GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES

DGS

Contracts and Procurement Division

DETERMINATION AND FINDINGS
FOR A
SINGLE AVAILABLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT

CAPTION:	**Foster and Freeman DCS4 Fingerprint Recording, Development and Examination System**
PROPOSED CONTRACTOR:	**Foster and Freeman**
PROGRAM AGENCY:	**Department of Forensic Sciences**
AUTHORIZATION:	D.C. Official Code §2-354.04, 27 DCMR 4718

1. **MINIMUM NEED:**

The Department of Forensic Sciences – Crime Scene Investigation Division needs a Foster and Freeman DCS4 Fingerprint Recording, Development and Examination System.

2. **ESTIMATED REASONABLE PRICE:**

The estimated reasonable cost for the portable screens is $71,669.29

3. **FACTS WHICH JUSTIFY SINGLE AVAILABLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT:**

See Attached justification dated 2/1/2013 from Max M. Houck, Director for the Forensic Science Laboratory, Public Health Laboratory and Crime Scene Sciences for the District of Columbia for the facts which justify the single source procurement.

4. **CERTIFICATION BY CONTRACT SPECIALIST:**

I hereby certify that the above findings are true, correct and complete.

_____
Date

_____
Kimberly Gray
Contract Specialist

DETERMINATION

Based on the above findings and in accordance with the cited authority, I hereby determine that it is not feasible or practical to invoke the competitive solicitation process under either Section 402 or 403 of the District of Columbia Procurement Practices Reform Act of 2010 (D.C. Law 18-371; D.C. Official Code § 2-354.02 or 2-354.03). Accordingly, I determine that the District is justified in using the sole source available source method of procurement.

_____
Date

_____
JW Lanum
Associate Director

DEPARTMENT OF FORENSIC SCIENCES
CONSOLIDATED FORENSIC LABORATORY
401 E STREET SW WASHINGTON, DC 20024

Single Source Request for Foster and Freeman DCS4 Fingerprint Recording, Development and Examination System

The Crime Scene Investigation Division has been searching for a new operating base from which to develop latent prints from items of evidence. This unit went from analog photography to digital photography full time in 2003. The expense of the cameras and the film became too prohibitive for this unit. Digital photography also allows the end user to view developed prints in several different mediums. The advantage to this is the ability to create usable prints for the purpose of identification quicker and more accurately. We have researched several outside agencies to include our Federal brethren. We discovered that the Foster and Freeman DCS4 was not only the easiest to employ, capture, disseminate and preserve evidence but also one of the cheapest. We originally looked at another product but found it would not fit our needs. We currently possess three fuming cabinets which is the first stage of the development of latent prints in a chemical laboratory. The fuming chambers are all made and currently serviced by Foster and Freeman covered under a BPA (service contract) held by this unit. One other attractive feature with Foster and Freeman is they are locally based in Virginia and service has never been an issue when machines fail.

There are some very specific features with the DCS4 that attracted our attention, one being the ease at which an operator can switch nanometers (wavelength of light). Also a very important feature was the through view so the operator can see how the photograph will appear as it is projected on a monitor. The size of the digital information storage internal to the CPU was sufficient enough for this unit and the software is compatible with the purchase of the Digital Information Management System that will be in place soon. The need to store, print and record latents will be a thing of the past using this digital medium, all designed to save the unit money. This DCS4 will also allow the user to make latent fingerprints more pleasing to the human eye with additional development software provided by the manufacturer and included in this purchase. As a Unit, we have several types of digital cameras which will work in conjunction with this system offering several different perspectives and preservation resolution.

There were at least two other manufacturers we looked at closely, but both integrated facial recognition features as well as other types of forensic exams. This unit is in need of a standalone fingerprint enhancement system, with plug in features like automatic calibration and a bio-chromatic filter for elimination of background noise. Only the Foster and Freeman DCS4 can deliver what specifics this unit needs.

Max M. Houck
Director

2/1/2013
Date