



Hidalgo County Purchasing Office
 2812 S. Business Highway 281
 New Administration Building
 Edinburg, Texas 78539
 (956) 318-2626/ Fax: (956) 318-2629

MEMORANDUM

(Approval of Specifications/Requirements)

TO: Hon. Ricardo Rodriguez, District Attorney
 Office of the Criminal District Attorney

ATTN: Hon. Victor M. Garza, Asst. District Attorney via email: victor.garza@da.co.hidalgo.tx.us
 Office of the Criminal District Attorney-Civil Division

FROM: Sandra Montalvo, Buyer II
 Hidalgo County Purchasing Department.

DATE: August 7, 2015

RE: Approval of Specifications for: Bid No.: 2015-281-00-00-SMA-Hidalgo County-"DEAD BODY PICK-UP AND TRANSPORT SERVICES"

Please review the **draft specifications and bid page** and indicate if they meet all your requirements by selecting **APPROVE**, **DISAPPROVE** (or) **APPROVED WITH MODIFICATIONS** and signing below. If your answer is **DISAPPROVE**, please make any modifications necessary to the specifications and return the revised documents to sandra.montalvo@co.hidalgo.tx.us.

If you have any questions, please call me at (956) 318-2626 ext# 4865.

APPROVE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	DISAPPROVE <input type="checkbox"/>
APPROVED WITH MODIFICATIONS <input type="checkbox"/>	

FUNDS AVAILABILITY: _____ YES / _____ NO/ _____

Other (Specify) _____

BUDGET ACCOUNT #: 5-1100-A21-00-080-003-0-340

	Rosalinda Cantu	District Attorney	08/18/15
AUTHORIZED SIGNATURE	PRINT NAME	DEPARTMENT	DATE

SUBMIT THIS FORM TO THE HIDALGO COUNTY PURCHASING DEPARTMENT via e-mail: sandra.montalvo@co.hidalgo.tx.us by no later than Monday, August 7, 2015.

Enclosures

Bid No:2015-281-00-00--SMA

Buyer: Sandra Montalvo

Tel. No: (956) 318-2626 Ext. 4865

REQUEST FOR BIDS

HIDALGO COUNTY

“Dead Body Pickup and Transport Services”

BID OPENING DATE: October 00, 2015 @ 9:30 a.m.

Contact Person:

Martha L. Salazar, CPPB, Purchasing Agent

Hidalgo County Purchasing Department

Physical Address: 2802 S. Business Hwy. 281 -New Administration Building

Mailing/Postal Address: 2812 S. Business Hwy. 281

Edinburg, Texas 78539

956 318-2626



Form HCPD-03

1. Sealed bids will be received for *“Hidalgo County-Dead Body Pickup and Transport Services”* in accordance with the specifications attached as Exhibit "A" hereto. Bids should address all specifications set forth. Bidders may suggest substitutions of features which they feel would be in the best interest of Hidalgo County ("County"). Strong rationale must be presented for any deviation from the specifications. Hidalgo County reserves the right to reject the deviation and its effect on the overall bid.
2. **One (1) original and Three (3) copies** of all bids are required with the bidder's name and return address clearly typed/printed on upper left hand corner and the proper notation clearly typed/printed on the lower left hand corner of the envelope and/or package: **Bid-2015-281-00-00-SMA-Hidalgo County-Dead Body Pickup and Transport Services”** and in County's Purchasing Department with a physical address: 2802 S. Business 281 and a mailing address: 2812 S. Business Hwy., 281, New Administration Building, Edinburg, Texas, **on or before 9:30 A.M., Wednesday, October 00, 2015.**

NO FACSIMILES OR LATE ARRIVALS WILL BE ACCEPTED. ANY BID RECEIVED AFTER THAT TIME WILL NOT BE OPENED AND WILL BE RETURNED. OVERNIGHT MAIL MUST ALSO BE PROPERLY LABELED ON THE OUTSIDE OF EXPRESS ENVELOPE OR PACKAGE IN REFERENCE TO RFB No.2012-130A-10-03-SMA-“Hidalgo County-Dead Body Pickup and Transport Services”

