

COUNTY OF FAIRFAX

COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA

GENERAL CONDITIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

BIDS ON SOLICITATIONS ISSUED BY THE COUNTY WILL BIND BIDDERS TO THE APPLICABLE CONDITIONS AND REQUIREMENTS IN THE GENERAL CONDITIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS (GCIB) UNLESS OTHERWISE SPECIFIED IN THE SOLICITATION AND SUBJECT TO APPLICABLE STATE, LOCAL, AND FEDERAL LAWS.

BIDDERS OR THEIR AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES SHOULD INFORM THEMSELVES FULLY AS TO THE CONDITIONS, REQUIREMENTS, AND SPECIFICATIONS OF EACH COUNTY PROCUREMENT BEFORE SUBMITTING BIDS. FAILURE TO DO SO WILL BE AT THE BIDDER'S OWN RISK AND RELIEF CANNOT BE SECURED ON THE PLEA OF ERROR.

1. **AUTHORITY**-The Purchasing Agent has the sole responsibility and authority for purchasing supplies, materials, equipment, and services, except as excluded in the Fairfax County Purchasing Resolution. The Purchasing Agent's responsibility and authority includes, but is not limited to, issuing and modifying solicitations, negotiating and executing contracts, and placing purchase orders. In discharging these responsibilities, the Purchasing Agent may be assisted by contract specialists. Unless specifically delegated by the Purchasing Agent, no other County officer or employee is authorized to order supplies or services, enter into purchase negotiations or contracts, or in any way obligate the government of the County of Fairfax for an indebtedness. Any purchase ordered or contract made that is contrary to these provisions and authorities shall be of no effect, void, and does not bind the County.
2. **DEFINITIONS**- Unless otherwise defined in the GCIB, capitalized terms shall have the meanings defined by the Fairfax County Purchasing Resolution.

AGENCY: Any Department, Agency, Authority, Commission, Board or other unit in the Administrative Service of the County.

BID: The offer of a bidder to provide specific goods or services at specified prices and/or other conditions specified in the solicitation.

BIDDER/OFFEROR: Any individual, company, firm, corporation, partnership or other organization bidding on solicitations issued by the Purchasing Agent and offering to enter into contracts with the County. The term "bidder" will be used throughout this document and shall be construed to mean "offeror" where appropriate.

CONTRACTOR: Any individual, company, firm, corporation, partnership or other organization to whom an award is made by the County.

INVITATION FOR BID (IFB): A request which is made to prospective suppliers (bidders) for their quotation on goods or services desired by the County. The issuance of an IFB will contain or incorporate by reference the specifications and contractual terms and conditions applicable to the procurement.

PURCHASING AGENT: The Purchasing Agent employed by the Board of Supervisors of Fairfax County, Virginia.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP): A request for an offer from prospective offerors which will indicate the general terms which are sought to be procured from the offeror. The RFP will specify the evaluation factors to be used and will contain or incorporate by reference other contractual terms and conditions applicable to the procurement.

SOLICITATION: The process of notifying prospective bidders that the County wishes to receive bids on a set of requirements to provide goods or services. The notification of County requirements may consist of public advertising (newspaper, County Web Site, or other electronic notification), the mailing of Notices of Solicitation, Invitation for Bid (IFB) or Request for Proposal (RFP), the public posting of notices, issuance of an informal solicitation to include telephone calls to prospective bidders.

CONDITIONS OF BIDDING

3. **BID FORMS**-Unless otherwise specified in the solicitation, all bids must be (i) submitted on the forms provided by the County, including the bid Cover Sheet and Pricing Schedule(s); (ii) properly signed in ink in the identified spaces; and (iii) submitted in a sealed envelope or package.

If the bid prices or any other submissions differ on the copy of the submitted bid, the ORIGINAL copy shall prevail.

4. **LATE BIDS & MODIFICATIONS OF BIDS**-
 - a. Bids or proposals received after the date and time specified for receipt in the solicitation will not be considered.
 - b. If an emergency, unanticipated event, or closing of County offices interrupts or suspends normal County business operations so that bids cannot be received at the County office designated for receipt of bids by the exact time specified in the solicitation, then bids will be due at the same time of day specified in the solicitation on the first work day that normal County business operations resume.

