

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS



PROPOSAL TITLE: **LEGAL SERVICES: COUNTY ATTORNEY**

PROPOSAL NUMBER: **RFP #25-0124**

PROPOSAL DUE DATE: **FRIDAY, JANUARY 24, 2025**

PROPOSAL DUE TIME: **3:00 P.M.**

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I. PUBLIC NOTICE

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
RFP #25-0124
LEGAL SERVICES: COUNTY ATTORNEY

The Clarke County Purchasing Office, on behalf of the Clarke County Government, is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from individual attorneys or legal firms having an interest in providing legal services for the Clarke County Government.

Sealed proposals should be clearly marked, "RFP 24-0124 Legal Services: County Attorney."
Proposals must be received in at least one of the two ways below:

- By delivering the sealed proposal in the Clarke County Purchasing Office before 3:00:00 p.m. (local prevailing time), Friday, January 24, 2025.
- By posting electronically on eVA before the deadline of 3:00:00 p.m. on Friday, January 24, 2025.

Proposals received after the due date of 3:00:00 p.m. on Friday, January 24, 2025 will not be accepted.

Proposal documents are available at Clarke County Purchasing Office, 129 Ramsburg Lane, Berryville, VA 22611, 540-955-5148, by email at purchasing@clarkecounty.gov, or on-line at www.clarkecounty.gov and clicking on business and procurement notifications.

Each vendor must be an Equal Opportunity Employer as defined by Federal and State Law.

Clarke County reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, to waive informalities, and to negotiate with the successful offeror(s).

Brenda Bennett
Director of Joint Administrative Services

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CLARKE COUNTY, VA
RFP #25-0124**

II. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- A. The intent of this “Request for Proposals” (hereinafter known as “this document” and the resulting contract is to obtain the services of a qualified firm or individual (hereinafter known as “Vendor”) to provide legal services needed to represent Clarke County as its County Attorney.
- B. Clarke County, Virginia, is a rural jurisdiction located in the Northern Shenandoah Valley adjacent to Warren, Frederick, Loudoun, and Fauquier Counties in Virginia, the City of Winchester, and Jefferson County in West Virginia. Clarke County has approximately 15,266 residents. Clarke County has approximately 114,103 acres.
- C. The County is governed by a five-member Board of Supervisors, each elected every four years. The County Attorney, appointed by the Board of Supervisors, represents the County in legal matters.
- D. For Fiscal Year 2025, the County is operating with a total budget of approximately \$56 million and provides a full range of services to County residents.
- E. Clarke County through its staff, appointed departments/authorities, and Constitutional Officers provides a variety of services including, but not limited to: zoning and coding enforcement, parks and recreation, judicial services, law enforcement, fire and rescue, water/sewer utilities, solid waste disposal, revenue assessment and collections, elections, economic development, and general government administration.
- F. Note that Clarke County Public Schools, Clarke County Sanitary Authority, and other Clarke County Departments may need legal services during the term of the contract and reserve the right to ride the County’s contract, if needed.
- G. The award(s) shall be based on the bidder(s)' ability to meet all RFP requirements. The selected vendor will be deemed a responsible and responsive vendor by the County.
- H. The provisions set forth herein are for contractual goods/services rendered to Clarke County, Virginia, hereinafter to be inclusive of but not limited to Clarke County Joint Administrative Services, General Government, Sanitary Authority, and School Board, and referred to as Clarke County. All offerors are bound by these provisions. Further, these conditions and requirements become part of any contract awarded between Clarke County and the successful vendor(s).

- I. All work performed under this contract shall be performed in accordance with all provisions of these specifications or plans and must be approved in writing by Clarke County or an authorized representative.
- J. Any contract resulting from this solicitation shall be governed in any respects by the laws of Virginia, and any litigation with respect thereto shall be brought in the courts of the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Contract shall comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations.

III. PROPOSAL INQUIRES AND CORRESPONDENCE

- A. All questions should be done in writing via email (purchasing@clarkecounty.gov) to Mr. Mike Legge, Purchasing Manager. Please put “RFP 25-0124” in the subject line.
- B. Questions will either be answered directly by an email or through an addendum. Please have all questions submitted by noon on Thursday, January 16, 2025, so questions can be answered in a timely manner before the proposal due date.
- C. Note that Chris Boies, Clarke County Administrator, will oversee the contract and will be the selected vendor’s main point of contact during the duration of the contract.

D. Proposal Due Date

Sealed proposals should be clearly marked, "RFP 25-0124 Legal Services: County Attorney." Proposals must be received in at least one of the two ways below:

- By delivering the sealed proposal in the Clarke County Purchasing Office before 3:00:00 p.m. (local prevailing time), Friday, January 24, 2025.
- By posting electronically on eVA before the deadline of 3:00:00 p.m. on Friday, January 24, 2025.

Proposals received after this time will not be opened. The County is not responsible for any technological issues in submitting a proposal electronically.

E. Timeframe

The following is an estimated time frame for the completion of this project:

RFP ADVERTISED	December 27, 2024
PROPOSALS DUE	Before 3:00 pm on Friday, January 24, 2025
INTERVIEWS	Interviews with selected individuals/firms will likely be held the week of February 10-14.
PROPOSAL AWARD	End of February 2025.
PROJECT TIME FRAME	The term of the contract will be negotiated with the selected offeror. The County and the selected vendor may choose to continue to renew the contract if both parties agree to the terms and conditions.

Please note that the above dates are simply estimated time frames; Clarke County reserves the right to change dates as deemed necessary in the best interest of its constituents.

F. Addenda

1. Addenda may occur prior to proposal opening. It is the vendor's responsibility to check the website (www.clarkecounty.gov) listing frequently to ensure that all solicitation information is complete and accurate. Upon award, this document in its entirety including any forms and addenda shall be referred to as the contract.
2. The County will attempt to notify all vendors that are known to have a complete set of Proposal Documents; however, it is ultimately the responsibility of each company to check the County website (www.clarkecounty.gov, business, and current solicitations) for addendums.
3. Copies of Addenda will be made available for inspection wherever Proposal Documents are on file for that purpose.
4. No Addenda will be issued later than two (2) days prior to the date of receipt for Proposals except:
 - a. any Addendum withdrawing the Request for Proposals
 - b. any Addendum that includes postponement of the date of receipt for Proposals.
5. Each Vendor should ascertain before submitting a Proposal how many Addenda, if any, were issued.
6. Each Vendor should certify on the Response Form the number of additional addenda received.

G. Inclement weather: In the event that the Clarke County Purchasing Office is closed during the scheduled times for a pre-bid (pre-proposal) conference or bid/proposal opening; the pre-bid (pre-proposal) conference or bid/proposal opening will occur on the next business day that Clarke County Public School Administrative Offices are open at the appropriate times as stated in the IFB/RFP. Please check the County website, www.clarkecounty.gov, under business, and current solicitations for updates regarding any changes in meeting times and/or due dates.

