

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF HIDALGO §

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT

C-12-013A-02-21

THIS AGREEMENT is made effective the 21st day of February, 2012, by and between the **County of Hidalgo, Texas** ("County") and Valley Land Title Co., LTD (DBA) Valley Land Title Co. ("Title Agent/Examiner").

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the County requires services for: **Title Report Services** in connection to the **Acquisition of Land and Disposition of County owned Property** located within **Hidalgo County** and;

WHEREAS, the County of Hidalgo solicited Request for Proposals (RFP) for the development and establishment of a yearly pool for "Title Report Services", and

WHEREAS, from which "Title Report Services firm(s)/vendor" has been selected from the "Pool" of pre-qualified Title Report Services from response to the Request for Qualifications (RFP), and

WHEREAS, County has determined that the services of "Title Reports" are sometimes necessary to carry out the required report activities; and

WHEREAS, the County has selected the Title Agent/Examiner to provide title report services within the County of Hidalgo, Texas through its procured approved pool of Title Report Services.

NOW, THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual covenants and agreements herein contained, County and Title Agent/Examiner do mutually agree as follows:

1. **Scope of Services.** Title Agent/Examiner agrees to provide to County the services shown in Exhibit "A" attached hereto and entitled "Services to be Provided by the Title Agent/Examiner". Title Agent/Examiner selected is to have adequate experience and a workload free

from constraints to complete Title Reports within three (3) business days per parcel. **The Title Agent/Examiner will not begin work or incur costs until authorization of a Purchase Order (PO) in writing by the County for each work order.**

Further, in the event that it is demonstrated by Title Agent/Examiner that Hidalgo County has caused or delayed thus preventing the Title Agent/Examiner from meeting the specified agreed upon deadline to provided the title report(s) ordered, Title Examiner/Agent must advise in written notice to the Purchasing Department or requesting department(s) to authorize and to secure additional time to comply.

2. Term. This Contract commences on February 24, 2012 and ending February 23, 2014 with the County's sole option to extend for an additional one (1) year based on prior year's performance evaluation and contingent upon cost remaining unchanged. Hidalgo County reserves the right to continue this proposal for an additional sixty (60) day "grace period" at the end of the contract term for unforeseen delay of award for next term and contingent upon cost remaining unchanged.

3. Compensation. As consideration for rendering the Services provided for in this Contract, the County agrees to pay the Title Agent/Examiner the amounts specified in Exhibit "B" attached hereto payable against written invoice submitted by Title Examiner/Agent. The Title Agent/Examiner is authorized to submit periodic requests for payment within thirty days after completion of each work order. The request for payment shall be made using forms acceptable to the County and shall show the total amount earned to the date of submission and the amount due and payable as of the date of the current billing. Upon receipt of said request for payment, County shall submit a requisition for payment of said services in the customary manner provided for payments utilized by Hidalgo County, Texas. Title Agent/Examiner agrees to separately account for the receipt and/or expenditure of funds received pursuant to this Contract and to keep adequate books and records of all such receipts and/or expenditures. All payments to Title Agent/Examiner shall be mailed to the address shown in numbered paragraph 20, hereof.

4. **Progress.** Upon acceptance of a work order, the Title Agent/Examiner shall undertake and complete the authorized work. The County or the Title Agent/Examiner can request conferences to be provided at the Title Agent/Examiner's office, the office of the County or at other agreed upon locations.

5. **Inspection of Work.** The County has the right at all reasonable times to inspect or otherwise evaluate the work performed or being performed hereunder and the premises in which it is being performed. If any inspection or evaluation is made on the premises of the Title Agent/Examiner, or a subcontractor, the Title Agent/Examiner shall provide and require its subcontractor to provide all reasonable facilities and assistance for the safety and convenience of the inspectors in the performance of their duties. All inspections and evaluations shall be performed in such a manner as will not unduly delay the work.

6. **Amendments.** If it becomes necessary at any time during the contract period to change the scope of work, the contract period, the maximum amount payable, the complexity, or the character of this contract, an amendment must be prepared and executed within the contract period. The County retains the right to reject any such amendment proposed by the Title Agent/Examiner unless the County finds the proposed amendment necessary to complete the work authorized herein. Any such amendments be made in writing agreed to by all parties hereto and duly executed before the end of the contract period as specified.