Hidalgo County reserves the right to refuse and reject any/all bids and to waive any/all formalities or technicalities, or to accept the bid considered the best and most advantageous to Hidalgo County

3. Hidalgo County reserves the right to: A. separate and accept, or eliminate any item(s) listed under this bid that it deems necessary to accommodate budgetary and/or operational requirements; B. reject any or all bids submitted and further reserves the right to design the evaluation criteria to be used in selecting the lowest and best bid for approval; and C. award the bid to one bidder or to multiple bidders if the County determines it is in its best interest to do so”
4. The Bidder shall not substitute items named in the bid without the express written consent of Hidalgo County. Failure of the delivered item(s) to perform as specified or failure to meet the stated delivery schedule shall release Hidalgo County from all obligations to the contracting party with regard to the item(s) in question. In such event, County may elect to award the contract to the next-lowest responsible bidder, or to reject all bids and re-advertise.
5. For work to be performed at a County owned or operated location, each bidder shall, in its sole discretion, visit the job site before preparing the bid and thoroughly familiarize himself/herself with existing conditions. Bidder should take field dimensions and note all circumstances which affect the dollar amount of the bid.
6. Descriptive specifications are referenced in this document to indicate the general kind and quality of equipment desired by Hidalgo County. Due to various styles and models of

equipment, bidders are required to include illustrations, specifications, explanation of warranties and service data with their bid including catalogue numbers and any necessary references.

7. No bid may be withdrawn within thirty (30) days from the scheduled time to open bids.
8. Proposed prices are to remain firm for a minimum of ninety (90) days after bid opening.
9. Any interpretations, amendments, corrections or changes to this bid document must be in a written addendum and signed by the County Judge or his designee. Addenda will be mailed to all who are known to have received a copy of the Request for Bids. Bidders shall acknowledge receipt of all addenda as a part of their bid.
10. County reserves the right to accept or reject any or all bids.
11. Costs are to be net F.O.B., County Prepaid.
12. County is exempt from Federal Excise Tax, State Tax and Local Tax. Do Not include tax in cost figure. If it is determined that tax was included in the cost figures it will not be included in the tabulation of any awards. Tax exemption certificates will be furnished upon request.
13. Funds for this procurement have been provided through the County budget for this fiscal year only. County, on an annual basis, has the right to reconsider a contract during the budget process for ensuing years if financial resources of County are insufficient to meet the liabilities of said contract. The award of a bid or contract hereunder will not be construed to create a debt of the County which is payable out of funds beyond the current fiscal year.
14. Upon award and prior to execution of a contract, Sole Proprietorships are required to submit a copy of their social security cards to the Hidalgo County Auditor's Office in order to establish an account with the County. All awarded vendors must submit a completed W-9 and a copy of their Federal ID Number Certificate.
15. **DELIVERY INSTRUCTIONS:**
 - No deliveries accepted after 3:00 P.M., Monday-Friday.
 - At least seventy two (72) hours prior notice of delivery must be given to Martha L. Salazar, Purchasing Agent before delivery will be accepted.
 - If you need additional information call the office listed below:

Hidalgo County Purchasing Department
Martha L. Salazar, Purchasing Agent
(956) 318-2626

16. BILLING AND PAYMENT INSTRUCTIONS:

- Invoices must include:
 - a) Name and address of successful bidder
 - b) Name and address of receiving department or official
 - c) Purchase Order Number and Contract Number (if any)
 - d) Notation- "Hidalgo County-Dead Body Pickup and Transport Services"
Descriptive information as to the items or services delivered, including product code, item number, quantity, etc.
- Discount payments will be considered when offered.
- Contact person for Billing and Payment questions:

Elizabeth Cano, Accounts Payable Supervisor
 Hidalgo County Auditor's Office
 2808 S. Business Hwy 281
 Edinburg, Tx 78539
 (956) 318-2511

17. SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Bid Opening, 9:30 AM	<u>October 00, 2015</u>
Award of Contract	_____, 2015
Commence Work or Deliver Products	_____, 2015