H. Notice of Award

All Notices of Award and Notices of Intent to Award will be posted on the County website, www.clarkecounty.gov, under business, and procurement notifications. Once the award is made, the proposals are open to public viewing, except for those sections marked confidential or proprietary, if applicable.

I. Use of Subcontractors

1. Vendor should supply a list of all Subcontractors and Subcontractors(s)' references, to Clarke County within the proposal packet.
2. Clarke County reserves the right to reject the Vendor's selection of Subcontractors.

IV. SPECIAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

A. Bid Bonds will not be required for this project.

B. Payment and Performance Bonds will not be required for this project.

C. Insurance Requirements

1. A Certificate of Insurance will be required from the **selected** vendor; please refer to General Terms and Conditions for complete instructions. Please include a sample of your Certificate of Insurance with your proposal. All vendors shall include the cost of insurance in their proposal pricing.
2. Worker's Compensation Coverage is required for employers of three or more employees, to include the employer. Contractors who fail to notify the County of increases in the number of employees and subcontractors that change their workers' compensation requirements under the Code of Virginia during the course of the contract shall be in noncompliance with the contract.

Vendors (employers of three or more employees) shall include the cost of worker's compensation insurance in their proposal pricing. The selected vendor (if employer of three or more employees) must provide evidence of Worker's Compensation Insurance coverage before starting any work. All vendors are solely responsible for insuring their workers and themselves when doing work for the County.

A vendor (employers of three or more employees) without Worker's Compensation insurance can submit a proposal; however, the selected vendor must purchase and show evidence of the Worker's Compensation to the County before receiving the contract or starting any work.

Employers with less than three employees are not required to have Worker's Compensation Coverage. Employers with less than three employees that do not have Worker's Compensation Coverage agree that by submitting a proposal that they are independent contractors and that the vendor and its employees are not employed by the County and are not covered by the County's worker's compensation coverage program.

3. The selected vendor must have professional liability (errors and omissions) coverage of at least \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$5,000,000 aggregate.
4. Be sure to instruct your insurance carrier as to how the Certificate of Insurance is to be worded.
5. Vendor shall be responsible for requiring any subcontractors to have the required amount and types of insurance stated in this RFP.
6. If you have any questions regarding these limits, please contact the Clarke County Purchasing Office for clarification and discussion.
7. Note that the selected vendor shall furnish the County with all certificates of insurance, endorsements, declaration pages, and policies affecting coverage. The selected vendor must provide an endorsement letter that verifies that Clarke County, its officers, officials, employees, volunteers and agents (as their interest may appear)” are additionally insured.
8. The County shall not be responsible for any injury (including death) of any vendor or subcontractor that is conducting any work related to this procurement and the contract awarded in response to this procurement.

D. Codes, Permits, Fees, Licenses and Notices

1. It is the responsibility of the Vendor to maintain all required licensing and training for his/her employees to provide the services as stated in this RFP, if applicable. Costs for these items shall be the responsibility of the Vendor and shall be included in the proposal price(s).
2. The Vendor shall supply copies of all licenses to Clarke County, upon request.
3. The Vendor shall give all notices and comply with all laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, and lawful orders of any public authority bearing on the performance of the Work.
4. **Vendors submitting a proposal are not required to have a Clarke County Business License.** However, the **selected** vendor(s) may be required to have a Clarke County Business License before starting work. Please contact the Clarke County Commissioner of the Revenue (540-955-5187) for more information about business licenses. Costs for the business license will be the responsibility of the selected vendor.

V. SUBMITTALS

- A. Offerors are to make written proposals that present the Offeror's qualifications and understanding of the work to be performed. **Please provide a total of six copies of your proposal.** If submitting electronically, please try to submit in a single pdf file.
- B. **Offerors should address each of the specific evaluation criteria listed below, in the following order.**
1. Statement of Interest in providing the required services. Please include the location and normal operating hours of the offeror's office(s).
 2. Statement of Qualifications and resources of the individual/firm, including governmental experience to include description of areas of expertise or relevant experience that may benefit the County.
 3. Resume of the prospective attorney(s) that would be conducting legal services for the County, if awarded the contract.
 4. Describe litigation experience involving the representation of local governments or political subdivisions of the Commonwealth of Virginia within local, state, and federal courts.
 5. Other factors or information to be important to the County in consideration of the proposal.
 6. A minimum of three (3) references in which similar legal contracts or services have been provided within the past five years.
 7. The proposed method of billing (e.g. hourly, retainer, task oriented). Note that the County prefers an hourly contract.
 8. A listing of any potential conflicts the individual or firm may have with other clients, now or in the future, and if there are any, how they intend to deal with them.
- C. While the County Attorney is expected to perform the primary legal service functions for the County, the County, although rarely done, may hire specialized legal counsel for representation in various matters considered outside the normal scope of work.
- D. For a responding attorney or firm to be considered a qualified applicant to this RFP, no attorney in the practice or firm shall have had his/her license practice law revoked, suspended, or voluntarily surrendered to or by the Virginia State Bar.

VI. SELECTION AND EVALUATION PROCESS

- A. This RFP does not commit the Clarke County Board of Supervisors to enter into any agreement or to pay any cost incurred in the preparation or submittal of a proposal or in any subsequent negotiations. Acceptance of a proposal by the County is not a notice to proceed.
- B. Evaluation criteria include the following:
- Current license to practice law in the Commonwealth of Virginia
 - Experience working with local government entities
 - Experience representing boards, authorities, and/or committees
 - Experience in employment law
 - Experience in applying and interpreting Virginia Code
 - Experience responding to legal inquiries on behalf of and by local government officials
 - Experience in preparing, proposing, and advising on legislation and legal matters
 - Level of availability in order to meet the needs of the County
 - Conflicts of interest
 - References
 - Qualifications
 - Overall Strength of Proposal
- C. From the review of the proposals, the County may invite several firms to be interviewed prior to making its final decision. If the County desires to interview a firm, that firm will be contacted and a date and time will be selected that is agreeable to both parties. Note that during the interview state, the County may discuss non-binding pricing information with the vendor. Information gained during the interview may be used in the evaluation process.
- D. At final selection, the selected vendor will negotiate with the County on fee and contraction conditions. If, in the sole opinion of the County, an agreement cannot be achieved with the first choice, negotiations will proceed with the second or subsequent choice until a mutually agreed upon contract can be established.
- E. The selected vendor must be deemed to be a responsive and responsible vendor by the County.
- F. If a contract is awarded, the selected vendor will be hired as an independent contractor and thus, agrees and understands that they, the vendor and its employees, are not employed by the County of the Clarke.