If the County finds it necessary to require changes in completed work because of errors made by the Title Agent/Examiner, the County shall require the Title Agent/Examiner to correct the work at no cost to the County and without amendment to the contract. If the changes are made at the request of the County and are not due to errors of the Title Agent/Examiner, the County will reimburse the Title Agent/Examiner for the additional work at the same rate of pay established in Exhibit "B", "Basis for Payment". If payment for the additional work will cause the maximum amount payable to be exceeded, an amendment shall be executed in accordance with the terms of this provision.

7. Reporting. The Title Agent/Examiner shall promptly advise the County in writing of events which have a significant impact upon the contract, including:

- 7.1.** Problems, delays, or adverse conditions which will materially affect the ability to meet time schedules and goals, or preclude the attainment of project work units by established time periods. This disclosure shall be accompanied by a statement of the action taken, or contemplated, and any County or, if Federal funds are involved, Federal assistance needed to resolve the situation.
- 7.2.** Favorable developments or events which enable meeting time schedules and goals sooner than anticipated or producing more work units than originally projected.

8. Ownership of Documents. Upon completion or termination of this contract, all documents prepared by the Title Agent/Examiner or furnished to the Title Agent/Examiner by the County shall be delivered to and become the property of the County. All sketches, photographs, calculations, and other data prepared under this contract shall be made available, upon request, to the County without restriction or limitation on their further use. The Title Agent/Examiner may, at its own expense, have copies made of the documents or any other data furnished the County under this contract.

9. Independent Contractor. Title Agent/Examiner must comply with all applicable Hidalgo County policies and with any applicable federal, state or local laws, regulations, orders or ordinances applicable to the services provided by Title Agent/Examiner under this Contract. Notwithstanding the foregoing sentence, Title Agent/Examiner represents and maintains that it is an independent contractor and is not an employee of Hidalgo County, Texas, or any agency thereof, and represents and warrants that it does not desire or request any fringe benefits provided to employees of Hidalgo County, Texas, and/or any agency thereof, including, but not limited to benefits associated with Hidalgo County's civil service program. Title Agent/Examiner agrees to be responsible for any federal income tax, withholding or social security tax liability that might arise from payments received hereunder.

10. Voluntary Termination. Title Agent/Examiner and County agree that any contract award to a successful bidder will be in effect until (a) the contract expires, (b) delivery and acceptance of products, and/or performance of services ordered, or (c) terminated by County with the thirty (30) days prior written notice to the other party.

11. Insurance. Title Agent/Examiner agrees to provide liability insurance covering its activities if providing the services on County premises in an amount not less than the minimum amounts prescribed by the Texas Tort Claims Act, ' 100.001, et seq., Texas Civil Practices and Remedies Code, and shall furnish department a Certificate of Insurance (Exhibit "C"), issued by the insurer that such insurance is in full force and effect.

12. No Assignment. Except as otherwise herein provided, Title Agent/Examiner, may not assign the obligations or rights under this contract to any person without the prior written consent of County.

13. Conflict. Nothing in this Contract shall be construed so as to require the commission of any act contrary to law, and whenever there is any conflict between any provision of this Contract and any present or future law, ordinance or administrative, executive or judicial regulation, order or decree, or amendment thereof, contrary to which the parties have no legal right to contract, the latter shall prevail, but in such event the affected provision or provisions of this Contract shall be modified only to the extent necessary to bring them within the legal requirements and only during the time such conflict exists.

14. Termination by County. If Title Agent/Examiner fails to deliver quality service, fails to achieve the defined goals, outcomes, strategies and outputs set by County, or if Title Agent/Examiner fails to comply with any conditions in this Contract, then County shall have the right to terminate this Contract upon the giving of ten (10) days prior written notice to Title Agent/Examiner.

15. No Waiver. No waiver by County of any breach of any provision of this Contract shall be deemed to be a waiver of any preceding or succeeding breach of the same or any other provision

hereof.

