

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

SANDOVAL COUNTY

FINANCE DIVISION AND LEGAL DEPARTMENT

PUBLIC FINANCE ATTORNEY SERVICES



RFP# FY16-SCMO-02

Release Date: July 26, 2015

Due Date: August 5, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.

I. INTRODUCTION

A. PURPOSE OF THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Sandoval County Board of County Commissioners is requesting sealed bids on behalf of the Sandoval County Finance Division and Legal Department for individuals and/or agencies capable of performing all tasks of the Public Finance Attorney Services. Responses will be accepted in the Finance Department, Attn: Ms. Trish Greene, Sandoval County Administrative Bldg, 1500 Idalia Road, Bldg. D 2nd floor, P.O. Box 40, Bernalillo, New Mexico up to 3:00 p.m. (Mountain Standard Time) on August 5, 2015. The Sandoval County Board of Commissioners reserves the right to reject any and all responses.

B. SCOPE OF PROCUREMENT

Sandoval County requires the services for Public Finance Attorney Services to include bond counsel, advice on public financing issues and bond arbitrage.

C. TERM OF CONTRACT

This Request for Proposal is to contract for a maximum of four (4) years.

D. PROCUREMENT MANAGER

1. Sandoval County has assigned a Procurement Manager who is responsible for the conduct of this procurement whose name, address, telephone number and e-mail address are listed below:

Name: Trish Greene, Senior Procurement Specialist
Address: Sandoval County
1500 Idalia Road Bldg D 2nd Floor
PO Box 40
Bernalillo, NM 87004

Telephone: (505) 867-7500
Fax: (505) 867-7605
Email: tgreene@sandovalcountynm.gov

2. All deliveries of responses via express carrier must be addressed as follows

Name: Trish Greene, Senior Procurement Specialist
Reference RFP Name: Public Finance Attorney Services RFP# FY16-SCMO-02
Address: Sandoval County
1500 Idalia Road Bldg D
PO Box 40
Bernalillo, NM 87004

3. **Any inquiries or requests** regarding this procurement should be submitted, in writing, to the Procurement Manager. Offerors may **ONLY** contact the Procurement Manager regarding this procurement. Other state employees or Evaluation Committee members do not have the authority to respond on behalf of the SPD. **Protests of the solicitation or award must be delivered by mail to the Protest Manager.** A Protest Manager has been named in this Request for Proposals, pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 13-1-172, **ONLY** protests delivered directly to the Protest Manager in writing and in a timely fashion will be considered to have been submitted properly and in accordance with statute, rule and this Request for Proposals. Emailed protests will not be considered as properly submitted nor will protests delivered to the Procurement Manager be considered properly submitted.

II. CONDITIONS GOVERNING THE PROCUREMENT

This section of the RFP contains the schedule, description and conditions governing the procurement.

A. SEQUENCE OF EVENTS

The Procurement Manager will make every effort to adhere to the following schedule:

Action	Responsible Party	Due Dates
1. Issue RFP	Sandoval County	7-26-15
2. Pre-Proposal Conference	Agency	NONE
3. Return of Acknowledgement of Receipt Form	Potential Offerors	7-28-15
4. Deadline to submit Questions	Potential Offerors	7-30-15
5. Response to Written Questions	Procurement Manager	7-31-15
6. Submission of Proposal	Potential Offerors	8-5-15
7. Proposal Evaluation	Evaluation Committee	TBD
8. Selection of Finalists	Evaluation Committee	TBD
9. Interviews (if applicable)	Evaluation Committee	TBD
10. Contract Awards	Sandoval County	TBD
11. Protest Deadline		+15 days

B. EXPLANATION OF EVENTS

The following paragraphs describe the activities listed in the sequence of events shown in Section II. A., above.

1. Issuance of RFP

This RFP is being issued on behalf of the Sandoval County Finance Division and Legal Department.

2. Acknowledgement of Receipt

Potential Offerors should hand deliver, return by facsimile or registered or certified mail the "Acknowledgement of Receipt of Request for Proposals Form" that accompanies this document, APPENDIX A, to have their organization placed on the procurement distribution list. The form should be signed by an authorized representative of the organization, dated and returned to the Procurement Manager by 5:00 pm MST or MDT on July 28, 2015.

The procurement distribution list will be used for the distribution of written responses to questions.

3. Deadline to Submit Written Questions

Potential Offerors may submit written questions to the Procurement Manager as to the intent or clarity of this RFP until July 30, 2015 at 5:00 pm Mountain Standard Time/Daylight Time as indicated in the sequence of events. All written questions must be addressed to the Procurement Manager as declared in Section I, Paragraph D. Questions shall be clearly labeled and shall cite the Section(s) in the RFP or other document which form the basis of the question.

4. Response to Written Questions

Written responses to written questions will be distributed as indicated in the sequence of events to all potential Offerors whose organization name appears on the procurement distribution list. An e-mail copy will be sent to all Offeror's that provide Acknowledgement of Receipt Forms.

5. Submission of Proposals

ALL OFFEROR PROPOSALS MUST BE RECEIVED FOR REVIEW AND EVALUATION BY THE PROCUREMENT MANAGER OR DESIGNEE NO LATER THAN 3:00 PM MOUNTAIN STANDARD TIME/DAYLIGHT TIME ON AUGUST 5, 2015. Proposals received after this deadline will not be accepted. The date and time of receipt will be recorded on each proposal.

Proposals must be addressed and delivered to the Procurement Manager at the address listed in Section I, Paragraph D2 (except for electronic submissions through SPD's electronic procurement system). Proposals must be sealed and labeled on the outside of the package to clearly indicate that they are in response to the Public Finance Attorney Services and RFP# FY16-SCMO-02. Proposals submitted by facsimile, or other electronic means will not be accepted.