VII. SCOPE OF SERVICES

A. The successful vendor will work directly with the Clarke County Board of Supervisors and the County Administrator and will generally provide the following services on an as needed basis:

- Provide timely and relevant legal counsel to the Board of Supervisors, County Administrator, County Constitutional Officers, Industrial Development Authority, Sanitary Authority, and various committees and commissions appointed by the Board of Supervisors.
- Attend and participate in regular and closed session meetings of the Board of Supervisors on **an as-needed basis** (averaging several times a year for the past five years). Attend and participate in regular and closed sessions of other boards and committees on an as-needed basis (average once every two years).
- Work with the Board of Supervisors and County Administrator in the interpretation, implementation, and adherence to all applicable statutes, regulations, and ordinances to ensure compliance.
- Provide interpretations of codes, ordinances, statutes, regulations, and legal and legislative proceedings, and furnish written opinions of law when requested.
- Advise the County of any changes in federal or state law, including court decisions, which may impact the operation of the County government.
- Prepare or review ordinances, deeds, contracts, agreements, leases, franchises, releases, legal advertisements/notices, and other legal documents on behalf of the County.
- Assists in personnel matters, including policy development, training, and interpretation; participate in grievance procedures when appropriate.
- Assists staff in the administration and compliance with public procurement and public financing.
- Advise and assist in the negotiation of contracts, leases, bonds, and bids.
- Represent Zoning Administrator before Board of Zoning Appeals for appeals cases.
- Prosecutes violations of County ordinances and participates in legal proceedings necessary to protect the interests of the County.
- Manages any potential, threatened, or actual litigation, representing the County as counsel or engaging and coordinating with outside counsel when appropriate.

- Defends County employees in actions brought against them for conduct while in the line of duty.
- As requested, provides training to County staff, Board of Supervisors, and other appointed bodies on topics such as the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), Conflict of Interest Act, and Records Retention Act. Assists with responses to FOIA requests, subpoenas, and court orders.

REST OF PAGE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

Attachment A – Proposal Response Form

This form should be completed and returned as part of your proposal packet.

1. NAME AND ADDRESS OF FIRM/BIDDER

SIGNATURE		
BY (print name)		
TITLE	DATE	
COMPANY NAME		
STREET ADDRESS		
CITY, STATE, ZIP		
TELEPHONE	FAX	E-MAIL

SOCIAL SECURITY OR FEDERAL TAX I.D. #		
CLARKE COUNTY BUSINESS LICENSE #		
VIRGINIA CONTRACTOR'S LICENSE #	EXPIRATION DATE	CLASS
NAME OF INSURANCE CARRIER, BROKER OR AGENCY		

2. RECEIPT OF CORRESPONDENCE

The undersigned acknowledges receipt and inclusion of the following into the proposal: (If none, write "NONE".)

- A. Addendum No. _____ Dated: _____
- B. Addendum No. _____ Dated: _____
- C. Addendum No. _____ Dated: _____

3. PROPOSAL PRESENTATION

The Offeror, if awarded a Contract, agrees to commence the work on the date(s) specified in the Notice(s) to Proceed; to carry the work forward expeditiously with adequate forces; and subject to authorized adjustments, to achieve completion in accordance with the dates or periods of performance set forth in the Contract Documents.

4. OFFEROR'S ORGANIZATION (strike out all conditions that do not apply)

- A. An individual or sole proprietorship
- B. A partnership
- C. A joint venture
- D. A corporation organized under the laws of the State of _____

5. SIGNATURE

Signed this _____ day of _____, 20_____

OFFEROR - SIGNATURE: _____

NAME: _____

TITLE: _____

END OF PROPOSAL RESPONSE FORM



ATTACHMENT B: SCC FORM
CLARKE COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF JOINT ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
PURCHASING DEPARTMENT
129 Ramsburg Lane Berryville, VA 22611
Phone (540) 955-5185 Fax (540) 955-0456

Compliance with Virginia Law for Transacting Business in Virginia.

The undersigned hereby agrees, if this Bid/Proposal is accepted by Clarke County, for such services and/or items that the undersigned has met the requirements of the Virginia Code Section 2.2-4311.2

Please complete the following by checking the appropriate line that applies and providing the requested information:

A. _____ Bidder/offeror is a Virginia business entity organized and authorized to transact business in Virginia by the SCC and such bidder's/offeror's Identification Number issued to it by the SCC is _____.

B. _____ Bidder/offer is an out-of-state (foreign) business entity that is authorized to transact business in Virginia by the SCC and such bidder's/offeror's Identification Number issued to it by the SCC is _____.

C. _____ Bidder/offeror does not have an Identification Number issued to it by the SCC and such bidder/offeror is not required to be authorized to transact business in Virginia by the SCC for the following reason(s):

Please attach additional sheets of paper if you need to explain why such bidder/offeror is not required to be authorized to transact business in Virginia.

Legal Name of Company (as listed on W-9)

Legal Name of Bidder/Offeror

Date

Authorized Signature

Print or Type Name and Title

ATTACHMENT C:
COUNTY OF CLARKE GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

These General Terms and Conditions are required for all sealed and unsealed written solicitations issued by the County of Clarke. The County of Clarke includes the Clarke County Board of Supervisors and General Government, the Clarke County School Board and School System, and all other agencies, boards, and commissions under the fiscal direction of the Clarke County Board of Supervisors.

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A. **COMPETITION INTENDED:** It is Clarke County's intent that this document permits competition. It shall be the prospective bidder's responsibility to advise the Director of Joint Administrative Services in writing if any language requirements, specifications, etc., or any combinations thereof, inadvertently restrict or limit the requirements stated in this document to a single source. The Director of Joint Administrative Services must receive such notification not later than ten (10) calendar days prior to the date set for the bids to close.

B. **INQUIRIES:** If any prospective bidder has questions about the specifications or other solicitation documents, the prospective bidder shall contact the Director of Joint Administrative Services, no later than seven (7) days before the due date.

Any changes after the bid is advertised will be official only when submitted in writing and signed by the Director of Joint Administrative Services.

Any and all changes will be made by addendum and sent to all recorded holders of the bid documents.

All addenda issued will become part of the bid.

For a list of specific persons available to discuss this bid, see Points of Contact.

- C. **INCONSISTENCY IN PROVISIONS:** In the event there are inconsistencies between the General Terms and Conditions and any other schedules contained herein, the first shall govern.
- D. **COOPERATIVE PURCHASING:** It is the desire of Clarke County that all other jurisdictions be allowed to “ride the bid” and enter in to a contract with any successful Contractor chosen by Clarke County, based on mutual agreement between successful Contractor(s) and other jurisdiction(s).

If this bid is used as a cooperative IFB issued by Clarke County, the following would apply:

1. Clarke County is acting as the “Contracting Agent” for the jurisdictions concerned and shall not be held liable for any costs, damages, etc., incurred by any other jurisdiction.
2. Each jurisdiction will execute its own purchase orders with the Contractor(s) and be invoiced accordingly, in accordance with each jurisdiction’s purchasing policy and procedures.
3. For copies of other jurisdictions’ terms and conditions, Contractor must contact them.

