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MEMORANDUM SOLE SOURCE

TO: Hidalgo County Commissioner's Court

FROM: Ignacio Amezcua MBA, CTCM, CTCD

DATE: January 28th, 2025

RE: Sole Source Declaration for Skopenow, Inc. **"Enterprise Platform Software"**

DECLARATION

The Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office seeks to procure the purchase of Enterprise Platform Software from Skopenow Inc.,

Skopenow, Inc. is the sole exclusive open source collections product that integrates the ability to anonymously collect and analyze social media, physical data streams, and public records in a forensically sound method within a single solution. Skopenow, Inc. warrants that "no other items or products are available for purchase that would serve the same purpose or function." Skopenow, Inc. maintains that other "competitive products do not have adequate search algorithms or data systems in place for scalable operations." Skopenow is ISO27001 compliant, SOC2 certified, and supports 28 CFR 23.20 standards for legally obtaining information for inclusion in law enforcement investigative systems."

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 procuring the purchase with Skopenow, Inc. This sole source declaration will remain in effect through the life term of the contract, unless otherwise revoked by the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court.