The University of Southern Mississippi
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase
SSP 17_010

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: Zeiss Smartzoom 5 digital microscopy system

2. Explanation of why the commodity is the only one that meets the needs of the agency:
   Prospective instruments were reviewed and the Zeiss Smartzoom 5 was determined to be the only digital microscopy with the hardware/software capability to interface with our Zeiss electron microscope and Zeiss confocal scanning laser microscope (USM #'s 220409 and 215825). Correlative microscopy between instruments is accomplished through Zeiss’s Shuttle & Find hardware/software.

3. Explanation of why the source is the only source is the only person or entity that can provide the required commodity: Zeiss only sells the Smartzoom 5 through Vashaw for our geographic region.

4. Explanation of why the amount to be expended for the commodity is reasonable: There are no other resellers of this particular instrument to compare to. However, based on prior positive experience with Zeiss instruments (reliability and precision) the price was determined to be fair. Zeiss has a long-standing reputation in the microscopy industry for consistently delivering excellent quality in their instruments. This has been our experience with other Zeiss systems already in our laboratories.

5. Efforts that the agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity:
   There are no other resellers of this particular instrument to compare to. However, based
on prior positive experience with Zeiss instruments (reliability and precision) the price was determined to be fair.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Advertisement Schedule</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st scheduled</td>
<td>November 24, 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd scheduled</td>
<td>December 1, 2016</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 by December 14, 2016 at 8:00 a.m. 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.