18. BID OR PERFORMANCE BOND AND DEBARMENT CERTIFICATION; PAYMENT UNDER CONTRACT (if applicable):

- If the contract proposed is for the construction of public works or is for a contract for goods & services exceeding \$100,000, all bidders shall furnish a good and sufficient bid bond in the amount of five percent of the total contract price. A bid bond must be executed with a surety company authorized to do business in Texas. All bidders are also required to furnish a certification or acknowledgment stating that the contractor or vendor is free from suspension or debarment pursuant to federal regulation 45CFR Part 76.
- Together with the signing of a contract or issuance of a purchase order following the acceptance of a bid, and prior to commencement of the actual work, the bidder shall furnish a performance bond to the County for the full amount of the contract, if that contract exceeds \$50,000.
- If the contract is for \$50,000 or less, no money will be paid to the contractor until completion and acceptance of the work or the fulfillment of the purchase obligation to the County, and, if applicable, the receipt by County of satisfactory evidence that all subcontractors and material men have been paid.
- If a contract is for the construction, alteration or repair of public buildings or public works, the contractor *shall* provide a payment bond for a contract in excess of Twenty Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00), as required by Tex. Govt. Code Ch. 2253.

- For requirements contracts, bond requirements are determined by applying the proposed unit price to the estimated quantities included in the specifications.

19. ETHICAL STANDARDS:

- It shall be a breach of ethics to offer, give or agree to give any elected official, department head or employee, or former elected official, department head or employee, of the County, or for any elected official, department head or employee or former elected official, department head or employee of the County, to solicit, demand, accept or agree to accept from another person, entity or organization, a gratuity or an offer of employment in connection with any decision, approval, disapproval, recommendation, preparation or any part of a program requirement or purchase request, influencing the content of any specification or procurement standard, rendering of advice, investigation, auditing, or in any other advisory capacity in any proceeding or application, request for ruling, determination, claim or controversy, or other particular matter pertaining to any program requirement or a contract or subcontract, or to any solicitation or proposal therefore pending before any department or agency of the County.
- It shall be a breach of ethics for any payment, gratuity or offer of employment to be made by or on behalf of a subcontractor under a contract to the prime contractor or higher tier subcontractor for any contract for the County, or any person associated therewith, as an inducement for the award of a subcontract or order.
- No public official shall have an interest in a contract awarded hereunder except in accordance with Tex. Loc. Govt. Code Chapter 171.

20. 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 contracts 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 bidder 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 completed CIQ forms to the Hidalgo County Clerk’s Office located at 100 N. Closner, Edinburg, Texas 78539-Hidalgo County Courthouse COMPLETION AND SUBMISSION OF FORM CIQ IS THE SOLE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PROSPECTIVE BIDDER.

21. If, during the life of any contract or bid awarded, the successful bidder's net prices generally available to other customers for items awarded herein are reduced below the contracted price, it is understood and agreed that the benefits of such reduction shall be extended to County.
22. Bids, and all goods and services provided there under, shall comply with all federal, state and local laws concerning this type(s) of goods and/or services.
23. Minimum Standards for Responsible Prospective Bidders: A prospective bidder must affirmatively demonstrate bidder's responsibility. A prospective bidder, by submitting a bid, represents to County that it meets the following requirements:
 - **Possess and submit a Certificate of Account Status indicating bidder is in “Good Standing” with the Texas Comptroller of Public Accounts if such bidder is incorporated in the State of Texas. To secure a certificate of “Good Standing”, you may access the following website: www.window.state.tx.us/taxinfo/coastintr.html.** If the bidder is not incorporated with the Texas, the bidder must submit the appropriate evidence of filing with the Texas Secretary of State stating that the business is authorized to transact business in Texas.
 - Possess or is able to obtain adequate financial resources as required to perform under the bid;
 - Be able to comply with the required or proposed delivery schedule;
 - Have a satisfactory record of performance;
 - Have a satisfactory record of integrity and ethics;
 - Be otherwise qualified and eligible to receive an award.
24. Successful bidder will pay or cause to be paid, without cost or expenses to County, all FICA, FUTA/SUTA and Federal Income Withholding Taxes of all employees, and all wages and benefits as required by Federal or State law. Successful bidder's officers, agents and/or employees will not be entitled to any benefits of an employee or elected official of County, including, but not limited to, benefits associated with County's civil service system.
25. 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 thirty day's written notice prior to cancellation.
26. County reserves the right to enforce performance of any contract awarded hereunder in any manner prescribed by law or deemed to be in the best interest of the County in the event of breach or default by successful bidder; County reserves the right to terminate any contract immediately in the event a successful bidder fails to:
 - A. Meet schedules;
 - B. Pay any required fees or taxes; or
 - C. Otherwise perform in accordance with the specifications.