GENERAL CONDITIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

- c. The official time used for receipt of bids/modifications is the time and date stamp clock located in the Department of Procurement & Material Management. No other clocks, calendars or timepieces are recognized. All bidders must ensure all bids/modifications are received prior to the scheduled due date/time.
5. **WITHDRAWAL OF BIDS**- Bids shall be withdrawn only as set forth in the Fairfax County Purchasing Resolution.
6. **ERRORS IN BIDS**-When an error is made in extending total prices, the unit bid price will govern. Erasures in bids must be initiated by the bidder. Bidders are cautioned to recheck their bids for possible error. Errors discovered after public opening cannot be corrected and the bidder will be required to perform if its bid is accepted.
7. **LABELING OF BIDS** – All bids and proposals submitted in response to a County solicitation must be submitted in a sealed envelope or package identified with the solicitation number, title, and bidder's name and address clearly marked on the outside of the envelope or package.
8. **ACCEPTANCE OF BIDS/BINDING 90 DAYS**-Unless otherwise specified, all formal bids submitted shall be binding for ninety (90) calendar days following bid opening date, unless extended by mutual consent of all parties.
9. **CONDITIONAL BIDS**-Conditional bids may be rejected in whole or in part.
10. **BIDS FOR ALL OR PART**-The Purchasing Agent reserves the right to make award on all items in the aggregate or on any of the items on an individual basis, whichever is in the best interest of the County. A bidder may restrict its bid to consideration in the group aggregate by so stating, but must name a single unit price on each item bid. Any bid in which the bidder names a total price for all the articles without quoting a unit price for each and every separate item may not be considered for award.
11. **AREA BIDS**-For the purchase and delivery of certain goods and services the County may be divided into Areas (e.g., Areas I, II, III, and IV). When such goods and services are included in the Pricing Schedule, bidders may bid on all areas or an individual area. A map showing the areas of the County will be furnished with the solicitation when required.
12. **RECEIPT OF BIDS**-Bids received prior to the time of opening will be securely kept, unopened by the County. No responsibility will attach to the Purchasing Agent or her representative for the premature opening of a bid not properly addressed and identified. Unless specifically authorized in the solicitation, telegraphic, electronic, or facsimile bids/modifications will not be considered by the County.
13. **BID OPENING**-All bids received in response to an Invitation for Bid (IFB) will be opened at the date, time and place specified, read publicly, and made available for inspection as provided in paragraph 63, General Conditions and Instructions to Bidders. The Purchasing Agent's representative assigned to open the bids will decide when the specified time for bid opening has arrived. Tabulations of bids received are posted on the County's website at: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/procurement/bid-tab>
- Proposals received in response to a Request for Proposal (RFP) will be made available as provided in Paragraph 63, General Conditions and Instructions to Bidders.
14. **OMISSIONS & DISCREPANCIES**-Any items or parts of any equipment listed in this solicitation that clearly necessary for the operation and completion of such equipment, but are: (i) not fully described by the County; or (ii) are omitted by the County from such specification, shall be considered a part of such equipment even if not directly specified or called for in the specifications.
- If a bidder finds discrepancies or ambiguities in, or omissions from, the solicitation, including the drawings and/or specifications, it shall notify the Purchasing Agent at least five (5) days prior to the date set for the opening of bids. If necessary, the Purchasing Agent will send a written addendum for clarification to all bidders no later than three (3) days before the date set for opening of bids. Notifications regarding specifications will not be considered if received within five days of the date set for opening of bids.
15. **BIDDER INTERESTED IN MORE THAN ONE BID**-If more than one bid is offered by a bidder, directly or indirectly, all such bids may be rejected. A bidder who has quoted prices on work, materials, or supplies to a bidder is not disqualified from quoting prices to other bidders or firms submitting a bid directly for the work, materials or supplies.
16. **TAX EXEMPTION**-The County is exempt from the payment of any federal excise or any Virginia sales tax. Fairfax County's Federal Excise Tax Exemption Number is 54-74-0127K.
17. **PROHIBITION AGAINST UNIFORM PRICING**-The Purchasing Agent encourages open and competitive bidding by all possible means and endeavors to obtain the maximum degree of open competition on all purchase transactions using the methods of procurement authorized by the Fairfax County Purchasing Resolution. Each bidder, by virtue of submitting a bid, guarantees that it has not been a party with other bidders to an agreement to bid a fixed or uniform price. Violation of this implied guarantee shall render void the bids of participating bidders. Any disclosure to or acquisition by a competitive bidder, in advance of the opening of the bids, of the terms or conditions of the bid submitted by another competitor may render the entire proceedings void and may require re-advertising for bids.
18. **UNBALANCED BIDS**—A Bid shall be mathematically unbalanced if the Bid contains unit pricing that does not reflect reasonable costs (including actual labor and material cost, overhead and profit) for the performance of the bid item(s) in question. A Bid shall be materially unbalanced if there is a reasonable doubt that award of the mathematically unbalanced Bid will result in the lowest ultimate cost to the County. A Bid that is, in the sole discretion of the County Purchasing Agent, both mathematically and materially unbalanced, may be rejected as non-responsive.

GENERAL CONDITIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

SPECIFICATIONS

19. **CLARIFICATION OF TERMS**—If any prospective bidder has questions about the specifications or other solicitation documents, the prospective bidder should contact the contract specialist whose name appears on the face of the solicitation no later than five working dates before the due date. Any revisions to the solicitation will be made only by addendum issued by the contract specialist.
20. **BRAND NAME OR EQUAL ITEMS**—Unless otherwise provided in the Invitation for Bid, the name of a certain brand, make or manufacturer does not restrict bidders to the specific brand, make or manufacturer named; it conveys the general style, type, character, and quality of the article desired. Any article that the County in its sole discretion determines to be the equivalent of that specified, considering quality, workmanship, economy of operation, and suitability for the purpose intended, shall be accepted. The bidder is responsible for clearly and specifically identifying the product being offered and providing sufficient descriptive literature, catalog cuts and technical detail to enable the County to determine if the product offered meets the requirements of the solicitation. This is required even if offering the exact brand, make, or manufacturer specified. Failure to furnish adequate data for evaluation purposes may result in declaring a bid nonresponsive. Unless the bidder clearly indicates in its bid that the product is an equivalent product, such bid will be considered to offer the brand name product referenced in the solicitation.
21. **SPECIFICATIONS**—When a solicitation contains a specification that states no substitutes, no deviation therefrom will be permitted and the bidder will be required to furnish articles in conformity with that specification.