16. Entire Agreement. This Contract contains the entire agreement between the parties hereto, and each party acknowledges that neither has made (either directly or through any agent or representative) any representations or agreements in connection with this Contract not specifically set forth herein. This Contract may be modified or amended only by agreement in writing executed by County and Title Agent/Examiner, and not otherwise.

17. Venue. This Contract shall be construed under and in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas, and all obligations of the parties created hereunder are performable in Hidalgo County, Texas. The parties hereby consent to personal jurisdiction in Hidalgo County, Texas.

18. Hold Harmless. In the event Title Agent/Examiner should cause, either directly or indirectly, damage, loss, destruction, liability, or claims against the other party as a result of intentional conduct, negligence or otherwise, Title Agent/Examiner shall hold harmless and indemnify County from any and all obligations, liabilities, causes of action, lawsuits, damages, and assessments, including legal fees, etc., that result from the Title Agent/Examiner's intentional actions or negligence. This indemnification clause shall survive this Contract and be enforceable as a separate agreement in the event its survival and enforcement becomes necessary.

19. Attorney's Fees. In the unlikely event that a dispute occurs which is litigated or arbitrated, or a cause of action in law or equity is filed concerning the operation, construction, interpretation, or enforcement of this Contract, the losing party shall bear the cost of the attorney's fees incurred by the prevailing party and any and all costs applicable thereto, including, but not limited to, court costs, deposition fees, expert witness fees, out-of-pocket expenses and travel expenses which are incurred by the prevailing party.

20. Notices. Except as may be otherwise specifically provided in this Contract, all notices, demands, requests or communications required or permitted hereunder shall be in writing and shall either be (i) personally delivered against a written receipt, or (ii) sent by registered or certified mail,

return receipt requested, postage prepaid and addressed to the parties at the addresses set forth below, or at such other addresses as may have been theretofore specified by written notice delivered in accordance herewith:

If to County:	County of Hidalgo Attention: County Judge 1615 So. Closner, Ste., J Edinburg, Texas 78539
If to Title Agent/Examiner:	Valley Land Title Co.,LTD D/B/A Valley Land Title Co. Attn: Paul R. Rodriguez, CEO 612 Nolana, Ste. 570 Water Tower Center McAllen, Texas 78504

Each notice, demand, request or communication which shall be delivered or mailed in the manner described above shall be deemed sufficiently given for all purposes at such time as it is personally delivered to the addressee or, if mailed, at such time as it is deposited in the United States mail.

21. Execution of Documents. The parties hereto covenant and agree that they will execute such other and further instruments and documents as are or may become necessary or convenient to effectuate and carry out the terms of this Contract.

22. Binding Contract. This Contract shall be binding upon and inure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, legal representatives, successors, and assigns where permitted by this contract.

23. Gender. All pronouns used in this Contract shall include the other gender, whether used in the masculine, feminine or neuter gender, and the singular shall include the plural whenever and as often as may be appropriate

24. Authority. The execution and performance of this Contract by County and Title Agent/Examiner have been duly authorized by all necessary laws, resolutions or corporate action, and

this Contract constitutes the valid and enforceable obligations of County and Title Agent/Examiner in accordance with its terms.

25. Commitment of Current Revenues Only. In the event that, during any term hereof, the Commissioners Court does not appropriate sufficient funds to meet the obligations of County under this Agreement, County may terminate this Agreement upon ten (10) days written notice to Contractor. County agrees, however, to use reasonable efforts to secure funds necessary for the continuing right to terminate this Agreement at the expiration of each budget period of County pursuant to the provisions of Tex. Loc. Govt. Code Ann. § 271.903 (Vernon Supp. 1995).

EXECUTED as of the day and year first written above.

