

**The University of Southern Mississippi**  
**Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase**  
**SSP 19\_006**

The University of Southern Mississippi anticipates purchasing the item(s) listed below as a sole source purchase. Anyone objecting to this purchase shall follow the procedures outlined below.

1. Description of the commodity that USM is seeking to procure: **The Department of Economic Development, along with the university, has an opportunity to be a trailblazer with the use of Gazelle.ai, which is the first software of its kind. The Gazelle.ai allows students to search company information around the globe and in multiple industries, which yields career discovery and improvement to the curriculum of our data analytics program.**
2. Explanation of why the commodity is the only one that meets the needs of the agency: **The University of Southern Mississippi has a unique opportunity to be the first university to incorporate a new and innovative data analytics platform into the business curriculum. Gazelle AI is the only business intelligence platform that features trained algorithms to index companies based on their likelihood to expand. It is the only platforms used to include heatmaps at the state and country levels across over 900 6-digit NAICS industries. It also features both the ability to expose buying and selling ecosystems across industries and generate lists of companies specific to industries at the state and country levels.**
3. Explanation of why the source is the only source is the only person or entity that can provide the required commodity: **Gazelle AI is different from other business data sources currently available because of its algorithms, search ability, and mapping features. No other vendors currently have a business intelligence platform like Gazelle AI.**

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4. Explanation of why the amount to be expended for the commodity is reasonable: **We will be using the CBE Business Analytics budget to fund the cost.**
5. Efforts that the agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity: **The department searched for comparable software providers but Gazelle.ai is the only business intelligence platform that features trained algorithms to index companies based on their likelihood to expand.**

<b>Advertisement Schedule</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> scheduled</b>	<b>8/28/18</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> scheduled</b>	<b>9/04/18</b>

Any person or entity that objects and proposes that the commodity listed is not sole source and can be provided by another person or entity shall submit a written notice to:

Steve Ballew

Director of Procurement & Contracts

Steve.ballew@usm.edu

**Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection"**

The notice shall contain a detailed explanation of why the commodity is not a sole source procurement. Appropriate documentation shall also be submitted if applicable.

If after a review of the submitted notice and documents, USM determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then USM will withdraw the sole source request publication from the procurement portal website and submit the procurement of the commodity to an advertised competitive bid or selection process.

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If USM determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then USM will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board. USM will have the burden of proving that the commodity is only provided by one (1) source.