



MEMORANDUM SOLE SOURCE DECLARATION

TO: Hidalgo County Commissioner's Court

FROM: Ignacio Amezcua MBA, CTCM, CTCD IA

DATE: March 4, 2025

RE: Sole Source Declaration for "Thomson Reuters CLEAR"

The Hidalgo County is seeking to procure Thomson Reuters CLEAR from West Publishing-Thomson Reuters.

Thomson Reuters is the sole source publisher for these publications, and updated releases for these titles cannot be obtained from any other source.

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 West Publishing-Thomson Reuters. This sole source declaration will remain in effect through the life term of the contract, unless otherwise revoked by the Hidalgo County Commissioners Court.



THOMSON REUTERS

Kyle Keene
Government Account Executive

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4/4/19

Heidi Ortiz
Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office
711 El Cibolo Rd
Edinburg, TX 78541

RE: Sole Source Designation—Thomson Reuters CLEAR

Dear Ms. Ortiz,

Thomson Reuters CLEAR is a comprehensive, online investigative platform that allows investigators and analysts to easily access billions of public records, publicly available information, and proprietary data for investigation and due diligence. Through its easy-to-use, intuitive interface, CLEAR provides extensive and current data sources, functionality, and exclusive offerings that comprise the most comprehensive investigative database platform available. West Publishing Corporation, part of Thomson Reuters, is the manufacturer of CLEAR and the sole seller. No other online investigative research tool provides the following combination of data, features, and capabilities, as found on CLEAR.

Key Investigative Content—including CLEAR Exclusives

- **Real-Time Incarceration and Arrest (RTIA) Records**—Through this premium feature, CLEAR provides gateway access to this data source, which provides live access to more than 110 million incarceration and arrest records from more than 2,800 agencies nationwide, representing more than 85% of U.S. jail beds. The data is updated every hour to ensure that the most up-to-date information is available. Records often contain images of the subject as well as physical characteristic data to help investigators quickly identify and focus on the most relevant results. In CLEAR, the RTIA Gateway can be searched in conjunction with the standard criminal records resources to provide robust, comprehensive results in a single search. Law enforcement customers who include Real-Time Incarceration and Arrest Records in their subscriptions may access two related searches: Lineup (to create photo lineups from characteristics chosen by the user) and Bookings (to search for recent bookings or currently incarcerated offenders at a selected facility).
- **Photo Images on Criminal Records**—CLEAR provides photo images on arrest and criminal records. When available from the sources, these images will be displayed on arrest records, sex offender records, and selected Department of Correction records.
- **Cell Phone Data**— CLEAR's phone data is the most comprehensive, current, and accurate data in the industry. No service other than CLEAR offers gateway access to real-time, nationwide phone data. Through this real-time gateway, CLEAR provides comprehensive phone data, including

detailed carrier contact information, for cell phones, landlines, and VoIP. Additionally, the Phone Records data set provides access to hundreds of millions of phone records, including more than 200 million cell phone numbers, as well as landlines and VoIP numbers.

- **Utility Data**— For people who are not easily traceable via traditional sources such as credit header, locator information from utility hookup records may provide the only current and accurate address and phone number data available, and CLEAR offers the most comprehensive utility locator information on the market. CLEAR’s utility data is updated daily and provides more than 30 million utility data records (e.g., names, addresses, service information) from more than 80 national and regional electric, cable, gas, and telephone companies.
- **Credit Reporting Bureaus**—CLEAR provides government investigators and analysts with information originating from all three major credit reporting bureaus, including real-time header information from Experian and TransUnion in CLEAR’s comprehensive reports, and utility data from Equifax. This results in reports that provide more current address information. Other critical address information provided by credit reporting bureaus includes the high-risk address alert, which identifies addresses that may be associated with a propensity for fraud.
- **Real-Time Vehicle Registration Data**—CLEAR offers real-time gateway access to vehicle registration data for 45 jurisdictions, providing up-to-date information on vehicles and their registered owners.
- **Global Business Data**—CLEAR provides comprehensive data on business entities, including small and privately held companies as well as corporations. Business data sources also include Worldbase, a global offering of more than 200 million companies. This content includes both U.S. company information and international company information from 220 countries.