APPROVED BY COMMISSIONERS COURT on: _____, 2012.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Atlas & Hall LLP

COUNTY OF HIDALGO, TEXAS

By: _____
Stephen L. Crain

By: _____
Ramon Garcia, County Judge

TITLE AGENT/EXAMINER:

NAME _____

By: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____

ATTEST:

Arturo Guajardo, J., County Clerk

EXHIBIT “A”

Services to be provided by Title
Agent/Examiner

EXHIBIT A
REQUIREMENTS

HIDALGO COUNTY

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

TITLE REPORT SERVICES-“(POOL)”
(Including all Funding Sources, Programs and Entities)

RFP NO: 2012-013-01-11-MEG

HIDALGO COUNTY

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
"TITLE REPORT SERVICES" (POOL)
RFP NO: 2012-013-01-11-MEG**

Overview:

The County of Hidalgo is seeking to engage services from firm(s) or vendor to provide "Title Report Services" on an "AS NEEDED BASIS". The Hidalgo County Purchasing Department will receive sealed envelopes containing proposals for the provision of "**POOL-TITLE REPORT SERVICES**" as specified herein. Sealed proposals will be accepted until **9:30 A.M., Wednesday, JANUARY 11, 2012. ANY RFP RECEIVED AFTER THAT DATE AND TIME WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED AND WILL BE RETURNED UNOPENED.**

Deliver Submittal to:
RFP Number: 2012-013-01-11-MEG

<u>US Postal Mail Address:</u> Martha L. Salazar, CPPB, Purchasing Agent Hidalgo County Purchasing Department Administration Building 2812 S. Business Hwy 281 Edinburg, Texas 78539	<u>Physical Address:</u> Martha L. Salazar, CPPB, Purchasing Agent Hidalgo County Purchasing Department Administration Building 2802 S. Business Hwy. 281 Edinburg, Texas 78539
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The Submittal Envelope Must Show The RFP Number, Name And Opening Date.

The following outlines the Request for Proposals:

SECTION I -GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Hidalgo County is requesting that request for proposals be routed to Martha L. Salazar, CPPB, Purchasing Agent, at:

<u>US Postal Mail Address:</u> Martha L. Salazar, CPPB, Purchasing Agent Hidalgo County Purchasing Department Administration Building 2812 S. Business Hwy 281 Edinburg, Texas 78539	<u>Physical Address:</u> Martha L. Salazar, CPPB, Purchasing Agent Hidalgo County Purchasing Department Administration Building 2802 S. Business Hwy. 281 Edinburg, Texas 78539
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WRITTEN QUESTIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED VIA FACSIMILE NO LATER THAN Tuesday, **JANUARY 03, 2012.** at 5:00 P.M. at (956) 292-7612 or e-mail to elena.gomez@co.hidalgo.tx.us . Responses will be sent to all applicants via facsimile by Friday, **JANUARY 06, 2012.** **TELEPHONE INQUIRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.**

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST:

Effective January 1, 2006, Chapter 176 of the Texas Local Government Code requires that any vendor, person, consultant or contractor considering doing business with Hidalgo County ("the County") to disclose in the Conflict of Interest Questionnaire (the "CIQ") attached as **Exhibit D,** the vendor, person consultant or contractor's affiliation or business relationship that might cause a conflict of interest with the County. By law, the CIQ must be filed with the Hidalgo County Clerk's Office no later than the seventh business day after the date the person becomes aware of facts that require that statement to be filed. The disclosure requirement applies to a person or business who contract or seeks to contract with Hidalgo County for the sale or purchase of property, goods or service. Any purchase order or contract resulting from this process shall be

considered null and void if the successful participant fails to comply with Texas Local Government Code Chapter 176. Vendors, consultants, contractors and others who desire to conduct business with Hidalgo County are encouraged to refer to Texas Local Government Code Chapter 176 for the details of this law. An offense under Texas Local Government Code Chapter 176 is a Class C Misdemeanor.

Please submit complete CIQ forms to the Hidalgo County Clerk's Office located at 100 No. Closser, Edinburg, Texas 78539-Hidalgo County Courthouse **COMPLETION AND SUBMISSION OF FORM CIQ IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PROSPECTIVE BIDDER.**

PROPOSER'S AFFIDAVIT:

Prior Contract award, respondents to this RFP must submit a signed Proposer's Affidavit (attached herein in **Exhibit E**) certifying that the submission is (1) not the result of Collusion as described in the Proposer's Affidavit or that the Respondent has not and will not attempt to lobby directly or indirectly as described in the Proposer's Affidavit.

