (b) Services with a nonprofit organization;
 - (c) Services with an officer or other entity that is in the Executive Branch of the State government and is authorized by law to enter into a procurement (“Unit”); or
 - (d) Services between a Unit and a County or Baltimore City.
- C. If the Unit responsible for the State contract for services determines that application of the Living Wage would conflict with any applicable Federal program, the Living Wage does not apply to the contract or program.

- D. A Contractor must not split or subdivide a State contract for services, pay an employee through a third party, or treat an employee as an independent Contractor or assign work to employees to avoid the imposition of any of the requirements of Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 18.
- E. Each Contractor/Subcontractor, subject to the Living Wage Law, shall post in a prominent and easily accessible place at the work site(s) of covered employees a notice of the Living Wage Rates, employee rights under the law, and the name, address, and telephone number of the Commissioner.
- F. The Commissioner shall adjust the wage rates by the annual average increase or decrease, if any, in the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers for the Washington/Baltimore metropolitan area, or any successor index, for the previous calendar year, not later than 90 days after the start of each fiscal year. The Commissioner shall publish any adjustments to the wage rates on the Division of Labor and Industry's website. An employer subject to the Living Wage Law must comply with the rate requirements during the initial term of the contract and all subsequent renewal periods, including any increases in the wage rate, required by the Commissioner, automatically upon the effective date of the revised wage rate.
- G. A Contractor/Subcontractor who reduces the wages paid to an employee based on the employer's share of the health insurance premium, as provided in Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, §18-103(c), shall not lower an employee's wage rate below the minimum wage as set in Md. Code Ann., Labor and Employment Article, §3-413. A Contractor/Subcontractor who reduces the wages paid to an employee based on the employer's share of health insurance premium shall comply with any record reporting requirements established by the Commissioner.
- H. A Contractor/Subcontractor may reduce the wage rates paid under Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, §18-103(a), by no more than 50 cents of the hourly cost of the employer's contribution to an employee's deferred compensation plan. A Contractor/Subcontractor who reduces the wages paid to an employee based on the employer's contribution to an employee's deferred compensation plan shall not lower the employee's wage rate below the minimum wage as set in Md. Code Ann., Labor and Employment Article, §3-413.
- I. Under Md. Code Ann., State Finance and Procurement Article, Title 18, if the Commissioner determines that the Contractor/Subcontractor violated a provision of this title or regulations of the Commissioner, the Contractor/Subcontractor shall pay restitution to each affected employee, and the State may assess liquidated damages of \$20 per day for each employee paid less than the Living Wage.
- J. Information pertaining to reporting obligations may be found by going to the Division of Labor and Industry website <http://www.dllr.state.md.us/labor/prev/livingwage.shtml> and clicking on Living Wage for State Service Contracts.

Maryland Living Wage Requirements Affidavit of Agreement

(submit with Bid/Proposal)

Contract No. _____

Name of Contractor _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

If the Contract Is Exempt from the Living Wage Law

The Undersigned, being an authorized representative of the above-named Contractor, hereby affirms that the Contract is exempt from Maryland’s Living Wage Law for the following reasons (check all that apply):

- Bidder/Offeror is a nonprofit organization
- Bidder/Offeror is a public service company
- Bidder/Offeror employs 10 or fewer employees and the proposed contract value is less than \$500,000
- Bidder/Offeror employs more than 10 employees and the proposed contract value is less than \$100,000

If the Contract Is a Living Wage Contract

A. The Undersigned, being an authorized representative of the above-named Contractor, hereby affirms its commitment to comply with Title 18, State Finance and Procurement Article, Annotated Code of Maryland and, if required, to submit all payroll reports to the Commissioner of Labor and Industry with regard to the above stated contract. The Bidder/Offeror agrees to pay covered employees who are subject to living wage at least the living wage rate in effect at the time service is provided for hours spent on State contract activities, and to ensure that its Subcontractors who are not exempt also pay the required living wage rate to their covered employees who are subject to the living wage for hours spent on a State contract for services. The Contractor agrees to comply with, and ensure its Subcontractors comply with, the rate requirements during the initial term of the contract and all subsequent renewal periods, including any increases in the wage rate established by the Commissioner of Labor and Industry, automatically upon the effective date of the revised wage rate.

B. _____ (initial here if applicable) The Bidder/Offeror affirms it has no covered employees for the following reasons: (check all that apply):

- The employee(s) proposed to work on the contract will spend less than one-half of the employee’s time during any work week on the contract