- 27.** Successful bidder shall defend, indemnify and save harmless County and all its elected officials, officers, agents and employees from all suits, actions, or other claims of any character, name and description brought for or on account of any injuries or damages received or sustained by any person, persons, or property on account of any negligent act or fault of the successful bidder, or of any agent, employee, subcontractor or supplier of successful bidder in the execution of, or performance under, any contract which may result from bid award or which arises from any event or casualty happening on or within County premises themselves or happening upon or in any halls, elevators, entrances, stairways or approaches of or to such County facilities. Successful bidder shall pay any judgment with costs which may be obtained against county growing out of such injury or damages, and shall, upon request, provide a defense to County by counsel reasonably acceptable to County. Successful bidder's indemnity hereunder shall include, but is not limited to, claims relating to patent, copyright or trademark infringement, and the like, arising out of the goods and services provided by successful bidder.
- 28.** Successful bidder shall warrant that all items/services shall conform with the specifications and/or all warranties provided under the Uniform Commercial Code and be free from all defects in material, workmanship and the like. Items supplied under a contract pursuant to this Request for Bids shall be subject to County's approval. Items found to be defective or not meeting specifications shall be replaced by successful bidder within two business days at no expense to County. Items not picked up within one (1) week after notification shall be deemed a donation to County and may be used or disposed of at County's discretion and without waiver of any other rights of County as to the item's nonconformity.
- 29.** This document and any disputes arising hereunder shall be governed and construed according to the laws of the State of Texas, and will be performable exclusively in Hidalgo County, Texas.
- 30.** The successful bidder shall not assign, sell, transfer or convey its rights under any awarded contract, in whole or in part, without the prior written consent of County.

Bid
for
HIDALGO COUNTY
“Dead Body Pickup and Transport Services”

To: Martha L. Salazar, CPPB, Purchasing Agent
Hidalgo County Purchasing Department
Physical address: 2802 S. Business Hwy. 281-New Administration Building
Mailing address: 2812 S. Business Hwy. 281
Edinburg, Texas 78539

In accordance with the Specifications, and subject to all laws and regulations of the United States and state and local laws, the undersigned bidder proposes and commits to furnish all labor, equipment, material, software and services as set forth in the documents hereinbefore mentioned. The undersigned bidder further agrees, upon acceptance of its bid, to execute a contract and/or Purchase Order issued by Hidalgo County for performing and completing the work described in the Specifications within the time stated and for the prices proposed in the documents attached hereto and made a part hereof.

Bidder acknowledges receipt of all of the pages of the documents referenced in the Invitation to Bid Checklist presented in connection with this procurement. Bidder understands that Hidalgo County reserves the right to reject any or all bids and further reserves the right to design the evaluation criteria to be used in selecting the lowest and best bid.

Bidder agrees that this bid shall be good and may not be withdrawn for a period of ninety (90) calendar days after the scheduled closing time for receiving bids, as contained in the Specifications.

Respectfully submitted,

Bidder: _____
Address: _____
By: _____
Printed Name: _____
Title: _____

EXHIBIT "A"
Specifications/Requirements
Hidalgo County
"Dead Body Pickup and Transport Services"
RFB No. 2015-281-00-00-SMA

SCOPE OF SERVICES:

Pursuant to Chapter 49 of the Code of Criminal Procedures and Chapter 691 of the Health and Safety Code, Hidalgo County requires the transportation of dead human bodies from various locations within the County to the Hidalgo County Morgue Facility at which autopsies and other necessary services are performed. **The services are on an "As Needed Basis".**

SPECIFICATIONS:

- 1) Transportation vehicle(s) used must be fully enclosed (i.e., hearse or van suitable for the transport of dead human bodies) in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. Open bed pick-up trucks are **not acceptable**. All drivers must possess a current valid Texas driver's license and be properly covered under bidder's insurance.
- 2) A listing of all drivers will be required to be submitted upon award of contract. Drivers will also be required to read and write the English language. Background Check on all personnel to include driving history utilizing the Texas Department of State Health Service criteria for criminal background checks on EMT/Paramedic personnel require fingerprints through the Fingerprint Applicant Service of Texas (FAST) for Texas/FBI criminal history check. If a driver is found to have a criminal history, an evaluation and determination will be made as to whether or not the County will allow the individual to participate.
- 3) Transportation of decedent from place of death to the Hidalgo County morgue facility. This includes bodies for autopsy, toxicology only, inquest only and holds only cases. All are to be transported directly to the morgue facility with all paper work.
- 4) From 6:00 PM to 8:00 AM M-F, on weekends and government holidays, the transport service will log the decedent into the facility, place the decedent in cooler and fax the investigative information sheet, other paperwork and the Justice of the Peace order for autopsy to the contracted forensic pathology service. An investigative information sheet will be filled out by the investigating officer at the scene and transported with the body to the morgue facility.
- 5) Vendor must furnish all equipment and materials required for transporting dead human bodies, i.e., body bag, plastic rip lock seal for bag, gurney, flat white sheet, body identification tag or bracelet and any other materials required in transporting of a body by the vendor. Vendor must provide a listing of available funeral homes in the area to any family member (if available) of decedent.
- 6) The successful vendor will be on call twenty-four (24) hours daily, seven (7) days a week, three hundred sixty- five (365) days a year, and will be available to respond within thirty (30) minutes of telephone notification. Decedents are to be directly transported to the morgue facility.

- 7) The vendor shall provide telephone and pager service and numbers to the appropriate County officials. Any change in telephone numbers, Vendor should immediately notify **the following departments; District Attorney's Office, Purchasing Department, All Law Enforcement Agencies, Hospitals, County Morgue Facility and Contract Forensic Pathologist.**
- 8) Vendor must provide and maintain a Surety Bond in the amount of \$10,000, which will remain in effect for the duration of the contract period. Proof of the Surety bond must be provided to the County Purchasing Agent within ten (10) days of contract award. Failure to provide said bond will result in cancellation of the bid award.
- 9) Vendor cannot in any manner whatsoever have contact with or offer any information related to the procedures ordered by the appropriate County officials with any of the decedent's family, friends, acquaintances. All communications for services requested of the Vendor will be through the appropriate County official to ensure compliance with Title I of the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996; HIPAA Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information (the Privacy Rule).
- 10) Vendor must also provide the list of vehicles to be used in the transportation of bodies. Proof of ownership must be provided in the form of a notarized title. (Notarized copy is acceptable).
- 11) The awarded vendor will be required to be prepared if a "**Mass Casualty**" incident occurs. Vendor must immediately contact Hidalgo County Emergency Management at **956-289-6549, upon a mass casualty incident. Vendor is required to have appropriate personnel and vehicles to respond to mass casualty events and/or occurrences.**

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

- 1) Term of this Contract is for a period of two (2) years with the County's option to extend for an additional one (1) period under the same rates, terms of condition.
- 2) Hidalgo County reserves the right to extend this bid for an additional sixty (60) day Grace Period due to unforeseen delays in the procurement process and in order to avoid any lapse in service.
- 3) Hidalgo County reserves the right to hold bids for a period of ninety (90) days without taking any action.
- 4) Hidalgo County has the right to terminate this contract upon giving sixty (60) days written notice of cancellation.
- 5) Contractor must comply with all applicable insurance requirements as detailed in Exhibit "C" contained herein.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

- 1) All costs and expenses associated with the preparation and submission of all (bids, proposals, statements of qualifications (RFQ) and quotes) shall be the responsibility of the vendor and no reimbursements for such charges or expenses shall be passed on to Hidalgo County.
- 2) Hidalgo County is requesting that any and all questions, inquires and clarifications regarding bids, proposals or statements of qualifications be addressed to Martha L. Salazar, CPPB, Purchasing Agent, Attn: Sandra Montalvo, 2812 South Business Hwy. 281, Edinburg, Tx 78539. TELEPHONE INQUIRIES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.
- 3) ALL WRITTEN INQUIRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED VIA e-mail to sandra.montalvo@co.hidalgo.tx.us by no later than **Wednesday, September 00, 2015 5:00 p.m.**, Responses to said inquiries will be sent to all applicants via facsimile **and or email** no later than **5:00 p.m., Friday, September 00, 2015.**