A public log will be kept of the names of all Offeror organizations that submitted proposals. Pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 13-1-116, the contents of proposals shall not be disclosed to competing potential Offerors during the negotiation process. The negotiation process is deemed to be in effect until the contract is awarded pursuant to this Request for Proposals. Awarded in this context means the final required state agency signature on the contract(s) resulting from the procurement has been obtained.

6. Proposal Evaluation

An Evaluation Committee will perform the evaluation of proposals. This process will take place as indicated in the sequence of events, depending upon the number of proposals received. During this time, the Procurement Manager may initiate discussions with Offerors who submit responsive or potentially responsive proposals for the purpose of clarifying aspects of the proposals. However, proposals may be accepted and evaluated without such discussion. Discussions SHALL NOT be initiated by the Offerors. It is general practice of the Evaluation Committee to hold interviews with the three highest ranked proposals. However, the Evaluation Committee may recommend an award based on the results of the evaluations. If fewer than three (3) proposals are received, the Evaluation Committee may recommend an award to the County Commission for approval or direct that the RFP be reissued.

7. Interview with the Finalists

If applicable, for those Offerors selected for interview, notices to finalists will include the interview date and time. The interview location is at the discretion of the Evaluation Committee. The interview scoring will be 100 points. The points are equally divided between the prepared questions and each member will allocate points. Each member's point totals will be translated into a numeric ranking of all interviews finalists. The individual member rankings will be totaled together to determine the overall ranking of finalists.

8. Finalize Contractual Agreements

Any Contractual agreement(s) resulting from this RFP will be finalized with the most advantageous Offeror(s) as per schedule Section II. A., Sequence of Events or as soon thereafter as possible. This date is subject to change at the discretion of the Sandoval County. In the event mutually agreeable terms cannot be reached with the apparent most advantageous Offeror in the time specified, the County reserves the right to finalize a

contractual agreement with the next most advantageous Offeror(s) without undertaking a new procurement process.

9. Contract Awards

The contract shall be awarded to the Offeror (or Offerors) whose proposals are most advantageous to Sandoval County and Sandoval County Finance Division and Legal Department, taking into consideration the evaluation factors set forth in this RFP. The most advantageous proposal may or may not have received the most points. The award is subject to appropriate Sandoval County Commission approval.

10. Protest Deadline

Any protest by an Offeror must be timely and in conformance with NMSA 1978, § 13-1-172 and applicable procurement regulations. As a Protest Manager has been named in this Request for Proposals, pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 13-1-172, ONLY protests delivered directly to the Protest Manager in writing and in a timely fashion will be considered to have been submitted properly and in accordance with statute, rule and this Request for Proposals. The 15 calendar day protest period shall begin on the day following the award of contracts and will end at 5:00 pm Mountain Standard Time/Daylight Time on the 15th day. Protests must be written and must include the name and address of the protestor and the request for proposal number. It must also contain a statement of the grounds for protest including appropriate supporting exhibits and it must specify the ruling requested from the party listed below. The protest must be delivered to:

Trish Greene, Senior Procurement Specialist
Sandoval County
1500 Idalia Road Bldg D 2nd Floor
PO Box 40
Bernalillo, NM 87004

Protests received after the deadline will not be accepted.

C. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Acceptance of Conditions Governing the Procurement

Potential Offerors must indicate their acceptance of the Conditions Governing the Procurement section in the letter of transmittal. Submission of a proposal constitutes acceptance of the Evaluation Factors.

2. Incurring Cost

Any cost incurred by the potential Offeror in preparation, transmittal, and/or presentation of any proposal or material submitted in response to this RFP shall be borne solely by the Offeror. Any cost incurred by the Offeror for set up and demonstration of the proposed equipment and/or system shall be borne solely by the Offeror.

3. Prime Contractor Responsibility

Any contractual agreement that may result from this RFP shall specify that the prime contractor is solely responsible for fulfillment of all requirements of the contractual agreement which may derive from this RFP.

4. Amended Proposals

An Offeror may submit an amended proposal before the deadline for receipt of proposals. Such amended proposals must be complete replacements for a previously submitted proposal and must be clearly identified as such in the transmittal letter. The Agency personnel will not merge, collate, or assemble proposal materials.

5. Offeror's Rights to Withdraw Proposal

Offerors will be allowed to withdraw their proposals at any time prior to the deadline for receipt of proposals. The Offeror must submit a written withdrawal request addressed to the Procurement Manager and signed by the Offeror's duly authorized representative.

The approval or denial of withdrawal requests received after the deadline for receipt of the proposals is governed by the applicable procurement regulations.

6. Proposal Offer Firm

Responses to this RFP, including proposal prices for services, will be considered firm for one hundred twenty (120) days after the due date for receipt of proposals or ninety (90) days after the due date for the receipt of a best and final offer, if the Offeror is invited or required to submit one.

7. Disclosure of Proposal Contents

- A. Proposals will be kept confidential until negotiations and the award are completed by the Agency. At that time, all proposals and documents pertaining to the proposals will be open to the public, except for material that is clearly marked proprietary or confidential. The Procurement Manager will not disclose or make public any pages of a proposal on which the potential Offeror has stamped or imprinted "proprietary" or "confidential" subject to the following requirements:
- B. Proprietary or confidential data shall be readily separable from the proposal in order to facilitate eventual public inspection of the non-confidential portion of the proposal.
- C. Confidential data is restricted to:

1. confidential financial information concerning the Offeror's organization;
2. and data that qualifies as a trade secret in accordance with the Uniform Trade Secrets Act, NMSA 1978 § 57-3A-1 to 57-3A-7.
3. PLEASE NOTE: The price of products offered or the cost of services proposed **shall not be designated** as proprietary or confidential information.

