1. Description of the commodity that USM is seeking to procure:

USM is seeking to procure an UV accessory for a TA Instruments Ares-G2 Rheometer. The rheometer accessory is used to characterize the rheology of UV curable materials and includes several parts that distinctively fit into the current Ares-G2 system. These parts are quartz plates (for facile UV penetration), waveform and fast sampling cable, and light source. To include filters, guides and safety apparatus.

2. Explanation of why the commodity is the only one that meets the needs of the agency:

Given the Ares-G2 system was previously purchased and already in place, it is undoubtedly the best option to extend the capabilities. TA instruments is the sole manufacturer and distributor of the accessory for their system.

3. Explanation of why the source is the only source is the only person or entity that can provide the required commodity

TA instruments is the sole manufacturer and distributor in the US and provides local support and service of their instruments and accessories.

4. Explanation of why the amount to be expended for the commodity is reasonable:

Manipulate the instrument or instrument electronics to retrofit a non-TA systems for the fast sampling and data collection necessary with many UV curing systems would void any and all warranties on a relatively new piece of equipment.

5. Efforts that the agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity:

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<th>Advertisement Schedule</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<td>1st scheduled</td>
<td>4.28.2017</td>
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The University of Southern Mississippi
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase

SSP 17_017

| 2nd scheduled | 5.5.2017 |

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.

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.