Zimbra

sandra.montalvo@co.hidalgo.tx.us

Dead Body Pickup Transport

From : Victor M. Garza <victor.garza@da.co.hidalgo.tx.us>

Fri, Aug 28, 2015 11:19 AM

Subject : Dead Body Pickup Transport

To : 'Sandra Montalvo' <sandra.montalvo@co.hidalgo.tx.us>

Cc : 'Martha Salazar' <martha.salazar@co.hidalgo.tx.us>, 'Evangelina Garcia' <evangelina.garcia@co.hidalgo.tx.us>

Reply To : victor.garza <victor.garza@da.co.hidalgo.tx.us>

Ms. Montalvo,

Our office has reviewed the proposed draft for the service contract and proposed specifications, and at this time approve as to form.

Please let me know if you need anything else.

Thank you,

Victor M. Garza
Assistant District Attorney
Civil Division
Office of the Criminal District Attorney
Hidalgo County, Texas
100 N. Closner RM 303
Edinburg, Texas 78539
(956) 292-7609 EXT. 8185
(956) 318-2079 FAX
victor.garza@da.co.hidalgo.tx.us

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or to anyone other than the recipient designated above by the sender is unauthorized and strictly prohibited. **IF
YOU HAVE RECEIVED THIS COMMUNICATION IN ERROR, PLEASE ADVISE THE SENDER BY REPLY
E-MAIL TO victor.garza@da.co.hidalgo.tx.us AND DELETE THE COMMUNICATION.**

THE STATE OF TEXAS §
 §
COUNTY OF HIDALGO §

**SERVICE CONTRACT
C-15-281-00-00**

THIS CONTRACT is made and entered into this ____ Day of ____, 2015 by and between the **COUNTY OF HIDALGO, TEXAS** ("County"), _____ and ("Company").

WHEREAS, Company responded to advertised notices for bids for **"Dead Body Pickup and Transport Services"**, as more particularly described in Exhibit "A" (the "Services"); and

WHEREAS, Company submitted a bid to provide services in accordance with the specifications as bid, a copy of such specifications and bid being attached hereto as Exhibits "A" and "B" ("Vendor's Bid") respectively, and incorporated herein for all purposes (as the "RFB Packet"); and

WHEREAS, in recognition of and in consideration of Company's agreement to perform the Services in accordance with Specifications, the Commissioners Court of County awarded the bid to Company.

NOW, THEREFORE, in mutual consideration of the foregoing and the further consideration of the following, the parties hereto agree as follows:

1. County and Company hereby agree that this Contract is entered into in order to provide the Services to locations at **Hidalgo County**. This Contract does not extend to any third parties any duties or benefits conferred in any manner hereunder or otherwise.

RFB-DEAD BODY PICKUP AND TRANSPORT SERVICES

2. Company hereby promises and agrees to render and provide, during the term of this Contract, and shall be obligated to render and provide the Services in accordance with the Specifications within **Hidalgo County** following a request for Services by the **Commissioners' Court** or their designated agent. Company agrees in performing the Services that it will use proper professional standards, comply with any and all appropriate laws and regulations in providing the Services, and devote such time as is necessary to safely and efficiently provide the Services.

3. This Contract shall be for a period of two years effective _____, **2015** and ending on _____, **2017**. Hidalgo County at its sole discretion elect the option to extend the contract for one (1) additional year at the same rates, terms and conditions and may further extend for an additional sixty (60) days grace period at the end of the contract term due to any unforeseen delay in the procurement process and the County shall have the sole option to extend the Contract on a month to month basis under the same fees, rates, terms and conditions, unless this Contract is terminated pursuant to the provisions herein, whichever occurs first .

4. As a condition of this Contract, Company shall hold and maintain throughout the term of this Contract all licenses and permits required, or which may be required by any authority during the term hereof to provide the Services.