Advanced Features and Capabilities—including CLEAR Exclusives

- **Alerts**—With CLEAR Alerts, users can automatically monitor the status of a selected attribute or subject, at a chosen time interval (e.g., daily, weekly, etc.). When either new information is added or information changes on the selected attribute or subject, CLEAR sends a notification to the user about the updated information.
- **Web Analytics**—Web Analytics is a dashboard tool that provides search access to social networking sites, blogs, watch lists, and other Web sources.
- **Associate Analytics**—This dashboard tool in CLEAR allows users to quickly scan multiple levels of the subject’s associates and assess potential negative affiliations.
- **Graphical Display**—Graphical Display is a dashboard tool providing visualization of connections between people and businesses.
- **Negative News**—This dashboard tool provides access to news items relating to a subject, with ability to focus on negative news and sentiments about the subject.
- **Quick Analysis Flags**—Provides a checklist of data sets that can be potential red flags for a person or business, in order to help determine where to focus investigative efforts.
- **Map Analytics**—This dashboard tool plots a subject’s address on a map and allows a view of surrounding businesses by type, including medical facility, attorney’s office, or automotive mechanic shop. Users may also view details of businesses on the map.
- **Customizable Dashboard**—CLEAR’s dashboard view allows users to get an immediate overview of a person or business and to quickly get a sense of potential risks associated with the subject. Users can customize the dashboard to ensure a focus on data that’s most relevant to them.
- **Vital Statistics**—CLEAR results include this feature, which provides a convenient summary of the key attributes and information from multiple sources for a subject.

- **Linked Searching**—CLEAR offers the ability to search from within search results, making it fast and convenient to dive deeper into returned data. Linked searches include: address, business name, driver's license number, email address, person name, phone number, and Social Security number.
- **Entity Resolution**—CLEAR uses entity resolved database (ERD) technology to efficiently find all available public records pertaining to a subject. CLEAR's ERD technology uses multiple data elements and identifiers to match records and can overcome partial and incomplete data, misspellings, etc. CLEAR's ERD technology ensures that users obtain the full complement of available data on a subject.
- **Relevance Scores**—As results are returned in CLEAR, the most relevant records appear at the top of the result list.
- **Data Source Transparency**— In CLEAR, sources and their corresponding "reported dates" are provided with search results to provide maximum transparency to the user. The reported dates shown on records indicate the dates of the transaction or activity associated with the record at the source. In contrast, many providers of investigative database services list the date that the information was most recently updated in their database, and not when it was updated at the source. CLEAR shows the actual date of update in the source data. Additional source details, such as detailed coverage information and update frequencies, are provided in CLEAR's Online Help, so that users can be assured of the credibility, reliability, and currentness of the data.
- **User Preferences**—CLEAR's Preferences account tool allows users to create preferences for conducting linked searches, permissible uses, user profile, display order of dashboard modules, and regarding data included in the Quick Analysis Flags and Associate Analytics modules.
- **Customized Reporting**—In CLEAR, customers have several customizing options available and can create report templates by setting report preferences, identifying the sections to include, and setting the sequence in which sections are displayed.
- **Workspace**—The Workspace feature allows customers to save selected results and report data indefinitely and provides the ability to generate link-chart and map views of the data. Visualizing information on multiple subjects in a link-chart view makes it easier for investigators to discern possible connections or associations between subjects/entities.
- **CLEAR Mobile Access**—CLEAR users can access critical data on their smart phones and other mobile devices. CLEAR Mobile does not restrict data returns, so users have access to the same results information that they would on their computers, including Vital Statistics in search results and comprehensive reports. CLEAR automatically detects a user's mobile device type and seamlessly logs in the user to a streamlined, mobile version.
- **Compatibility with Analytical Programs**—For investigators who need to conduct more powerful analysis on CLEAR results, CLEAR data can be readily integrated with i2 Analyst's Notebook and Palantir. Additionally, CLEAR link charts can be easily dragged and dropped or exported into i2 Analyst's Notebook.
- **Google Maps Compatibility**—CLEAR provides mapping of address data, powered by Google Maps, in several areas, including the Address Map and Map Analytics modules, Workspace, and in Search Results, by selecting the map icon located beside the address.

I would be happy to further discuss with you the exclusive features, services, and content available for CLEAR. If you have any questions concerning this document or require additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Kyle Keene

Government CLEAR Specialist

Thomson Reuters

the answer company

Phone: 612-221-5155

Fax: 651-848-6902

kyle.keene@thomsonreuters.com




Hidalgo County Purchasing Department Sole Source Affidavit

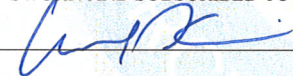
THIS IS AN OFFICIAL PURCHASING DOCUMENT – RETAIN WITH PURCHASE ORDER

Before me, the undersigned official, on this day, personally appeared John S. Nelson 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 John S. Nelson. 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: West Publishing Corporation
3. The above-named company or firm is the sole source for the following item(s), product(s), or service(s):
Please see Order ID: Q-09362554
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.

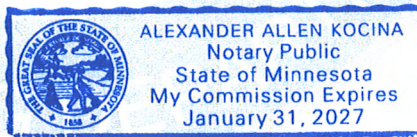
Signature: 

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED TO under oath before me on 10th day of February, 2025


Notary Public

Alex Kocina
Printed Name
1/31/2027

My Commission Expires



Company Name: West Publishing Corporation

Address, City, State & Zip Code: 2900 Ames Crossing Road, Suite 100, Eagan, MN 55121

Phone Number: 800-328-4880 Fax: _____

Contact Name and Title: John S. Nelson
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Federal Tax ID Number: 41-1426973 Texas Sales Tax Number: 14114269732