
**CITY OF COLUMBUS - BID WAIVER INFORMATION FORM
TO ACCOMPANY LEGISLATION WHICH WAIVES ANY PROVISIONS OF
COLUMBUS CITY CODES CHAPTER 329
(PLEASE LIMIT YOUR RESPONSE TO THIS SHEET)**

1. In accordance with section 329.27 of the Columbus City Code, City Council may determine that the City's best interest is served by waiving the City Code Formal Bid procedures for the following reason(s): (Note that these reasons are all based on time. Currently, formal bid average completion time is 160 calendar days.)

- An unanticipated breakdown created an unplanned, emergency need.
- The item to be purchased is of a perishable nature, the price or availability will perish before the formal bid process can be completed.
- Need to extend an existing contract for one year or more where no provision for extension was included in the original bid/contract.
- Need to increase a contract for additional supplies/services, although the original contract obligations have been fulfilled.
- A new law or regulation requires immediate compliance; there is insufficient time to accomplish formal competitive bidding and satisfy the needs in order to comply.

Other: There is not enough time to obtain formally advertised, competitive sealed bids to satisfy the needs because:

The Columbus Division of Police Digital Forensics Unit has an urgent need to acquire a new private computer server. The unit's current server has run out of storage space, cannot be expanded, and is outdated. As technology evolves, so does the size of electronic data recovered from digital devices that must be stored as evidence for criminal and civil investigations/proceedings. This data includes video, audio, GPS data, photographs, cellular phone data, etc. Storage of this data is critical to police operations and necessary to comply with state and federal law. Since some of the data stored contains child sexual abuse material, the computer server must be private and maintained in the Digital Forensics Unit.

The vendor Sumuri has assisted with identifying a solution to processing and storing electronic data. Their product holds more storage than any other solution on the current market, including the big-name vendors in the world of IT-based storage/server solutions. This vendor is also well known throughout the world for providing reliable forensic equipment for the forensic community.

The City has purchased equipment for the Digital Forensics Unit from other vendors. That equipment has either needed constant maintenance or has broken down. When it comes to warranty, support, reliability, and accountability, this vendor has a proven and unmatched track record with the City of Columbus and other law enforcement agencies. Additionally, this vendor has also acknowledged that they would be able to successfully interface the unit's current server with the new server.

For these reasons, I request the waiver of complete bidding and the consideration of the identified vendor to provide the new computer server to the Digital Forensics Unit.

2. Informal bid procedure used: Yes No Explain:

3. Informal bids received and prices for each:

4. If lowest bid was not accepted, Explain:

Ordinance No.:

Approved By: Authorized Approval on Corresponding Legislative File
