



MEMORANDUM

SOLE SOURCE DECLARATION

TO: Hidalgo County Commissioner's Court

FROM: Ignacio Amezcua MBA, CTCM, CTCD *IA*

DATE: September 15, 2023

RE: Sole Source Declaration for LexisNexis

LexisNexis has been the pioneer of legal research by developing unique and innovative software services like Lexis, Lexis+, Nexis, Shepard's Citations, and State Net etc. Hidalgo County would benefit from partnering with LexisNexis by utilizing their unique patented services. The following provides an understanding regarding LexisNexis ability to deliver for Hidalgo County:

- a. Hidalgo County cannot competitively bid because Hidalgo County Department(s) have become accustomed to the user interface of the system, and having a change in systems each time we go out for bids will prevent efficiency for Hidalgo County Department(s).
 - i. Sometimes during trial an attorney has 10-15 minutes to locate case law. In the event that the vendor is changed it would take about 6 months to adjust to the new interface which would inhibit our ability to prosecute cases accurately.
- b. LexisNexis has a very accurate sherardization process that other similar services do not provide. This is important because our Hidalgo County Department(s) need to be able to provide reliable case citations while in court. We cannot be citing cases if it is no longer good law, reliance on the case is faulty.
- c. Other similar services do not give prior versions of law, and at Hidalgo County we prosecute crimes based on the setting of the crime.
- d. Case headnotes from LexisNexis contain language directly from court opinions rather than competitor's editorial interpretations.
- e. User interface for LexisNexis is much more user friendly. They use a computer assisted legal research interface that make large bodies of law easily available.
- f. LexisNexis offers a superior search engine than other similar databases. Their search engine uses word ties/connectors that populate 1000s of results that allow the attorney to uses more words to funnel results to the topic or law they are looking for as well as natural language search, not just one or the other but both.
- g. Lexis Answers provides Artificial Intelligence that interprets the searches and mines answers. When a user types a query AI is able to learn and understand the query offering suggestions to your research.
- h. LexisNexis offers patented services that other vendors do not provide.



- i. LexisNexis has unique features like Lexis+, a software that provides the most relevant data-driven insights for legal research, practical guidance, and brief analysis in a single workflow.
- j. LexisNexis can provide brief analysis to build strong arguments, find relevant material, and have the capability to compare two versions of a statute sections side-by-side to better understand law, legislations, and statutory changes over time.

In Accordance with the Texas Local Government Code Chapter 262.024 (a)(7)(A), (a)A contract for the purchase of any of the following items is exempt from the requirement established by section 262.023 if the commissioners court by order grants the exemption:
(7)Any item that can be obtained from only one source, including:
(A)Items for which competition is precluded because of the existence of patents, copyrights, secret processes, or monopolies;

Therefore, for the reason stated herein, we humbly request that the Hidalgo County Commissioners' Court declare a Sole Source Vendor, for the purpose of Subscription Agreement(s) with LexisNexis. This sole source declaration will remain in effect through the life term of the, unless otherwise revoked by the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court.