- E. **ETHICS IN PUBLIC CONTRACTING:** The provisions contained in Article 6 of the Virginia Public Procurement Act (VPPA) as set forth in the 1950 Code of Virginia, as amended, shall be applicable to all contracts solicited or entered in to by Clarke County. A copy of these provisions may be obtained from the Director of Joint Administrative Service upon request.

By submitting their bids, all bidders certify that their bids are made without collusion or fraud and that they have not offered or received any kickbacks or inducements from any other bidder, supplier, manufacturer or Subcontractor in connection with their bid, and that they have not conferred to any public employee having official responsibility for this procurement transaction any payment, loan, subscription, advance, deposit of money, services or anything of more than nominal value, present or promised, unless consideration of substantially equal or greater value was exchanged.

The provisions referenced above supplement, but do not supersede, other provisions of law including, but not limited to, the Virginia Conflict of Interest Act (§2.2-3100 et. Seq.). The provisions apply notwithstanding the fact that the conduct described may not constitute a violation of the Virginia Conflict of Interests Act. To the extent that violations of the ethical standards of conduct constitute violations of the Code of Virginia, they shall be punishable as provided therein. Such sanctions shall be in addition to the civil remedies set forth.

By entering into a contract, the bidder conveys, sells, assigns, and transfers to Clarke County, all rights, title and interest in and to all causes of the action it may now have or hereafter acquire under the anti-trust laws of the United States and the Commonwealth of Virginia, relating to the particular goods or services purchased or acquired by Clarke County, under said contract.

Consistent and continued tie bidding could cause rejection of bids by Clarke County and/or investigation for anti-trust violations.

- F. **TAX-EXEMPT STATUS:** Since municipalities and school districts are exempt from all direct federal and state taxes, Clarke County is tax-exempt and will provide a tax-exempt certificate upon request. Contractor is responsible for paying any and all taxes on any purchases that it directly makes.
- G. **APPLICABLE LAWS AND COURTS:** This solicitation and any resulting contract shall be governed by the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia. All Court proceedings shall be held in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The contractor shall comply with all applicable federal, state and local laws, rules, ordinances, and regulations.
- H. **FIRM BID PRICING:** Clarke County requires the bid price remains firm for ninety (90) days after date of the bid opening, during which period bids may not be withdrawn. “Discount from list” bids are not acceptable unless requested.
- I. **TIE BIDS:** The Joint Administrative Services Department and all other departments of Clarke County making purchases of services, supplies, material or equipment, shall, in making purchases of same, give preference to services, supplies, material or equipment sold by Clarke County and the State of Virginia vendors, in that order, in all cases of tie bids, quality and service being equal.
- J. **ANTI-DISCRIMINATION:** Every individual or firm bidding must be an Equal Opportunity Employer as defined by federal law and the Code of Virginia, Virginia Public Procurement Act as amended: “Section 2.2-4311, Employment Discrimination by Contractor Prohibited” which reads:

All public bodies shall include in every contract of more than \$10,000 the following provisions:

1. During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees as follows:

a. The contractor will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of race, religion, color, sex, national origin, age, disability, or other basis prohibited by state law relating to discrimination in employment, except where there is a bona fide occupational qualification reasonably necessary to the normal operation of the contractor. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices setting forth the provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

b. The contractor, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor, will state that such contractor is an equal opportunity employer.

c. Notices, advertisements and solicitations placed in accordance with federal law, rule or regulation shall be deemed sufficient for the purpose of meeting the requirements of this section.

2. The contractor will include the provisions of the foregoing paragraphs a, b and c in every subcontract or purchase order of over \$10,000, so that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor.

K. IMMIGRATION REFORM AND CONTROL ACT OF 1986: By submitting their bids, bidders certify that they do not and will not during the performance of this contract employ illegal alien workers or otherwise violate the provisions of the Federal Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986.

L. DEBARMENT STATUS: By submitting a bid, the bidder certifies that they are not currently debarred by the Federal Government, Commonwealth of Virginia, or by any City, Town, or County from submitting bids or proposals on contracts for the type of goods and/or services covered by this solicitation, nor are they an agent of any person or entity that is currently so debarred.

M. RESPONSE FORM PROCEDURES:

1. Response Forms must be signed and received at the Purchasing Office, before the opening hour.
2. Sealed Bids and Sealed Proposals offered by fax and or telephone will not be accepted.
3. Quotes offered by fax will be accepted; however, telephone quotes will not be accepted.
4. All Response Forms delivered in person must be delivered to the Purchasing Office.
5. In submitting a Response Form, the bidder signifies that he/she is fully informed as to the extent and character of the supplies, materials, equipment and/or services necessary to perform this project in accordance with all documents constituting the bid and will comply satisfactorily with the bid documents.
6. Further, the bidder signifies that when necessary he/she has inspected the site on which the work shall be done and is aware of all conditions affecting the execution of the work contained within the bid documents. Failure to visit the site will in no way relieve the successful bidder from performance under the contract.
7. All information required by the solicitation must be supplied to constitute a responsive bid. All information submitted including prices should be typed so as to insure legibility. However, the bidder's signature shall be handwritten in ink in order for the bid to be considered.
8. The bidder expressly warrants that the price or prices quoted herein are not the result of an agreement or understanding expressed or implied with any other bidder or bidders.
9. By submitting a Response Form, bidders certify that they are not currently debarred by Clarke County from submitting bids, proposals or quotes on contracts, nor are they an agent of any person or entity that is currently debarred by Clarke County from submitting bids, proposals or quotes.
10. Any Response Form submitted with corrections must have corrections initialed by the person who signed the original. The unit price will prevail in the event an error is made in computing totals.
11. All prices for materials are to be F.O.B. Destination, prepaid and allowed. Except as otherwise specified herein, standard commercial packaging, packing and shipping containers shall be used. All shipping containers shall be legibly marked or labeled on the outside with purchase order, commodity description, and quantity.
12. The successful bidder shall not assign, transfer, convey, sublet, or otherwise dispose of the contract or his/her right, title, or interest therein, or his/her power to execute written consent of Clarke County.
13. Bidders are encouraged to have a representative at the bid opening if information on the bids submitted is desired.
14. Bids will be opened at the advertised local prevailing time, but Clarke County officials reserve the right to take sufficient time to study the various bids and then make the awards. Bids will be awarded as promptly as possible after the closing date.
15. Unless otherwise specified, Response Forms must be submitted in triplicate and will be received at:
Clarke County Purchasing Office

129 Ramsburg Lane
Berryville VA 22611

16. Sealed Bid envelopes must be clearly marked, with the IFB number and project name, on the outside, lower left corner as follows:

Sealed Bid – Do Not Open

IFB # _____
PROJECT NAME _____

17. Sealed Bids will be received up to the advertised time and date at the Clarke County Purchasing Office and at the appointed time will be opened publicly and read allowed. The clock on the Purchasing Office's wall will be used to log the time each bid/proposal is received.
18. If more than one bid opening is held the same date, bids will be opened in succession as numbered and lettered (A, B, C, etc.).
- a. Late bids will not be accepted. Bids received in the mail will be returned to the bidder unopened (provided properly sealed and marked as indicated above). Failure to comply with conditions set forth herein may result in removal of bid (all/part) from consideration.
 - b. All contracts, unless otherwise specifically stated, shall provide materials/commodities in new, first class condition, fresh stock, latest model, design or pack. This shall include any containers suitable for shipment, usage and/or storage unless otherwise indicated within this document. Verbal agreements to the contrary will not be recognized.
 - c. Any items or parts of any equipment listed in this solicitation which are not fully described or are omitted from such specifications and which are clearly necessary for the completion of such equipment and its appurtenance shall be considered a part of such equipment although not directly specified or called for in the specifications.
 - d. By law, Clarke County will not receive any materials, products, or chemicals that may be hazardous to an employee's health, unless accompanied by a Material Safety Data Sheet (MSDS) when products and/or chemicals are received. **MSDS must be submitted to Clarke County in triplicate.**

N. BID WITHDRAWALS

1. A bidder, for contract other than for public construction, may request withdrawal of his/her bid before award, by submitting a written request to the Director of Joint Administrative Services.
2. After bid/proposal opening, corrections shall be permitted only to the extent that the vendor can show by clear and convincing evidence that a mistake of a nonjudgmental character was made, the nature of the mistake, and the price actually intended. After the opening, no changes in prices or other provisions of bids/proposals prejudicial to the interest of the County or fair competition shall be permitted. In lieu of bid correction, a low bidder/offeror alleging a material mistake of fact may be permitted to withdraw its bid/proposal if:
 - a. the mistake is clearly evident on the face of the bid/proposal document but the intended correct bid/proposal is not similarly evident; or
 - b. the vendor submits evidence which clearly and convincingly demonstrates that a mistake was made. All decisions to permit the correction or withdrawal of bids, or to cancel awards or contracts based on bid mistakes, shall be supported by a written determination made by the Director of Joint Administrative Services.
3. If bid bonds were tendered with the bid, Clarke County may exercise its right of collection. No bid may be withdrawn under this paragraph when the result would be the awarding of the contract on another bid of the same bidder in which the ownership of the withdrawing bidders is more than five percent (5%).
4. If a bid is withdrawn under the authority of this paragraph, the lowest qualified remaining bid shall be deemed to be the low bid.
5. Except as otherwise provided by regulation, all decisions to permit the correction or withdrawal of bids, or to cancel awards or contracts based on bid mistakes shall be supported by a written determination made by the Director of Joint Administrative Services.
6. No bidder who is permitted to withdraw a bid shall, for compensation, supply any material or labor or to perform any subcontract or other work agreement for the person or firm to whom the contract is awarded or otherwise benefit, directly or indirectly, from the performance of the project for which the withdrawn bid was submitted.

O. AWARD SPECIFICS

1. Clarke County reserves the right to accept, reject and/or cancel all or any part of any Response Form, and to waive minor technicalities.
2. Awards will be made to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder(s), provided services and quality are considered to be equal to (or better than) that offered by other bidders, and the right is reserved to make the award to other than the lowest bidder when it is in the best interest of Clarke County. Further, Clarke County will be the sole judge as to conditions affecting such interest.
3. Clarke County may make such reasonable investigations as deemed proper and necessary to determine the ability of the bidder to perform the work and/or furnish the item(s), and the bidder shall furnish to Clarke County all such information and data for this purpose, as may be requested.
4. Clarke County reserves the right to inspect bidder's physical facilities before award to satisfy questions regarding the bidder's capabilities.
5. Clarke County further reserves the right to reject any bid, proposal or quote if the evidence submitted by, or investigations of, such bidder fails to satisfy Clarke County, that such bidder is properly qualified to carry out the obligations of the contract and to complete the work and/or furnish the item(s) contemplated therein.
6. Clarke County reserves the right to conduct any test/inspection it may deem advisable to assure supplies and services confirm to the specification.
7. A contract shall not be assignable by the Contractor, in whole or part, without the written consent of Clarke County.
8. Unless otherwise specified, the right is reserved to make award based on all work and/or items, or on any part of work/items, whichever is in the best interest of Clarke County.
9. The right is reserved to cancel any contract and reject deliveries of any products or materials not in accordance with the specifications. All returns or exchanges will be at the Contractor's expense. Clarke County shall be the sole and final judge.
10. The Contractor shall pay all sales, consumer, use and other similar taxes for work or portions thereof provided by the Contractor which are legally enacted at the time bids are received, whether or not yet effective.
11. The right is reserved to decide when a deviation from specifications is of sufficient consequence, when measured against the purpose for which the item will be purchased, to justify including it for consideration. Clarke County shall be the sole and final judge.
12. Should the delivery of any part of an order be delayed beyond time specified, or should any portion of the products delivered fail to comply with the specifications, Clarke County shall have the right to buy at market price for immediately delivery, and any excess cost of same over the price named herein is to be paid by the Contractor or deducted from any money due him/her thereafter.
13. If delay is foreseen, the Contractor shall give thirty (30) days prior written notice to the Director of Joint Administrative Services. Clarke County has the right to extend delivery date if reasons appear, in the sole discretion of Clarke County, to be valid. The Contractor must keep Clarke County advised at all times of status of order.
14. Default in promised delivery (without accepted reasons) or failure to meet specifications, authorizes the Joint Administrative Services Department to purchase supplies, equipment or services elsewhere and charge the full increase in cost and handling to the defaulting Contractor.
15. **The Joint Administrative Services Department will permit NO SUBSTITUTIONS OR CANCELLATIONS after award without written approval.**
16. When Clarke County notifies a bidder, in writing, of its acceptance of the bidder's price(s) of any goods or services, this notification will signify the effective date of the acceptance of this contract.
17. Cancellation of a contract for any reason may result in the removal of the successful bidder's name from the mailing list for future bidding. If the cancellation is for non-performance of the contract, such cancellation may be at the successful bidder's expense.
18. All guarantees and warranties required shall be furnished by the Contractor and shall be delivered to the Purchasing Office before final payment on the contract is made. Unless otherwise stated, the manufacturer's standard warranty applies.

P. JUSTIFICATION FOR TERMINATION

1. Clarke County may terminate this contract in whole or part whenever the Director of Joint Administrative Services shall determine that such a termination is in the best interest of Clarke County.