8. No Obligation

This RFP in no manner obligates Sandoval County to the use of any Offeror's services until a valid written contract is awarded and approved by appropriate authorities.

9. Termination

This RFP may be canceled at any time and any and all proposals may be rejected in whole or in part when the agency determines such action to be in the best interest of Sandoval County.

10. Sufficient Appropriation

Any contract awarded as a result of this RFP process may be terminated if sufficient appropriations or authorizations do not exist. Such terminations will be effected by sending written notice to the contractor. The County's decision as to whether sufficient appropriations and authorizations are available will be accepted by the contractor as final.

11. Legal Review

The County requires that all Offerors agree to be bound by the General Requirements contained in this RFP. Any Offeror's concerns must be promptly submitted in writing to the attention of the Procurement Manager.

12. Governing Law

This RFP and any agreement with an Offeror which may result from this procurement shall be governed by the laws of the State of New Mexico.

13. Basis for Proposal

Only information supplied, in writing, by the Agency through the Procurement Manager or in this RFP should be used as the basis for the preparation of Offeror proposals.

14. Offeror Qualifications

The Evaluation Committee may make such investigations as necessary to determine the ability of the potential Offeror to adhere to the requirements specified within this RFP.

The Evaluation Committee will reject the proposal of any potential Offeror who is not a Responsible Offeror or fails to submit a responsive offer as defined in NMSA 1978, § 13-1-83 and 13-1-85.

15. Right to Waive Minor Irregularities

The Evaluation Committee reserves the right to waive minor irregularities. The Evaluation Committee also reserves the right to waive mandatory requirements provided that all of the otherwise responsive proposals failed to meet the same mandatory requirements and the failure to do so does not otherwise materially affect the procurement. This right is at the sole discretion of the Evaluation Committee.

16. Notice of Penalties

The Procurement Code, NMSA 1978, § 13-1-28 through 13-1-199, imposes civil, misdemeanor and felony criminal penalties for its violation. In addition, the New Mexico criminal statutes impose felony penalties for bribes, gratuities and kickbacks.

17. Right to Publish

Throughout the duration of this procurement process and contract term, Offerors and contractors must secure from the agency written approval prior to the release of any information that pertains to the potential work or activities covered by this procurement and/or agency contracts deriving from this procurement. Failure to adhere to this requirement may result in disqualification of the Offeror's proposal or removal from the contract.

18. Ownership of Proposals

All documents submitted in response to the RFP shall become property of the Sandoval County.

19. Confidentiality

Any confidential information provided to, or developed by, the contractor in the performance of the contract resulting from this RFP shall be kept confidential and shall not be made available to any individual or organization by the contractor without the prior written approval of the Agency.

The Contractor(s) agrees to protect the confidentiality of all confidential information and not to publish or disclose such information to any third party without the procuring Agency's written permission.

20. Use of Electronic Versions of this RFP

This RFP is being made available by electronic means. In the event of conflict between a version of the RFP in the Offeror's possession and the version maintained by the agency, the Offeror acknowledges that the version maintained by the agency shall govern.

21. New Mexico Employees Health Coverage

- A. If the Offeror has, or grows to, six (6) or more employees who work, or who are expected to work, an average of at least 20 hours per week over a six (6) month period during the term of the contract, Offeror must agree to have in place, and agree to maintain for the term of the contract, health insurance for those employees if the expected annual value in the aggregate of any and all contracts between Contractor and the State exceed \$250,000 dollars.
- B. Offeror must agree to maintain a record of the number of employees who have (a) accepted health insurance; (b) decline health insurance due to other health insurance coverage already in place; or (c) decline health insurance for other reasons. These records are subject to review and audit by a representative of the state.
- C. Offeror must agree to advise all employees of the availability of State publicly financed health care coverage programs by providing each employee with, as a minimum, the following web site link to additional information
<http://www.insurenewmexico.state.nm.us/>.
- D. For Indefinite Quantity, Indefinite Delivery contracts (price agreements without specific limitations on quantity and providing for an indeterminate number of orders to be placed against it); these requirements shall apply the first day of the second month after the Offeror reports combined sales (from state and, if applicable, from local public bodies if from a state price agreement) of \$250,000.

22. Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form

Offeror must complete, sign, and return the Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form as a part of their proposal. Failure to complete and return the signed unaltered form will result in disqualification.

23. Letter of Transmittal

Offeror's proposal must be accompanied by the Letter of Transmittal Form which must be completed and signed by an individual person authorized to obligate the company. The letter of transmittal MUST:

1. Identify the submitting business entity.

2. Identify the name, title, telephone, and e-mail address of the person authorized by the Offeror organization to contractually obligate the business entity providing the Offer.
3. Identify the name, title, telephone, and e-mail address of the person authorized to negotiate the contract on behalf of the organization (if different than (2) above).
4. Identify the names, titles, telephone, and e-mail addresses of persons to be contacted for clarification/questions regarding proposal content.
5. Identify sub-contractors (if any) anticipated to be utilized in the performance of any resultant contract award.
6. Describe the relationship with any other entity which will be used in the performance of this awarded contract.
7. Identify the following with a check mark and signature where required:
 - a. **Explicitly** indicate acceptance of the Conditions Governing the Procurement **Explicitly** indicate acceptance of Section VII of this RFP; and
 - b. Acknowledge receipt of any and all amendments to this RFP.
8. Be signed by the person identified in para 2 above.