NON-DISCRIMINATION:

Submitters, during the performance of this contract, will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, sex, national origin or disability except where religion, sex, national origin or disability is a bona fide occupational qualification reasonably necessary to the normal operation of the contractor.

PROCESSING TIME FOR PAYMENT:

Submitters are advised that a minimum of thirty (30) days is required to process invoices for payment.

ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION OF BIDS:

Hidalgo County's Purchasing Department will not accept telegraphic or electronically transmitted submissions.

PROOF OF FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS CAPABILITY:

Submitters must, upon request, furnish satisfactory evidence of their ability to furnish products or services in accordance with the terms and conditions of these requirements. Hidalgo County will make the final determination as to the submitter's ability.

SUBMITTER DEFAULT:

Hidalgo County reserves the right, in case of submitter default, to procure the articles or services from other sources and hold the defaulting submitter responsible for any excess costs occasioned thereby.

RESTRICTIVE OR AMBIGUOUS REQUIREMENTS:

It is the responsibility of the submitter to review the Request for Proposal (RFP) packet and to notify the Purchasing Department if the requirements are formulated in a manner that would unnecessarily restrict competition. Any such protest or question regarding the requirements or proposer's procedures must be received in the Purchasing Department not less than seventy-two hours prior to the time set for the opening. These criteria also apply to requirements that are ambiguous.

HAND DELIVERED PROPOSALS:

Hidalgo County requires submitters, when hand delivering proposals, to make sure that it is stamped with date and time by the County Purchasing Staff.

SIGNING OF PROPOSALS:

In order to be considered all submittals **must** be signed. **Please sign the original in blue ink.**

WAIVING OF INFORMALITIES:

Hidalgo County reserves the right to waive minor informalities or technicalities when it is in the best interest of Hidalgo County.

SUBCONTRACTING:

The successful submitter **may not** subcontract the award without the written consent of the Commissioners' Court of Hidalgo County.

DURATION OF CONTRACT: The initial term of the contract shall be for **Two Year**, with the County's option for additional **One Year** extension based on prior year's performance evaluation and contingent upon cost remaining unchanged. Hidalgo County reserves the right to continue this proposal for an additional sixty (60) day "Grace Period" at the end of the contract term for unforeseen delay of award for next term and contingent upon cost remaining unchanged. Additional requirements to be included in the contract, stated under **Scope of Services** in **Exhibit "A"**.

DAVIS BACON ACT:

All selected and awarded firms are required to include the Davis-Bacon Act when advertising and developing specifications **(if applicable)**.

SECTION II - RFP REQUIREMENTS

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS:

The required contents and limitations for the preparation of the RFP are described in this section. Failure to provide the requested information or adhere to any County limitations will result in disqualification of the submitted RFP. A total of **one (1) original and seven (7) copies** of the RFP shall be submitted to the address on the cover letter.

UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT:

This section should demonstrate the proposers understanding of the project needs, the services required, and any local issues or concerns. Briefly explain how long you have been organized and your business objectives. Explain how long you have been in business. This description should be concise, candid, and limited to 3 pages in length.

PROPOSER'S QUALIFICATIONS:

Hidalgo County is soliciting to contract with a proposer who is qualified, licensed and certified. The proposer will directly perform the required services are required to have any and all applicable licenses, permits, credentials, qualifications to perform necessary services. Must submit any and all applicable licenses, permits, credentials, qualifications with RFP. Photostat copies are acceptable

PERSONNEL AND STAFFING:

The proposers should provide an organizational chart for the project and a summary paragraph of the project work to be performed by each proposed staff member. Biographic summaries that highlight the experience relevant to the specific project responsibilities should be provided for all proposed personnel. There is a one (1) page limitation for each biographic summary provided. Information regarding the proposer’s credentials, education and experience with other entities is required and will be scored accordingly during the evaluation process.

REQUIRED CERTIFICATES AND SUBMITTAL:

This section will contain ***any/all*** licenses, registrations, permits, and certifications as required by the STATE OF TEXAS and HIDALGO COUNTY that you possess that deem you as qualified.