2. Any such termination shall be effected by delivery to the Contractor at least ten (10) business days prior to the termination of a written Notice of Termination specifying the extent to which performance shall be terminated and the date upon which such termination becomes effective.
3. An equitable adjustment in the contract price shall be made for completed service, but no amount shall be allowed for anticipated profit or unperformed services.
4. If any work or service hereunder is in progress, but not completed as of the date of termination, then this contract may be extended upon written approval by Clarke County until said work or service is completed and accepted.
5. Possible reasons for termination are:
 - a. Termination for Convenience – in the event this contract is terminated or cancelled upon request and for the convenience of Clarke County, without the required ten (10) days advance written notice, then Clarke County shall negotiate reasonable termination costs, if applicable.
 - b. Termination for Cause – termination by Clarke County for cause, default or negligence on the part of the Contractor shall be excluded from the foregoing provision; termination costs, if any, shall not apply. The ten (10) days advance notice requirement is waived in the event of Termination for Cause.
 - c. Termination Due to Unavailability of Funds in Succeeding Fiscal Years – when funds are not appropriated or otherwise made available to support continuation of performance in a subsequent fiscal year, the contract shall be cancelled and the Contractor shall be reimbursed for the reasonable value of any non-recurring costs incurred but not amortized in the price of the supplies or services delivered under the contract.

Q. DRUG FREE WORKPLACE: Every individual or firm bidding must be an Equal Opportunity Employer as defined by federal law and the Code of Virginia, Virginia Public Procurement Act as amended: “Section 2.2-4312, Drug-free Workplace to be Maintained by Contractor; Required Contract Provisions” which reads:

All public bodies shall include in every contract over \$10,000 the following provisions:

During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees to (i) provide a drug-free workplace for the contractor's employees; (ii) post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, dispensation, possession, or use of a controlled substance or marijuana is prohibited in the contractor's workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violations of such prohibition; (iii) state in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor that the contractor maintains a drug-free workplace; and (iv) include the provisions of the foregoing clauses in every subcontract or purchase order of over \$10,000, so that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor.

For the purposes of this section, "drug-free workplace" means a site for the performance of work done in connection with a specific contract awarded to a contractor in accordance with this chapter, the employees of whom are prohibited from engaging in the unlawful manufacture, sale, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of any controlled substance or marijuana during the performance of the contract.

R. INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS: By signing and submitting a bid or proposal under this solicitation, the bidder or offeror certifies that if awarded the contract, it will have the following insurance coverage at the time the contract is awarded. For construction contracts, if any subcontractors are involved, the subcontractor will have workers' compensation insurance in accordance with §2.2-4332 and 65.2-800 et seq. of the Code of Virginia. The bidder or offeror further certifies that the contractor and any subcontractors, at any tier, will maintain these insurance coverage during the entire term of the contract and that all insurance coverage will be provided by insurance companies authorized to sell insurance in Virginia by the Virginia State Corporation Commission.

1. Please note the below insurance requirements are guideline minimum amounts only, and, depending on the goods/services required, may be increased or decreased. **Any changes in insurance requirements will be referenced within this document, under Specific Reference to General Terms and Conditions.**
2. The successful bidder shall procure, maintain and provide proof of insurance coverage for injuries to persons and/or property damage as may arise from, or in conjunction with, the work performed on behalf of Clarke County by the bidder, his/her agents, representatives, employees or Subcontractors.
3. Actual proof of coverage as contained herein shall be submitted to Clarke County Purchasing Office within five (5) days after award has been made and before any work starts, services are provided, or goods are delivered.
4. The bidder shall maintain such coverage for the duration of the contract period for “occurrence” policies. “Claims made” policies must be in force, or that coverage purchased, for three (3) years after contract completion date.
5. The Certificate of Insurance shall be properly completed as follows:

- a. It shall name "Clarke County, Virginia, its officers, officials, employees, volunteers and agents (as their interest may appear)" as "Certificate Holder".
- b. It shall list "Clarke County, Virginia, its officers, officials, employees, volunteers and agents (as their interest may appear) added as an additional insured" under "Description of Operations/Locations/Vehicles/Exclusions Added by Endorsement/Special Provisions".
- c. This provision may not apply to Professional Liability or Workers' Compensation/Employers' Liability.

6. The Certificate of Insurance shall be for a minimum of the following:

a. **Worker's Compensation- Statutory requirements and benefits.** Coverage is compulsory for employers of three or more employees, to include the employer. Contractors who fail to notify the County of Clarke of increases in the number of employees that change their workers' compensation requirements under the Code of Virginia during the course of the contract shall be in noncompliance with the contract.

b. **Employer's Liability - \$100,000**

c. **General Liability – per occurrence \$1,000,000.00**

This coverage shall be as broad as: Comprehensive General Liability endorsed to include Broad Form, Bodily Injury and Property Damage, Personal and Advertising Injury, and Commercial General Liability form including Products/completed Liability Operations.

d. **Automobile Liability – per occurrence \$1,000,000.00**

Coverage shall be sufficient to cover all vehicles owned, used or hired by the bidder, his/her agents, representatives, employees and/or Subcontractors.

e. **Product Liability \$1,000,000.00**

Refer to General Liability above.

f. **Professional Liability/Errors and Omissions Coverages are required when soliciting those services as follows:**

<u>Profession/Service</u>	<u>Limits</u>
Accounting	\$1,000,000 per occurrence, \$3,000,000 aggregate
Architecture	\$2,000,000 per occurrence, \$6,000,000 aggregate
Asbestos Design, Inspection or Abatement Contractors	\$1,000,000 per occurrence, \$3,000,000 aggregate
Health Care Practitioner (to include Dentists, Licensed Dental Hygienists, Optometrists, Registered or Licensed Practical Nurses, Pharmacists, Physicians, Podiatrists, Chiropractors, Physical Therapists, Physical Therapist Assistants, Clinical Psychologists, Clinical Social Workers, Professional Counselors, Hospitals, or Health Maintenance Organizations.)	\$2,350,000 per occurrence, \$7,050,000 aggregate
**(This complies with §8.01-581.15 of the Code of Virginia)	
Insurance/Risk Management	\$1,000,000 per occurrence, \$3,000,000 aggregate
Landscape/Architecture	\$1,000,000 per occurrence, \$1,000,000 aggregate
Legal	\$1,000,000 per occurrence, \$5,000,000 aggregate
Professional Engineer	\$2,000,000 per occurrence, \$6,000,000 aggregate
Surveying	\$1,000,000 per occurrence, \$1,000,000 aggregate

- 7. The Contractor's insurance company shall provide thirty (30) days written notice to Clarke County before any cancellation, suspension, or void of coverage, in whole or part, where such provision is reasonable.
- 8. **Contractor shall be responsible for making sure any/all Subcontractors each provide a Certificate of Insurance and meet all of Clarke County's insurance requirements.**

9. All deductibles or self-insured retention shall appear on the certificate(s) and shall be subject to approval by Clarke County. At the option of Clarke County, either the insurer shall reduce or eliminate such deductible or self-insured retention; or the bidder shall be required to obtain a bond guaranteeing payment of losses and related claims expenses.
10. Failure to comply with any reporting provisions of the policy(ies) shall not affect coverage provided to Clarke County, its officers/officials, agents, employees and volunteers.
11. The insurer shall agree to waive all rights of subrogation against Clarke County, its officers/officials, agents, employees and volunteers for any act, omission or condition of premises by which the parties may be held liable by reason of negligence.
12. The bidder shall furnish Clarke County with the Certificate(s) of Insurance including endorsements affecting coverage. The certificates are to be signed by a person authorized by the insurance company(ies) to bind coverage on its behalf. If executed by a broker, a notarized copy of authorization to bind or certify coverage must be attached.
13. All insurance shall be placed with insurers maintaining an A.M. Best rating of no less than A: VII. If A.M. Best rating is less than A: VII, approval must be received from the Director of Joint Administrative Services.
14. All coverage designated herein shall be as broad as the Insurance Services Office ((SO) forms filed for use with the Commonwealth of Virginia.