24. Pay Equity Reporting Requirements

- A. If the Offeror has ten (10) or more employees OR eight (8) or more employees in the same job classification, Offeror must complete and submit the required reporting form (PE10-249) if they are awarded a contract. Out-of-state Contractors that have no facilities and no employees working in New Mexico are exempt if the contract is directly with the out-of-state contractor and fulfilled directly by the out-of-state contractor, and not passed through a local vendor.
- B. For contracts that extend beyond one (1) calendar year, or are extended beyond one (1) calendar year, Offeror must also agree to complete and submit the required form annually within thirty (30) calendar days of the annual bid or proposal submittal anniversary date and, if more than 180 days has elapsed since submittal of the last report, at the completion of the contract.
- C. Should Offeror not meet the size requirement for reporting at contract award but subsequently grows such that they meet or exceed the size requirement for reporting, Offeror must agree to provide the required report within ninety (90) calendar days of meeting or exceeding the size requirement.
- D. Offeror must also agree to levy these reporting requirements on any subcontractor(s) performing more than 10% of the dollar value of this contract if said subcontractor(s) meets, or grows to meet, the stated employee size thresholds during the term of the contract. Offeror must further agree that, should one or more subcontractor not meet the size requirement for reporting at contract award but subsequently grows such that they meet or exceed the size requirement for reporting, offer will submit the required report, for each such subcontractor, within ninety (90) calendar days of that subcontractor meeting or exceeding the size requirement.

25. Disclosure Regarding Responsibility

- A. Any prospective Contractor and any of its Principals who enter into a contract greater than sixty thousand dollars (\$60,000.00) with any state agency or local public body for professional services, tangible personal property, services or construction agrees to disclose whether the Contractor, or any principal of the Contractor's company:
1. is presently debarred, suspended, proposed for debarment, or declared ineligible for award of contract by any federal entity, state agency or local public body;
 2. has within a three-year period preceding this offer, been convicted in a criminal matter or had a civil judgment rendered against them for:
 - a. the commission of fraud or a criminal offense in connection with obtaining, attempting to obtain, or performing a public (federal, state or local) contract or subcontract;
 - b. violation of Federal or state antitrust statutes related to the submission of offers; or
 - c. the commission in any federal or state jurisdiction of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, making false statements, tax evasion, violation of Federal criminal tax law, or receiving stolen property;
 3. is presently indicted for, or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by any (federal state or local) government entity with the commission of any of the offenses enumerated in paragraph A of this disclosure;
 4. has, preceding this offer, been notified of any delinquent Federal or state taxes in an amount that exceeds \$3,000.00 of which the liability remains unsatisfied. Taxes are considered delinquent if the following criteria apply.
 - a. The tax liability is finally determined. The liability is finally determined if it has been assessed. A liability is not finally determined if there is a pending administrative or judicial challenge. In the case of a judicial challenge of the liability, the liability is not finally determined until all judicial appeal rights have been exhausted.
 - b. The taxpayer is delinquent in making payment. A taxpayer is delinquent if the taxpayer has failed to pay the tax liability when full payment was due and required. A taxpayer is not delinquent in cases where enforced collection action is precluded.
 - c. Have within a three year period preceding this offer, had one or more contracts terminated for default by any federal or state agency or local public body.)
- B. Principal, for the purpose of this disclosure, means an officer, director, owner, partner, or a person having primary management or supervisory responsibilities within a business entity or related entities.

- C. The Contractor shall provide immediate written notice to the State Purchasing Agent or other party to this Agreement if, at any time during the term of this Agreement, the Contractor learns that the Contractor's disclosure was at any time erroneous or became erroneous by reason of changed circumstances.
- D. A disclosure that any of the items in this requirement exist will not necessarily result in termination of this Agreement. However, the disclosure will be considered in the determination of the Contractor's responsibility and ability to perform under this Agreement. Failure of the Contractor to furnish a disclosure or provide additional information as requested will render the Offeror nonresponsive.
- E. Nothing contained in the foregoing shall be construed to require establishment of a system of records in order to render, in good faith, the disclosure required by this document. The knowledge and information of a Contractor is not required to exceed that which is the normally possessed by a prudent person in the ordinary course of business dealings.
- F. The disclosure requirement provided is a material representation of fact upon which reliance was placed when making an award and is a continuing material representation of the facts during the term of this Agreement. If during the performance of the contract, the Contractor is indicted for or otherwise criminally or civilly charged by any government entity (federal, state or local) with commission of any offenses named in this document the Contractor must provide immediate written notice to the State Contractor knowingly rendered an erroneous disclosure, in addition to other remedies available to the Government, the State Purchasing Agent or Central Purchasing Officer may terminate the involved contract for cause. Still further the State Purchasing Agent or Central Purchasing Officer may suspend or debar the Contractor from eligibility for future solicitations until such time as the matter is resolved to the satisfaction of the State Purchasing Agent or Central Purchasing Officer.

26. New Mexico Preferences

To ensure adequate consideration and application of NMSA 1978, § 13-1-21 (as amended), Offerors must include a copy of their preference certificate with their proposal. Certificates for preferences must be obtained through the New Mexico Department of Taxation & Revenue:

<http://www.tax.newmexico.gov/Businesses/in-state-veteran-preference-certification.aspx>.

A. New Mexico Business Preference

B. New Mexico Resident Veterans Business Preference

In addition to a copy of the certification, the Offeror should sign and complete the Resident Veterans Preference Certificate form, as provided in this RFP.

An agency shall not award a business both a resident business preference and a resident veteran business preference.

The New Mexico Preferences shall not apply when the expenditures for this RFP includes federal funds.

27. Insurance

Sandoval County, hereinafter referred to as the “County” will require that the successful Responder, hereinafter referred to as the “Contractor” procure and maintain in full force and effect during the life of this contract, such insurance as is required herein. Policies of insurance shall be written by companies authorized to write such insurance in the State of New Mexico.