5. All trucks or vehicles operated by the Company to perform the Services shall contain all equipment required by any authority to operate on streets and roads and all

persons in the employ of Company who operate such trucks or vehicles shall have the required licenses, qualifications, skill and expertise to perform such Services and shall comply with all laws, rules and regulations prescribed by any agency or authority having jurisdiction with regard to the operation of such trucks or vehicles in providing the Services.

6. As consideration for rendering the Service provided for in this Contract, the County agrees to pay Company the amounts specified in Exhibit "B" attached hereto payable against written invoice submitted by Company.

7. Company shall provide insurance in force on all its vehicles and all persons connected with providing services under this Contract naming County as an additional insured (with the coverages and in the amounts described on Exhibit "C" attached hereto and incorporated herein at this point for all purposes), and shall furnish to County certificates of such insurance coverage.

8. Company shall provide a sufficient number of trucks, vehicles, personnel and equipment available to safely and efficiently provide the Services.

9. **INDEMNIFICATION: COMPANY SHALL INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS COUNTY, ITS ELECTED OFFICIALS, EMPLOYEES AND AGENTS FROM ANY AND ALL CLAIMS, DAMAGES, LOSSES, AND EXPENSES INCLUDING ATTORNEY'S FEES FOR THE DEFENSE OF ANY ACTION AGAINST COUNTY ARISING OUT OF, RESULTING FROM, OR CONNECTED WITH THE PROVISION OF THE SERVICE BY COMPANY UNDER**

THIS CONTRACT. SAID INDEMNITY SHALL COVER ANY ACT OR FAILURE TO ACT BY THE COMPANY, ITS AGENTS OR EMPLOYEES.

10. This Contract shall not be assignable in whole or in part by either party without prior written consent of the other party.

11. It is expressly agreed that this Contract and the performance by the parties hereunder does not create any agency relationship or master-servant relationship, that County has no supervision of the performance of the Services provided by Company, and that Company is an independent contractor under this Contract.

12. Any notice required or permitted to be given hereunder shall be in writing and shall be delivered personally or sent by certified mail, postage prepaid, as set forth below:

If to County:

**The County of Hidalgo
Attn: County Judge
100 E. Cano St., 2nd Floor
Edinburg, Texas 78539**

If to Company:

13. In case any one or more of the provisions contained in this Agreement shall for any reason be held to be invalid, illegal or unenforceable in any respect, such invalidity, illegality, or unenforceability shall not affect any other provision thereof and this Agreement shall be construed as if such invalid, illegal, or unenforceable provision had never been contained herein.

14. 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

RFB-DEAD BODY PICKUP AND TRANSPORT SERVICES

services ordered, or (c) terminated without cause by County with sixty (60) day's written notice prior to cancellation.

15. The contract may be terminated without cause upon sixty (60) days written notice by County.

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

17. This Agreement shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of Texas and shall be performable in Hidalgo County.

18. **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 ninety (90) days written notice to Company. County agrees, however, to use reasonable efforts to secure funds necessary for the continued performance of this Agreement. The parties intend this provision to be a continuing right to terminate this Agreement at the expiration of each budget period of Buyer pursuant to the provisions of Tex. Loc. Govt. Code Ann. 271.903 (Vernon Supp. 1996).

19. **Immunities:** Nothing in this Agreement is intended to and County does not hereby waive, release or relinquish any right to assert any of the defenses County enjoys by virtue of the stated or federal constitution, laws, rules or regulations, and any sovereign, official or qualified immunity available to County as to any claim or action of any person, entity, or individual against County.

WITNESS our hands in duplicate originals this _____ day of _____, 2015.