S. BOND REQUIREMENTS

1. **Any necessary bonds will be referenced within this document, under Specific Reference to General Terms and Conditions** and the requirements are outlined below.

- a. **Bid Bonds** – Each bidder shall accompany their bid with a bid bond or certified check in the amount of five percent (5%) of the amount bid. Such bond shall serve as liquidated damages and be forfeited in the event the successful bidder fails to enter into the contract.

If a bid bond is required and stated in an invitation for bid and a bidder submits a bid without a bid bond, the bidder will be considered non-responsive and shall be disqualified.

- b. **Performance and Payment Bonds** – The successful Contractor shall furnish both a performance and payment bond, each in the amount equal to one hundred percent (100%) of the contract as security for the faithful performance of this contract.
- c.) One or more surety companies authorized to do business in Virginia shall execute each of the bonds and the contractor shall select the surety company. Required bonds shall be payable to the County.

3. **Any other special bonding requirements will be listed under Specific Reference to General Terms and Conditions.**

4. All bonds shall be obtained at bidder's expense and shall be included in the bid price.

T. PERMITS AND LICENSES

1. Clarke County will attempt to make reference, within this document, to any necessary permits and licenses under Special Terms and Conditions. However, the contractor is ultimately responsible for ensuring that he/she has all the required permits and licenses.
2. For convenience purposes only, the following most commonly required permits and licenses are listed with their respective contact information.

Clarke County Building Permit
Per instructions from Building Department Office
Phone 540-955-5112

Clarke County Business License
Per instructions from Commissioner of the Revenue's Office
Phone 540-955-5108

Virginia State Contractor's License
Per VA Board for Contractors Statutes Title 54.1, Chapter 11
Phone 804-367-8500

Town of Berryville Since some of the county and school property is located within the limits of the Town of Berryville, Contractor is advised to check with the Town office to see what permits and licenses might be required for those projects. The Town Office phone number is 540-955-1099.

3. Clarke County does not waive any fees involved in securing Clarke County (or any other) permits. Any required permits and licenses are to be obtained at bidder's or Contractor's expense and to be included in the bid price.

4. All permit/license numbers must be indicated on or attached to the Response Form of this document.

U. PAYMENTS TO CONTRACTOR

1. Contractor warrants having clear title to all materials and supplies by submission of invoice being presented for payment.
2. All submitted invoices shall reflect the contract number and/or purchase order number, a detailed itemized breakdown of all charges, and (unless otherwise specified) shall be delivered to:

**Clarke County Accounts Payable
317 West Main Street, Suite B
Berryville VA 22611**

(v) 540-955-6171 (f) 540-955-0676

- a. All submitted invoices shall show payer identification as follows:
- b. Individual Contractors shall provide social security number.
- c. Proprietorships, Partnerships and/or Corporations shall provide their federal employer identification number.
- d. Payment will be made thirty (30) days after receipt of proper invoice, or thirty (30) days after receipt of all goods or inspection and acceptance of work, whichever is later.
- e. Payment shall not preclude Clarke County from making a claim for adjustment on any item later found not to have been in accordance with the contract.
- f. Unreasonable Charges. Under certain emergency procurements and for most time and material purchases, final job costs cannot be accurately determined at the time orders are placed. In such cases, contractors should be put on notice that final payment in full is contingent on a determination of reasonableness with respect to all invoiced charges. Charges that appear to be unreasonable will be researched and challenged, and that portion of the invoice held in abeyance until a settlement can be reached. Upon determining that invoiced charges are not reasonable, the County of Clarke shall promptly notify the contractor as to those charges that it considers unreasonable and the basis for the determination. A contractor may not institute legal action unless a settlement cannot be reached within thirty (30) days of notification.
- g. Materials delivered shall be installed prior to invoicing, or else surety is to be provided.

V. PAYMENTS TO SUBCONTRACTORS

1. Any mention of the term "subcontractor(s)" in this section shall include any and all sub-tier Contractors.
2. A Contractor awarded the contract under this solicitation is hereby obligated to:
 - a. Pay the Subcontractor(s) within seven (7) days of the Contractor's receipt of payment from Clarke County for the proportionate share of payment received for work performed by the Subcontractor(s) under the contract or to notify Clarke County and the Subcontractor(s), in writing of the Contractor's intention to withhold payment and the reason.
 - b. Pay the Subcontractor(s) interest at the rate of one percent (1%) per month (unless otherwise provided under the terms of the contract) on all amounts owed by the Contractor that remain unpaid seven (7) days following receipt of payment from Clarke county, except for amounts withheld as stated above.
 - c. The date of mailing of any payment by U. S. mail is deemed to be payment to the addressee.
 - d. A Contractor's obligation to pay an interest charge to a Subcontractor may not be construed to be an obligation on the part of Clarke County.
 - e. By submitting an invoice, the contractor agrees that all subcontractors have been paid or will be paid and the Contractor shall be responsible for resolving any and all claims submitted by the subcontractors.

W. DISPUTES

1. Contractual claims, whether for money or other relief, shall be submitted in writing no later than sixty (60) calendar days after final payment; however, written notice of the Contractor's intention to file such claim shall have been given at the time of the occurrence or beginning of the work upon which the claim is based.
2. Nothing herein shall preclude a contract from requiring submission of an invoice for final payment within a certain time after completion and acceptance of the work or acceptance of the goods. Pendency of claims shall not delay payment of amount agreed due in the final payment.

X. PROTEST OF AWARD OR DECISION TO AWARD

1. Any bidder or offeror who desires to protest the award or decision to award a contract shall submit such protest, in writing, to the Director of Joint Administrative Services, no later than ten (10) calendar days after the award announcement or decision to award, whichever occurs first.
2. No protest shall lie for a claim that the selected bidder or offeror is not a responsible bidder or offeror.
3. Written protest shall include basis for the protest and relief sought.