The Contractor shall furnish the County copies of certificates of required insurance in a form satisfactory to the County (or copies of insurance policies if the County calls for them). All certificates of insurance (or policies) shall provide that thirty (30) days written notice be given to Mr. Phillip Rios, Sandoval County Manager, 1500 Idalia Road Bldg D, Bernalillo, New Mexico 87004, before a policy is canceled, materially changed or not renewed. Various types of required insurance may be written in one or more policies. Upon request of the County, the Contractor shall provide the County with a current copy of Contractor’s insurance policy.

28. W-9 Information

Pursuant to Federal Tax Law (Internal Revenue Code, Section 6041), the County is required to obtain a Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN) and a completed W-9 from the successful Offeror. According to Federal Income Tax Law (Internal Revenue Code, Section 3406), failure to furnish this information promptly and correctly (within 30 days) may result in a \$50.00 penalty imposed by the Internal Revenue Service. In addition, the Internal Revenue Service may require the County to withhold 28% of payments made, if the information is not furnished by the successful Offeror.

If the successful Offeror’s business is classified as a corporation, tax-exempt organization, government agency or other exempt payee, the County will not file an Annual Information Return (Form 1099 Misc) on your behalf. However, the law requires your TIN in addition to informing the County of payee type. If classified as an individual or sole proprietor, the TIN is your Social Security Number; otherwise, your Federal Employer Identification Number serves as your TIN.

III. RESPONSE FORMAT AND ORGANIZATION

A. NUMBER OF RESPONSES

Offerors shall submit only one proposal in response to this RFP.

B. NUMBER OF COPIES

1. Hard Copy Responses

Offeror's proposal must be clearly labeled and numbered and indexed as outlined in **Section III.C. Proposal Format and Organization**. Proposals must be submitted as outlined below. The ORIGINAL COPY shall be clearly marked as such on the front of the binder. Envelopes, packages or boxes containing the original and the copies must be clearly labeled and submitted in a sealed envelope, package, or box bearing the following information:

Offerors should deliver:

- 1. Technical Proposals (Binder # 1) – One (1) ORIGINAL and five (5) HARD COPIES**
- 2. Cost Proposals (Binder # 2) – One (1) ORIGINAL and five (5) HARD COPIES**

The original, hard copy information **must** be identical. In the event of a conflict between versions of the submitted proposal, the Original hard copy shall govern.

Any proposal that does not adhere to the requirements of this Section and **Section III.C.1 Response Format and Organization** may be deemed non-responsive and rejected on that basis.

C. PROPOSAL FORMAT

All proposals must be submitted as follows:

Hard copies must be typewritten on standard 8 ½ x 11 inch paper (larger paper is permissible for charts, spreadsheets, etc.) and placed within binders with tabs delineating each section. Length of the proposal shall be limited to a maximum of forty (40) pages. Material excluded from the forty (40) pages maximum count shall include:

- Front and back covers
- Divider pages
- Table of Contents (one page maximum)
- Transmittal Letter (one page maximum)
- Campaign Contribution Form
- Cost Detail
- Certificate(s) of Insurance

Organization of folders/envelopes for hard copy proposals:

1. Proposal Content and Organization

The proposal must be organized and indexed in the following format and must contain, at a minimum, all listed items in the sequence indicated. Direct reference to pre-prepared or promotional material may be referenced and clearly marked. Promotional material should be minimal. Each binder must have a front cover which is blank on the back side, divider pages for title information only and a back cover that is blank on one side.

A. Technical Proposals - Binder # 1

1. Signed Letter of Transmittal (Appendix C)
2. Table of Contents
3. Proposal Summary (optional)
4. Response to Proposal Requirements (except for cost response)
 - a) Response to Specifications
 - b) Organizational Experience
 - c) Organizational References
 - d) Desirable Specification
 - d) Signed Campaign Contribution Form (Appendix B)
 - e) New Mexico Preferences (If applicable)
5. Additional Required Materials

B. Cost Proposals - Binder # 2

1. Complete Cost Detail Response
2. Offeror's Additional Terms and Conditions
3. Certificate(s) of Insurance

Within each section of the proposal, Offerors should address the items in the order indicated above. All forms provided in this RFP must be thoroughly completed and included in the appropriate section of the proposal.

The proposal summary may be included by potential Offerors to provide the Evaluation Committee with an overview of the proposal; however, this material will not be used in the evaluation process unless specifically referenced from other portions of the Offeror's proposal.

IV. SPECIFICATIONS

Offerors should respond in the form of a thorough narrative to each specification detailed in the scope of work, unless otherwise instructed. The narratives, including required supporting materials will be evaluated and awarded points accordingly.

V. DETAILED SCOPE OF WORK

The County of Sandoval, New Mexico is requesting proposals for Public Finance Attorney Services for general obligation bonds, revenue bonds, special assessment bonds, or other bond financing transactions undertaken by the County during the contract period and to perform necessary legal services with reference to the authorization, sale, and delivery including, but not limited to the following tasks:

- A. Assist in the preparation of a work plan and timetable setting forth the actions necessary for any election and other required proceedings prior to the offering and sale of each series of bonds.
- B. Collaborate with other members of the financing team to structure issues in a manner that minimizes the County's transaction costs and its credit risk in the transactions.
- C. Prepare all ordinances, resolutions, agreements, preliminary offering statements, official statements, and other documents and instruments pursuant to which bonds will be authorized, secured, sold and delivered in consultation with the County, coordinate with the County's Legal Department, the County's Financial Advisor, any Underwriters with respect to the bonds and their counsel, and the officials and other consultants of the County.
- D. Attend meetings of the County Commission and other meetings to the extent required or requested.
- E. Prepare information for and participate in presentations to rating agencies and prospective bond purchasers to the extent required or requested.
- F. Represent the County's interests in the preparation of any contract that provides for the sale of bonds; ensure that professionals and investment banking firms retained by, or contracting with, the County disclose all conflicts of interest with the County through the use of due diligence reviews.
- G. Preparation of official statements or other securities laws disclosure documents, including review of the information therein describing the bonds and the security therefore, and provide advice as needed or requested to enable the County to make proper disclosure in coordination with the County and its consultants.
- H. Render advice to the County Commission or other authorized officials of the County to the effect that any representation or certification made by an employee or official in connection with the issuance of the bonds is authorized or required by law and is properly supported by fact.
- I. Provide assistance in making required submissions to any entity associated with County bonds.
- J. Assist in obtaining any governmental or other registration or approvals required by law or contract.

- K. Supervise the printing, execution and delivery of the bonds to the purchasers; and prepare and file final transcripts of proceedings relating to the issuance of bonds.
- L. As appropriate, render an opinion covering the validity of the bonds under New Mexico Law, the nature and priority of the security for the bonds and the legality of the issuance of the bonds under applicable securities laws, and the tax exempt status of the bonds.
- M. Interpret bond provisions and covenants when requested by the County.
- N. Assist the County Attorney, if requested, in any litigation relating to or in any way affecting the issuance, sale, execution, and delivery of County bonds, notes or certificates.
- O. Consult with County officials, employees, counsel, and consultants in the formulation of a coordinated program for the public financing of particular projects, including the delivery of oral and written legal advice on particular projects.
- P. Brief County officials, employees, counsel, and consultants on matters which impact upon the issuance of County bond financing. This includes availability for phone consultation with County officials, employees, counsel, and consultants on questions of federal and state laws, which impact upon the issuance of County bond financing.
- Q. Provide updates in a form acceptable to the County, at least semi-annually, and more often if requested by the County, on statutory and regulatory changes which impact upon the issuance of County bond financing.
- R. Provide the County with advice on federal, state, and local legislation, including analysis of local referenda related to or impacting upon the County's financing programs.
- S. Draft State legislation and provide testimony before legislative committees when requested by the County.
- T. Provide other special advice or opinions requested by the County relating to County bond financing and other public financing.
- U. Ensure that Internal Revenue Service's (IRS) Form(s) 8038-T, 8038-0, and or any other filings related to bond arbitrage are filed in a timely manner, as determined by law. If this service will be sub-contracted please note. Additionally, provide an analysis of the County's bond financing with regard to bond arbitrage liability.
- V. Ensure the timely preparation and release of bond documentation so that all relevant documentation is in the County's possession as soon as practical after IRS forms are confirmed.
- W. In conjunction/coordination with the County's Financial Advisor, be available for consultation with outside parties, such as rating agencies and bond holders, as required by the County.

VI. TECHNICAL SPECIFICATIONS

1. Organizational Experience-Offerors must:

- a) Provide a description of relevant experience as Public Finance Attorneys. The narrative must thoroughly describe how the Offeror has supplied expertise, experience and knowledge for all bond issues including bond arbitrage calculations and IRS reporting.

- b) Provide a narrative that thoroughly describes the specifications such as a mission statement and all the proposed services by using all the factors listed in the scope of work.

2. Organizational References

Offerors must provide a minimum of three (3) references from similar projects performed for private, state or local government clients within the last three years.

The Evaluation Committee may contact any or all references for validation of information submitted. If this step is taken, the Procurement Manager and the Evaluation Committee must all be together on a conference call with the submitted reference so that the Procurement Manager and all members of the Evaluation Committee receive the same information. Additionally, the Agency reserves the right to consider any and all information available to it

Offerors shall submit the following Business Reference information as part of Offer:

- a) Client name;
- b) Project description;
- c) Project dates (starting and ending);
- d) Technical environment (i.e., Similar background experience performed);
- e) Staff assigned that will be designated for work per this RFP;
- f) Client project manager name, telephone number, fax number and e-mail address.

3. Desirable Specification

- a) Provide a brief narrative describing your knowledge of and demonstrated ability to work with County Administrative personnel and elected officials.

APPENDIX

1. Acknowledge of Receipt Form

Potential offerors **should** hand deliver or return by facsimile, registered or certified mail or email the “Acknowledgement of Receipt Form” (see APPENDIX A) that accompanies this document to have their organization placed on the procurement distribution list. The form **should** be signed by an authorized representative of the organization and delivered to the Procurement Manager no later than the date specified in the Sequence of Events. The procurement distribution list will be used for the distribution of important information regarding this procurement.

2. Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form

The Offeror must complete an unaltered Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form and submit a signed copy with the Offeror's proposal. This must be accomplished whether or not an applicable contribution has been made. (See APPENDIX B)

3. Letter of Transmittal Form

The Offeror's proposal **must** be accompanied by the Letter of Transmittal Form located in APPENDIX C. The form **must** be completed and must be signed by the person authorized to obligate the company.

4. Resident Business or Resident Veterans Preference

To ensure adequate consideration and application of NMSA 1978, § 13-1-21 (as amended), Offerors must include a copy of their preference certificate in this section. In addition, for resident Veterans Preference, the attached certification Form (APPENDIX D) must accompany any Offer and any business wishing to receive the preference must complete and sign the form.

VII. EVALUATION

A. EVALUATION POINT SUMMARY

The following is a summary of evaluation factors with point values assigned to each. These weighted factors will be used in the evaluation of individual potential Offeror proposals by sub-category.

