

**DETERMINATION AND FINDINGS  
FOR A  
SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT**

**CONTRACT NO:** RQ859449

**CAPTION:** FA0 FY14 ASU Chopper Spotter

**PROPOSED CONTRACTOR:** J.B. Knowles Inc.

**PROGRAM AGENCY:** Metropolitan Police Department

**FINDINGS**

**1. AUTHORIZATION:**

D.C. Official Code §2-354.04, 27 DCMR 1304, 1700 and 1701

**2. MINIMUM NEED:**

The Metropolitan Police Department's (MPD) Air Support Unit (ASU) currently has a Chopper Spotter that is twelve (12) years old and in need of replacement. MPD's ASU requires a Chopper Spotter Model 4 with an 11,000 lb capacity to move its Eurocopter AS350 helicopters.

**3. ESTIMATED REASONABLE PRICE:**

The estimated price is \$14,225.00. The anticipated cost to the District will be fair and reasonable.

**4. FACTS WHICH JUSTIFY SOLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT:**

J.B. Knowles is the sole manufacturer and distributor of the Chopper Spotter in the United States.

The Chopper Spotter is a unique machine designed to handle helicopters on pavement. It rolls under the helicopter and attaches to the wheel attachment points. The helicopter balances just as if it were on its regular wheels. This critical piece of equipment is needed to move the MPD ASU helicopters in and out of the hanger.

MPD conducted a market survey and concluded that of the three Eurocopter AS350 compatible, powered helicopter tow carts found (Chopper Spotter Model 4 manufactured by J.B. Knowles, Inc, Heli-Carrier Model V1040 manufactured by Helitowcart, and TigerTugs Model 8.0 manufactured by Tiger Tugs) only the Chopper Spotter Model 4 has the desired 11,000 lb load capacity.

**5. CERTIFICATION BY AGENCY HEAD:**

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief, Metropolitan Police Department

**6. CERTIFICATION BY CONTRACTING OFFICER:**

I have reviewed the above findings and certify that they are sufficient to justify the use of the sole source method of procurement under the cited authority. I certify that the notice of intent to award a sole source contract was published in accordance with 27 DCMR 1304 and that no response was received. I recommend that the Chief Procurement Officer approve the use of the sole source procurement method for this proposed contract.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
James Roberts  
Contracting Officer

**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 method of procurement.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
James D. Staton, Jr.  
Chief Procurement Officer