COUNTY OF HIDALGO

ATTEST:

By: _____
Ramon Garcia, County Judge

Arturo Guajardo Jr., County Clerk

COMPANY: _____

By: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
Hidalgo County Criminal District Attorney

By: _____
Josephine Ramirez Solis
Assistant District Attorney

APPROVED BY COMMISSIONES COURT: _____

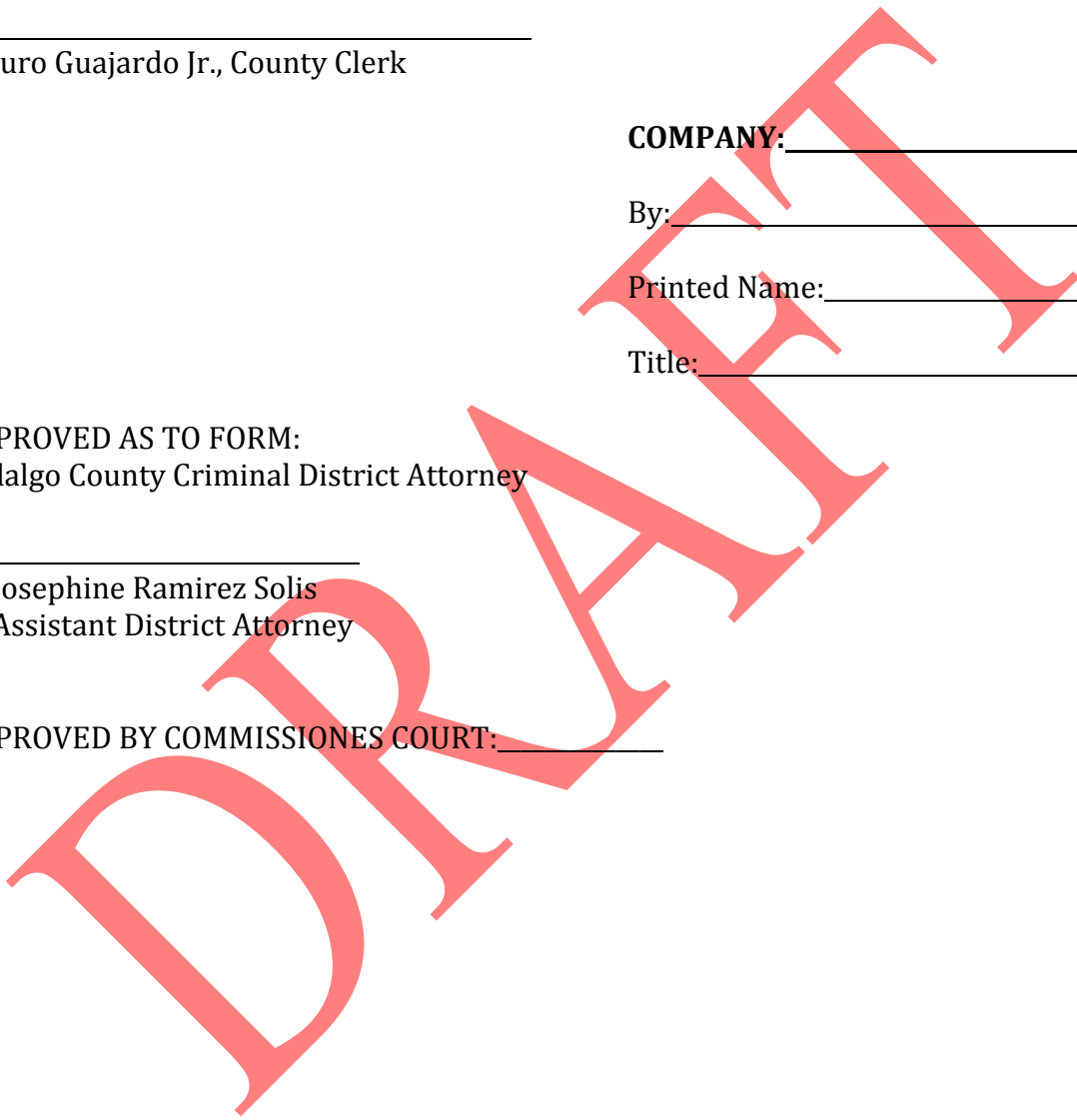


EXHIBIT "A"
REQUEST FOR BIDS (RFB)
PROCUREMENT PACKET

DRAFT

RFB-DEAD BODY PICKUP AND TRANSPORT SERVICES

EXHIBIT "B"
VENDOR'S BID

DRAFT

EXHIBIT "C"
INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS
INCLUDING BOND

DRAFT