Factors – correspond to section VI	Points Available
	Points must be assigned and defined for all factors (must total 100% of available points)
Relevant experience of the firm as Public Finance Attorneys on New Mexico county General Obligation bond issues.	25 points
Relevant experience of the firm as Public Finance Attorneys on other New Mexico Local Government Bond issues.	20 points
Proven knowledge of and demonstrated ability to work with County Administration personnel and elected officials.	20 points
Presence of local offices within Sandoval County and credentials of personnel assigned to provide services.	10 points
Experience in issues related to bond arbitrage calculations including IRS reporting.	10 points
Offerors schedule of fees and expenses to be charged for services.	15 points
Letter Of Transmittal	Pass/Fail
Signed Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form	Pass/Fail
TOTAL	100 points
New Mexico Preference - Resident Vendor Points	
New Mexico Preference - Resident Veterans Points	

Table 1: Evaluation Point Summary

EVALUATION FACTORS

Points will be awarded based on the thoroughness and clarity of the response of the engagements cited and the perceived validity of the response.

- a. Organizational Experience**
- b. Organizational References**
- c. Desirable Specification**
- d. Letter of Transmittal**
 - i. Pass/Fail only. No points assigned.
- e. Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form**
 - i. Pass/Fail only. No points assigned.

2. New Mexico Preferences

Percentages will be determined based upon the point based system outlined in NMSA 1978, § 13-1-21 (as amended).

a. New Mexico Business Preference

If the Offeror has provided their Preference Certificate the Preference Points for a New Mexico Business is 5%.

b. New Mexico Resident Veterans Business Preference

If the Offeror has provided their Preference Certificate **and** the Resident Veterans Certification Form the Preference Point are one of the following:

- 10% for less than \$1M (prior year revenue)
- 8% for more than \$1M but less than \$5M (prior year revenue)
- 7% for more than \$5M(prior year revenue)

3. Interview

If an interview is held, the Purchasing Office will distribute questions and instructions to the finalists prior to the scheduled interview. A maximum total of 100 points are possible in scoring each interview for this RFP. The Evaluation Committee may, at their discretion, request additional clarification as to the contents of the RFP submittal from any of the Offerors.

EVALUATION PROCESS

1. All Offeror proposals will be reviewed for compliance with the requirements and specifications stated within the RFP. Proposals deemed non-responsive will be eliminated from further consideration.
2. The Procurement Manager may contact the Offeror for clarification of the response.
3. The Evaluation Committee may use other sources of to perform the evaluation.

4. Responsive proposals will be evaluated on the factors set forth in the RFP, which have been assigned a point value. The responsible Offerors with the highest scores will be selected as finalist Offerors, based upon the proposals submitted. The responsible Offerors whose proposals are most advantageous to the County taking into consideration the evaluation factors will be recommended for award. Please note, however, that a serious deficiency in the response to any one factor may be grounds for rejection regardless of overall score.

APPENDIX A

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT FORM

APPENDIX A

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

PUBLIC FINANCE ATTORNEY SERVICES
RFP# FY16-SCMO-02

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT FORM

In acknowledgement of receipt of this Request for Proposal the undersigned agrees that s/he has received a complete copy, beginning with the title page and table of contents, and ending with APPENDIX G.

The acknowledgement of receipt should be signed and returned to the Procurement Manager no later than July 28, 2015 by 5:00 pm (Mountain Standard Time). Only potential Offerors who elect to return this form completed with the indicated intention of submitting a proposal will receive copies of all Offeror written questions and the written responses to those questions as well as RFP amendments, if any are issued.

FIRM: _____

REPRESENTED BY: _____

TITLE: _____ PHONE NO.: _____

E-MAIL: _____ FAX NO.: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

This name and address will be used for all correspondence related to the Request for Proposal.

Firm does/does not (circle one) intend to respond to this Request for Proposal.

Trish Greene, Senior Procurement Specialist
Sandoval County
1500 Idalia Road Bldg D, PO Box 40
Bernalillo, NM 87004
Fax: 505-867-7605
E-mail: tgreene@sandovalcountynm.gov

APPENDIX B

CAMPAIGN CONTRIBUTION DISCLOSURE FORM

Campaign Contribution Disclosure Form

Pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 13-1-191.1 (2006), any person seeking to enter into a contract with any state agency or local public body for professional services, a design and build project delivery system, or the design and installation of measures the primary purpose of which is to conserve natural resources must file this form with that state agency or local public body. This form must be filed even if the contract qualifies as a small purchase or a sole source contract. The prospective contractor must disclose whether they, a family member or a representative of the prospective contractor has made a campaign contribution to an applicable public official of the state or a local public body during the two years prior to the date on which the contractor submits a proposal or, in the case of a sole source or small purchase contract, the two years prior to the date the contractor signs the contract, if the aggregate total of contributions given by the prospective contractor, a family member or a representative of the prospective contractor to the public official exceeds two hundred and fifty dollars (\$250) over the two year period.

Furthermore, the state agency or local public body shall void an executed contract or cancel a solicitation or proposed award for a proposed contract if: 1) a prospective contractor, a family member of the prospective contractor, or a representative of the prospective contractor gives a campaign contribution or other thing of value to an applicable public official or the applicable public official's employees during the pendency of the procurement process or 2) a prospective contractor fails to submit a fully completed disclosure statement pursuant to the law.

THIS FORM MUST BE FILED BY ANY PROSPECTIVE CONTRACTOR WHETHER OR NOT THEY, THEIR FAMILY MEMBER, OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVE HAS MADE ANY CONTRIBUTIONS SUBJECT TO DISCLOSURE.

The following definitions apply:

“Applicable public official” means a person elected to an office or a person appointed to complete a term of an elected office, which has the authority to award or influence the award of the contract for which the prospective contractor is submitting a competitive sealed proposal or who has the authority to negotiate a sole source or small purchase contract that may be awarded without submission of a sealed competitive proposal.