If proposer/vendor cannot meet any of the following services/responsibilities, such exceptions must be noted on the company’s cover letter.

SCOPE OF SERVICES

The County of Hidalgo is accepting Proposals from interested firms with the experience in providing “Title Report Services”. The purpose of soliciting Proposals (RFP) is to develop a “pool” of pre qualified firms or vendors from which evaluated, ranked and negotiated engagements of Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) contracts will be executed for “Title Report Services”.

I. FIRM QUALIFICATIONS

- A.** The firm or vendor selected is to have adequate experience and a workload free from constraints to complete Title Reports within three (3) business days per parcel.
- B.** The provider should have experience with: (1) State (i.e. Tx DOT), County and other governmental entities as well as private sector firms; and/or (2) Education and/or life experience equivalent in rendering such services.
- C.** Hidalgo County intends to negotiate and issue one or more Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity Contracts (IDIQ).
- D.** All information and/or data contained within the completed “Title Report” must be obtained from a Title/Abstract office.

II. SCOPE OF SERVICES

Information to be included in each title report:

- 1. Name and address of owner of property with information on title vesting;
- 2. Lien holder with recording information;
- 3. Legal description of property;
- 4. Easement affecting property both specifically for the lot arid general covering entire subdivision;
- 5. Show any Federal *and/or* State Tax Liens
- 6. Provide copies of Deed, Liens, and Easements.
- 7. Provide copy of maps where information was retrieved (Highlighted & Specified)

III. RFP Requirements

Each proposal must address, but may not be limited to, the following issues:

1. Firm Name
2. Name, position, phone and fax number of Point of Contact (POC).
3. Name of Principal/Owner and number of years in business.
4. State name of Title Company from whose records information will be obtained.
5. List three governmental projects with names, addresses and phone numbers of representatives who can be contacted for references.
6. Detail how your firm/company has the capability to deliver the services required on a timely basis.

IV. Evaluation Criteria

The following criteria will generally be used to evaluate Statements of Qualifications:

1. Capability to perform all the services required for the noted projects in a timely manner, namely to meet schedules and deadlines of a maximum of three (3) business (working) days per parcel.
2. Recent experience and familiarity with Hidalgo County and the Texas Department of Transportation requirements and procedures;
3. List of recent projects.
4. Professional integrity and competence.
5. Professional background.
6. Current workload.
7. Thoroughness of information provided.

V. Request for Services & Evaluation Process

A department requiring Title Report Services will review, evaluate & rank at least three Statements of Qualifications utilizing the evaluation criteria noted below.

Based on the committee's review and evaluation, a minimum of three (3) firms will be ranked for further consideration and may be required to submit supplemental information.

Negotiations will take place with the potential firms in the order of their ranked evaluation, for subsequent negotiations of fees & services with one or more firms on a rotational basis for the Indefinite Delivery Indefinite Quantity (IDIQ) Contract.

VI. Involuntary Termination: The approval of a vendor as prequalified to perform work for the County under this RFP shall be deemed to be terminated and the vendor removed from the qualified vendor list upon the occurrence of any of the following:

- A. The death of the vendor, if an individual, or the primary professional member, if a firm or entity;
- B. The suspension, revocation or cancellation of the vendor's right to practice his profession in the State of Texas;
- C. The imposition of any restriction or limitations by any Governmental authority having jurisdiction over the vendor to such an extent that the vendor cannot engage in the professional practice for which vendor is pre-qualified;

- D. The failure of the vendor to faithfully and diligently perform the usual and customary duties assigned or contracted to it from time to time;
- E. The failure or refusal of the vendor to comply with the reasonable policies, standards and regulations of Hidalgo County which may from time to time be established; provided, however, that such policies, standards and regulations are not contrary to any law or regulatory directive; or
- F. The conduct of the vendor in any unprofessional, unethical, or fraudulent manner; a finding of unprofessional or unethical conduct by any board, institution, organization or professional society having any privilege or right to pass upon the conduct of the vendor, or conduct of the vendor which discredits Hidalgo County.
- G. A vendor submitting a deliverable product, i.e. title report, that results in delay or interruption of the acquisition process including the incurring of additional expense by the County will be grounds for termination of vendor's participation in the "Pool".

