

January 1, 2024

To Whom It May Concern,

This letter serves to notify you that Berla is the creator and sole provider of the iVe Toolkit and associated service/maintenance/support plans as well as training. No other organization or company is authorized to provide quotes or sell our products here in the United States, apart from Micro Systemation. Micro Systemation is a global company headquartered out of Sweden. MSAB and Berla have a strategic partner which is focused on sales outside of the United States, however MSAB can technically sell in the US. We do utilize foreign resellers in other countries, however they are limited to sales within their local region. Below we have provided information regarding the application.

iVe is a vehicle system forensic tool that acquires user data from infotainment, telematics and other vehicle systems and allows forensic examiners and investigators a means to quickly and intuitively analyze it. Vehicle Infotainment systems store a vast amount of user related data such as recent destinations, favorite locations, call logs, contact lists, SMS messages, emails, pictures, videos, and the navigation history of everywhere the vehicle has been.

Should you have any questions please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,



Ben LeMere  
CEO  
Berla Corporation  
Office: 443.333.9301  
Email: [ben@berla.co](mailto:ben@berla.co)  
Website:  
[www.berla.co](http://www.berla.co)



## MEMORANDUM SOLE SOURCE DECLARATION

TO: Hidalgo County Commissioner's Court

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

DATE: 12/4/2024

RE: Sole Source Declaration for Berla Corporation "iVe Toolkit, associated service, maintenance, support, training"

---

The Hidalgo County is seeking to procure the purchase of iVe Toolkit and associated service/maintenance/support plans and training from Berla Co. The iVe Toolkit provides investigators the ability to identify, acquire, and analyze vehicle data during the forensics process. By utilizing Berla's equipment and software, critical information can be collected to answer questions that will change the course of an investigation.

Furthermore, Berla Co. provides the following attributes to identify as a sole source:

- Berla is the creator and sole provider of the iVe Toolkit and associated service/maintenance/support plans and trainings.
- Berla and Micro Systemation are the only vendors authorized to sell in the United States.

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 Berla Corporation. This sole source declaration will remain in effect through the life term of the contract, unless otherwise revoked by the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court.



### Hidalgo County Purchasing Department Sole Source Affidavit

THIS IS AN OFFICIAL PURCHASING DOCUMENT – RETAIN WITH PURCHASE ORDER

Before me, the undersigned official, on this day, personally appeared Julie R Casalino a person known to me to be the person whose signature appears below, whom after being duly sworn upon his/her oath deposed and said:

1. My name is Julie R. Casalino. I am over the age of 18, have never been convicted of a crime, and am competent to make this affidavit.
2. I am an authorized representative of the following company or firm: Berla Corporation
3. The above-named company or firm is the sole source for the following item(s), product(s), or service(s):  
IVC Toolkit, IVC Training, IVC Renewal Plan
4. Competition in providing the above-named item(s), product(s), service(s) is precluded by the existence of a patent, copyright, secret process, or monopoly as stated under Section 262.024(a)(7)(A), of the Local Government Code. Also, attached hereto is a sole source letter, which sets forth the reasons why this Vendor is a sole source provider (dated and signed).
5. There is/are no other like item(s) or product(s) available for purchase that would serve the same purpose or function.
6. Note: This Vendor understands that by providing false information on this Sole Source Affidavit, it may be considered a non-responsible Vendor on this and future purchases and may result in discontinuations of any/all business with Hidalgo County.

Signature: Julie R Casalino

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED TO under oath before me on 3 day of December, 2024

Rosemarie Jones

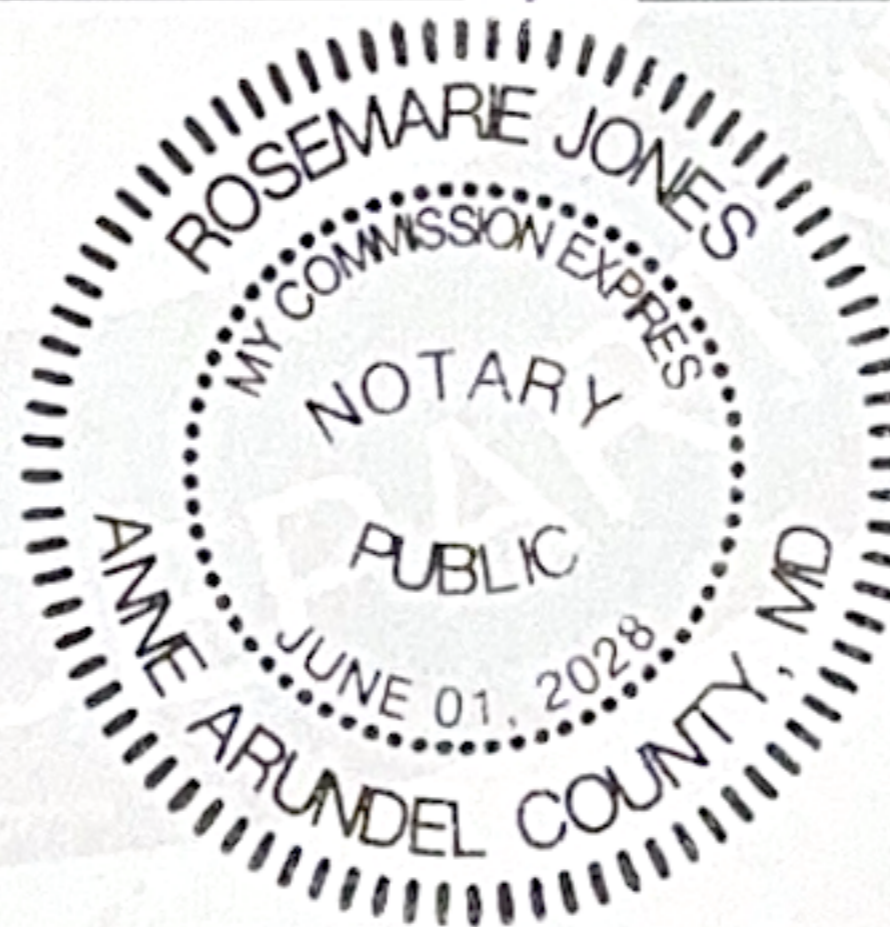
Notary Public

Rosemarie Jones

Printed Name

June 1, 2028

My Commission Expires



Company Name: Berla Corporation

Address, City, State & Zip Code: 445 Defense Highway Annapolis, MD

Phone Number: 443-333-9301 Fax: N/A

Contact Name and Title: Julie R Casalino WEB Address: www.berla.co Email: icasalino@berla.co

Federal Tax ID Number: 26-2381104 Texas Sales Tax Number: N/A