“Campaign Contribution” means a gift, subscription, loan, advance or deposit of money or other thing of value, including the estimated value of an in-kind contribution, that is made to or received by an applicable public official or any person authorized to raise, collect or expend contributions on that official's behalf for the purpose of electing the official to either statewide or local office. “Campaign Contribution” includes the payment of a debt incurred in an election campaign, but does not include the value of services provided without compensation or unreimbursed travel or other personal expenses of individuals who volunteer a portion or all of their time on behalf of a candidate or political committee, nor does it include the administrative or solicitation expenses of a political committee that are paid by an organization that sponsors the committee.

“Family member” means spouse, father, mother, child, father-in-law, mother-in-law, daughter-in-law or son-in-law.

“Pendency of the procurement process” means the time period commencing with the public notice of the request for proposals and ending with the award of the contract or the cancellation of the request for proposals.

“Person” means any corporation, partnership, individual, joint venture, association or any other private legal entity.

“Prospective contractor” means a person who is subject to the competitive sealed proposal process set forth in the Procurement Code or is not required to submit a competitive sealed proposal because that person qualifies for a sole source or a small purchase contract.

“Representative of a prospective contractor” means an officer or director of a corporation, a member or manager of a limited liability corporation, a partner of a partnership or a trustee of a trust of the prospective contractor.

DISCLOSURE OF CONTRIBUTIONS:

Contribution Made By: _____

Relation to Prospective Contractor: _____

Name of Applicable Public Official: _____

Date Contribution(s) Made: _____

Amount(s) of Contribution(s) _____

Nature of Contribution(s) _____

Purpose of Contribution(s) _____

(Attach extra pages if necessary)

Signature

Date

Title (position)

—OR—

NO CONTRIBUTIONS IN THE AGGREGATE TOTAL OVER TWO HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS (\$250) WERE MADE to an applicable public official by me, a family member or representative.

Signature

Date

Title (Position)

APPENDIX C

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL FORM

APPENDIX C
Letter of Transmittal Form

RFP#: _____
Offeror Name: _____ **FED ID#** _____

Items #1 to #7 EACH MUST BE COMPLETED IN FULL

1. **Identity (Name) and Mailing Address** of the submitting organization:

2. For the person authorized by the organization to contractually obligate on behalf of this Offer:

Name _____

Title _____

E-Mail Address _____

Telephone Number _____

3. For the person authorized by the organization to negotiate on behalf of this Offer:

Name _____

Title _____

E-Mail Address _____

Telephone Number _____

4. For the person authorized by the organization to clarify/respond to queries regarding this Offer:

Name _____

Title _____

E-Mail Address _____

Telephone Number _____

5. Use of Sub-Contractors (Select one)

___ No sub-contractors will be used in the performance of any resultant contract OR

___ The following sub-contractors will be used in the performance of any resultant contract:

(Attach extra sheets, as needed)

6. Please describe any relationship with any entity (other than Subcontractors listed in (5) above) which will be used in the performance of any resultant contract.

(Attach extra sheets, as needed)

7. ___ On behalf of the submitting organization named in item #1, above, I accept the Conditions Governing the Procurement

___ I concur that submission of our proposal constitutes acceptance of the Evaluation Factors contained in Section V of this RFP.

___ I acknowledge receipt of any and all amendments to this RFP.

_____, 2015
Authorized Signature and Date (Must be signed by the person identified in item #2, above.)

APPENDIX D
RESIDENT VETERANS CERTIFICATION

New Mexico Preference Resident Veterans Certification

Reminder, a copy of Resident Veterans Preference Certificate must be submitted with the proposal in order to ensure adequate consideration and application of NMSA 1978, § 13-1-21 (as amended).

_____ (NAME OF CONTRACTOR) hereby certifies the following in regard to application of the resident veterans' preference to this procurement:

Please check one box only

- I declare under penalty of perjury that my business prior year revenue starting January 1 ending December 31 is less than \$1M allowing me the 10% preference on this solicitation. I understand that knowingly giving false or misleading information about this fact constitutes a crime.
- I declare under penalty of perjury that my business prior year revenue starting January 1 ending December 31 is more than \$1M but less than \$5M allowing me the 8% preference on this solicitation. I understand that knowingly giving false or misleading information about this fact constitutes a crime.
- I declare under penalty of perjury that my business prior year revenue starting January 1 ending December 31 is more than \$5M allowing me the 7% preference on this solicitation. I understand that knowingly giving false or misleading information about this fact constitutes a crime.

“I agree to submit a report, or reports, to the State Purchasing Division of the General Services Department declaring under penalty of perjury that during the last calendar year starting January 1 and ending on December 31, the following to be true and accurate:

“In conjunction with this procurement and the requirements of this business' application for a Resident Veteran Business Preference/Resident Veteran Contractor Preference under NMSA 1978, § 13-1-21 or 13-1-22, when awarded a contract which was on the basis of having such veterans preference, I agree to report to the State Purchasing Division of the General Services Department the awarded amount involved. I will indicate in the report the award amount as a purchase from a public body or as a public works contract from a public body as the case may be.

“I understand that knowingly giving false or misleading information on this report constitutes a crime.”

I declare under penalty of perjury that this statement is true to the best of my knowledge. I understand that giving false or misleading statements about material fact regarding this matter constitutes a crime.

(Signature of Business Representative)* (Date)

*Must be an authorized signatory for the Business. The representations made in checking the boxes constitutes a material representation by the business that is subject to protest and may result in denial of an award or termination of award of the procurement involved if the statements are proven to be incorrect.