PROPOSERS ARE TO PROVIDE A FEE SCHEDULE WITH THIS SUBMITTAL:

Proposer(s) is to provide a proposed fee on proposal page based on the scope of services/work requested.

RFPs must be submitted by **no later than 9:30 a.m. on Wednesday, JANUARY 11, 2012.**

RFP SUBMITTED TO: An original and seven (7) copies of RFPs should be submitted to:

<p><u>US Postal Mail Address:</u> Martha L. Salazar, CPPB, Purchasing Agent Hidalgo County Purchasing Department Administration Building 2812 S. Business Hwy 281 Edinburg, Texas 78539</p>	<p><u>Physical Address:</u> Martha L. Salazar, CPPB, Purchasing Agent Hidalgo County Purchasing Department Administration Building 2802 S. Business Hwy. 281 Edinburg, Texas 78539</p>
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All/Any costs and expenses associated with the preparation and submission of (bids, proposals and/or quotes) shall be the responsibility of the proposer and not reimbursements for such charges or expenses shall be passed onto Hidalgo County.

Hidalgo County has the authority to utilize State Contracts from its membership with their existing or new cooperatives when ever it is in the County's best interest to do so.

SECTION III – SELECTION/EVALUATION/RANKING

A. SELECTION/EVALUATION/RANKING PROCESS:

The RFP shall be submitted according to the schedule below. The County of Hidalgo is not required to select the proposal with the lowest fees, but shall take into consideration other factors, including past experience, evidence of good organization background, references, ability to provide requested services, and any other factors found necessary for quality services including a presentation of the proposed system. Hidalgo County will evaluate the proposal utilizing the evaluation criteria outlined in Exhibit "B" attached herein. Thereafter, Hidalgo County Commissioners Court will rank and/or award this proposal.

Proposals will be graded on a 100-point system with emphasis on ability to service Hidalgo County including, but not be limited to, the items listed below:

- | | | | |
|----|-----------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| 1. | Responsiveness: | Total Points Possible: | 30 points |
| | a. | Thoroughness of Requested Information | (10 Points) |
| | b. | Understanding of Project | (10 Points) |
| | c. | List of References provided | (10 Points) |

- | | | | |
|----|--------------------|--|------------------|
| 2. | Firm Capabilities: | Total Points Possible: | 40 points |
| | a. | Quality and Accuracy of work performed | (10 points) |
| | b. | Experience with similar projects | (10 points) |
| | c. | Capability to meet schedules and deadlines | (10 points) |
| | d. | Current workload and ability to commence various requested projects simultaneously | (10 points) |

3. Cost Fees In considering the proposals, the Hidalgo County reserves the right to select the acceptable applicant who offers contractual terms and conditions that are most advantageous, including but not limited to price per parcel and/or services price per day/hour.

30 points
Total 100 Points

B. RANKING OF PROPOSALS:

Hidalgo County will evaluate and score the RFP responses. After the RFPs have been evaluated and scored, Hidalgo County will make a recommendation to Hidalgo County Commissioners Court for approval of rank and/or award of proposal.

C. NEGOTIATION PROCESS:

Compliance with all requirements, the most cost productive, efficient and effective plan will be considered. Emphasis will be placed on capability to perform within the program as well as meeting the needs of Hidalgo County. Accuracy and completeness are essential. If negotiations proved unsuccessful, the next highest ranked proposer will be contacted. Hidalgo County reserves the right to reject any and all RFPs.

EXHIBIT “B”

Proposal/Fee Schedule

Valley Land Title Co.

ORIGINAL

612 Nolana, Suite 570
McAllen, Tx 78504
(956) 383-2708
Fax (956) 217-3190
www.rodriquezp@valleylandtitleco.com

January 11, 2012

Ms. Martha L. Salazar
Purchasing Agent
Hidalgo County Purchasing Department
2802 S. Business Hwy. 281
Edinburg, Texas

Re: RFP#2012-013-01-11-MEG
"Hidalgo County -Title Report Services (Pool)"

Dear Ms. Salazar:

As the authorized point of contact for Valley Land Title Company, I am submitting the following information in response to your Request for Proposals for "Hidalgo County - Title Report Services".

UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROJECT

Our company has operated in Hidalgo County since 1919, providing real estate title insurance, title examination and escrow/closing services. The company's current owner is Mr. Alonzo Cantu who has been involved with the company since becoming a part-owner in 2003; he has been a successful builder, developer and bank director for over 25 years. I have been the company's chief executive officer since 2006 after a 30 year career as a commercial banker and am responsible for the overall operation of our company. To fulfill our core services, we rely on our plant which contains real estate recordings history dating back to the establishment of Hidalgo County.

PERSONNEL AND STAFFING

The production of Title Reports is the responsibility of our Examination Department which is headed by Mr. Mario Garza who has over 30 years of examination and abstracting experience, all of them with our company. He became manager/chief examiner of that department in 2006 and supervises five individuals that are involved in the preparation of Title Reports.

Mr. Danny Gonzalez is a 28 year veteran in the Examination Department and is our assistant chief examiner. He is responsible for the department's operations in Mr. Garza's absence.

Ms. Ida Castaneda has been an examiner/abstracter for over 20 years and has worked in the department for over 25 years.

Ms. Martha Rodriguez has been an examiner/abstracter for 4 years and has worked in the department for 7 years.

Mr. Sal Rangel has been an examiner/abstracter for 3 years and was previously in our escrow department for 2 years.

Ms. Amanda Garcia is responsible for typing/publishing Title Reports and has been performing this function for 3 of her 5 years with our company.

Despite the downturn in real estate activity in Hidalgo County during the past three years, we have maintained this staffing level in order to accommodate right-of way needs and to maintain an experienced staff that will be in place as our economy recovers.

FIRM QUALIFICATIONS

Our company has been part of the Title Company Services-Pool for Hidalgo County since September of 2006. Our primary point of contact has been with Mr. Joe Pena, Director for the Hidalgo County Right of Way Department. We have also been part of the Title Company Services Pool for Hidalgo County Drainage District No. 1 since July of 2007, where Mr. Pena is also our point of contact. In addition, since 2003 we were contracted to work with L& G Engineering 2100 W. Expressway 83, Mercedes, Texas 78570 (956)-565-9813. We provided Fernando Ramirez, Right -of-Way Acquisition Manager, with title commitment and policy services in connection with numerous Texas Department of Transportation projects that were funneled through Hidalgo County.

DELIVERY OF SERVICES

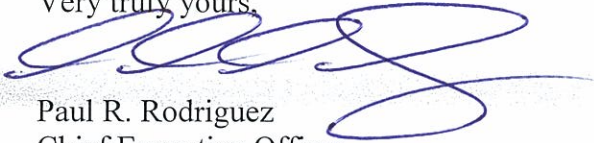
With the historical data and human resources at our disposal, we can produce a Title Report as quickly as any of our competitors in the title company business in Hidalgo County. These reports will include:

- 1) Name and address of owner of property with information on title vesting;
- 2) Lien holder with recording information;
- 3) Legal description of property;
- 4) Easement affecting property both specifically for the lot and general covering entire subdivision;
- 5) Show any Federal and/or State Tax liens;
- 6) Provide copies of Deed, Liens and Easements;
- 7) Provide copy of maps where information was retrieved (Highlighted & Specified).

If the property involved has a "lot and block" legal description, a Title Report will be provided within three business days. Properties that have less specific legal descriptions, known as metes and bounds, on the other hand can require more time to complete. We are willing to strive to meet the three business day goal, but reserve the right to advise you within that time frame of the need for additional time in order to complete a thorough and accurate Title Report. The cost of a Title Report will be \$350.

We appreciate the opportunity to submit this Request for Proposal and the pertinent schedules and declarations that are attached. I will be happy to entertain any questions or clarifications; please see the letterhead for information on how to contact me.

Very truly yours,



Paul R. Rodriguez
Chief Executive Officer

OPENED

Witnessed

EXHIBIT “C”

Insurance Certificate