Y. USE OF BRAND NAMES

1. Unless otherwise provided within this document, the name of a certain brand, make or manufacturer does not restrict bidders to the specific brand, make or manufacturer names; it conveys the general style, type, character, and/or quality of the article desired, and any article which Clarke county in its sole discretion determines to be the equal of that specified, considering quality, workmanship, economy of operation, and suitability for the purpose intended, shall be accepted.
2. Any catalog, brand name or manufacturer's reference used in the bid invitation is descriptive – ***not restrictive*** – it is to indicate the type and quality desired.
3. Bids on brands of like nature and quality will be considered.
4. If other than brand specified is offered, illustrations and complete description (manufacturer, brand or trade name, catalog number, etc.) must be submitted with bid. Please note that samples may be required.
5. If bidder makes no other bid and takes no exception to the specifications or reference data, the bidder will be required to furnish brand names, numbers, etc., as specified.
6. Bidders, by their signature and submission of bid, certify that any/all item(s) bid upon meet and/or exceed the specifications.

Z. PAYMENT OF CLARKE COUNTY TAXES

1. All bidders located or owning property in Clarke County shall assure that all real and personal property taxes are paid before submitting a bid.
2. Clarke County will verify payment of all real and personal property taxes by the successful bidder before the award of any contract.

AA. NOTICE OF REQUIRED DISABILITY LEGISLATION COMPLIANCE

1. Clarke County is required to comply with state and federal disability legislation: §504 of The Rehabilitation Act (RA) of 1973, The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) for 1990 Title II, and the Virginians with Disabilities Act (VDA) of 1990.
2. Specifically, Clarke County may not, through its contractual and/or financial arrangements, directly or indirectly, avoid compliance with Title II of the ADA, Public Law 101-336, which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability by public entities.
3. Subtitle A protects qualified individuals with disability from services, programs, or activities of all state and local governments. It extends the prohibition of discrimination in federally assisted programs established by the RA of 1973 Section 504 to all activities of state and local governments, including those that do not receive federal financial assistance, and incorporates specific prohibitions of discrimination on the basis of disability in Titles I, III, and V of the ADA. The VDA of 1990 follows the RA of 1973, Section 504.

BB. CONTRACT QUANTITIES

1. The quantities specified in this document are estimated only, and are given for the information of bidders and not for the purpose of bid evaluation. They do not indicate the actual quantity to be ordered, since such volume will depend upon requirements that develop during the contract period.
2. Quantities shown shall not be construed to represent any amount which Clarke County shall be obligated to purchase under the contract, or relieve the Contractor of obligation to fill all orders placed by Clarke County.
3. No bid will be considered which stipulates that Clarke County shall guarantee to order a specific quantity of any item.

CC. DEVIATIONS: If there is any deviation in any bid from that prescribed in the Scope of Services, the appropriate line in the Scope of Work/Services shall be ruled out and the substitution clearly indicated and submitted with the Bid Response Form. Clarke County reserves the right to determine the responsiveness of any deviation(s).

DD. SAFETY

1. All Contractors and Subcontractors performing services for Clarke County are required to and shall comply with all Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), state and county Safety and Occupational Health Standards and any other applicable rules and regulations.
2. Also, all Contractors and Subcontractors shall be held responsible for the safety of their employees and any unsafe acts or conditions that may cause injury or damage to any persons or property within and around the work site area under this contract.

EE. HOLD HARMLESS CLAUSE: Bidders shall provide that, during the term of this contract, including any warranty period, for the firm indemnifying, defending and holding harmless of Clarke County, its officials, employees, agents, representatives thereof, from all suits, actions or claims of any kind, including attorney's fees, brought on account of any personal injuries, damages or violations of rights, sustained by any person or property in consequence of any neglect in safeguarding contract work or on account of any act or omission by the Contractor or Contractor's employees, or from any claims or amounts arising from violation of any law, bylaw, ordinance, regulation or decree. The bidder also agrees that this clause shall include claims involving infringement of patent or copyright.

FF. REFERENCES: All bidders shall include with their Response Form a list of current references for whom comparable work has been performed or to whom comparable goods have been provided. A separate attachment has been provided and must be completed entirely and returned with the bid. Failure to include Reference Form may be ample cause for rejection of bid as non-responsive.

GG. FEDERAL/STATE LAWS AND COUNTY ORDINANCES: Any and all Federal and Commonwealth of Virginia Laws and County Ordinances that are not referenced or stated in the County's General Terms and Conditions shall apply to all contracts/orders.

HH. ANTITRUST: By entering into a contract, the contractor conveys, sells, assigns, and transfers to the County of Clarke all rights, title and interest in and to all causes of action it may now have or hereafter acquire under the antitrust laws of the United States and the Commonwealth of Virginia, relating to the particular goods or services purchases or acquired by the County of Clarke under said contract.

II. DEFAULT: In case of failure to deliver goods or services in accordance with the contract terms and conditions, the County of Clarke, after due oral or written notice, may procure them from other sources and hold the contractor responsible for any resulting additional purchase and administrative costs. This remedy shall be in addition to any other remedies that the County may have.

JJ. TYPES OF CONTRACT CLAUSES THAT THE COUNTY SHALL ATTEMPT TO REMOVE FROM VENDOR CONTRACTS. Some, but not all, examples of clauses that may delay or stop a contract from being signed are shown below:

- a. The County shall attempt to remove late fee clauses.
- b. The County shall attempt to remove one-time fee clauses, such as administrative, restocking, and documentation fees.
- c. The County shall attempt to remove clauses involving the adjustment of payments due on a fixed-price contract (without prior County approval).
- d. The County shall attempt to remove clauses that provide the vendor with an automatic renewal of a contract unless County notification is provided within a particular time frame.
- e. The County shall attempt to remove clauses where the County is asked to reimburse a vendor for its expenses to refurbish equipment or materials that have been leased by the County to ensure that the vendor can resell or release the item.

- f. The County shall attempt to remove clauses where the County is asked to provide a security deposit.
- g. The County shall attempt to remove any clauses that disclaim warranties.
- h. The County shall attempt to remove any clauses that put time constraints on the County's right to file legal action.
- i. The County shall attempt to remove indemnity clauses from all contracts. If the complete removal of an indemnity clause can not be agreed upon, the County shall ensure that the maximum amount of liability is satisfactory. The County also may attempt to include its own indemnity clause in which the County's maximum amount of liability is clearly stated.
- j. The Clarke County Treasurer must approve any contract that allows a vendor to directly debit/charge the County's bank account.
- k. All Court proceedings shall be held in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

When a specific contract clause can not be agreed upon, the County reserves the right to end negotiations with the respective vendor and begin negotiations with another vendor.

KK. SEVERABILITY OF CONTRACT: In the event that any provision shall be adjudged or decreed to be invalid, such ruling shall not invalidate the entire Agreement but shall pertain only to the provision in question and the remaining provisions shall continue to be valid, binding and in full force and effect.

LL. The County reserves the right to waive or amend any of its General Terms and Conditions if the Purchasing Agent and/or Joint Administrative Board deem it to be in the best interest of the County.

END OF GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS
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