The bidder must abide by and comply with the true intent of the specifications and not take advantage of any unintentional error or omission, but shall fully complete every part as the true intent and meaning of the specifications and drawings. Whenever the mention is made of any articles, material, or workmanship to be in accordance with laws, ordinances, building codes, underwriter's codes, A.S.T.M. regulations or similar expressions, the requirements of these laws, ordinances, etc., shall be construed as to the minimum requirements of these specifications.

AWARD

22. **AWARD OR REJECTION OF BIDS**—The Purchasing Agent shall award the contract to the lowest responsive and responsible bidder complying with all provisions of the IFB, provided the bid price is reasonable and it is in the best interest of the County to accept it. Awards made in response to a RFP will be made to the highest qualified offeror whose proposal is determined, in writing, to be the most advantageous to the County taking into consideration the evaluation factors set forth in the RFP. The Purchasing Agent reserves the right to award a contract by individual items, in the aggregate, or in combination thereof, or to reject any or all bids and to waive any informality in bids received whenever such rejection or waiver is in the best interest of the County. Award may be made to as many bidders as deemed necessary to fulfill the anticipated requirements of Fairfax County. The Purchasing Agent also reserves the right to reject the bid of a bidder deemed to be a non-responsive bidder.

In determining the responsibility of a bidder, the following criteria will be considered:

- a. The ability, capacity and skill of the bidder to perform the contract or provide the service required;
 - b. Whether the bidder can perform the contract or provide the service promptly, or within the time specified, without delay or interference;
 - c. The character, integrity, reputation, judgment, experience and efficiency of the bidder;
 - d. The quality of performance of previous contracts or services;
 - e. The previous and existing compliance by the bidder with laws and ordinances relating to the contract or services;
 - f. The sufficiency of the financial resources and ability of the bidder to perform the contract or provide the service;
 - g. The quality, availability and adaptability of the goods or services to the particular use required;
 - h. The ability of the bidder to provide future maintenance and service for the use of the subject of the contract;
 - i. Whether the bidder is in arrears to the County on debt or contract or is a defaulter on surety to the County or whether the bidder's County taxes or assessments are delinquent; and
 - j. Such other information as may be secured by the Purchasing Agent having a bearing on the decision to award the contract. If an apparent low bidder is not awarded a contract for reasons of non-responsibility, the Purchasing Agent shall so notify that bidder and shall have recorded the reasons in the contract file.
23. **NOTICE OF ACCEPTANCE/CONTRACT DOCUMENTS**—A written award (or Acceptance Agreement) mailed or otherwise furnished to the successful bidder within the time for acceptance specified in the solicitation shall result in a binding contract. The following documents, which are included in the solicitation, are incorporated by reference in and made part of the resulting contract:
- a. County of Fairfax Solicitation Form (Cover Sheet) and other documents which may be incorporated by reference, if applicable
 - b. Acceptance Agreement
 - c. General Conditions and Instructions to Bidders
 - d. Special Provisions and Specifications
 - e. Pricing Schedule
 - f. Any Addenda/Amendments/Memoranda of Negotiations
24. **TIE-BIDS** – If all bids are for the same total amount or unit price (including authorized discounts and delivery times), and if the public interest will not permit the delay of re-advertisement for bids, the Purchasing Agent is authorized to award the contract to the tie bidder that has its principal place of business in the County, or if there be none, to the resident Virginia tie bidder, or if

GENERAL CONDITIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

there be none, to one of the tie bidders by drawing lots in public; or the Purchasing Agent may purchase the goods or services in the open market except that the price paid shall not exceed the lowest contract bid price submitted for the same goods or services. The decision of the County to make award to one or more such bidders shall be final.

25. **PROMPT PAYMENT DISCOUNT-**

- a. Unless otherwise specified in the solicitation, prompt payment discounts requiring payment in less than fifteen (15) days will not be considered in evaluating a bid for award. However, even though not considered in the evaluation, such discounts will be taken if payment is to be made within the discount period.
- b. If a discount for prompt payment is allowed, the discount period will begin on the date of receipt of a properly completed invoice or acceptance of materials or services, whichever is later.
- c. For determining acceptance of supplies in accordance with the provisions of the prompt payment discount paragraph, inspection and acceptance shall be accomplished only after examination (including testing) of supplies and services to determine whether the supplies and services conform to the contract requirements.

For the purpose of earning the discount, payment is deemed to be made as of the date of mailing of the County check or issuance of an Electronic Funds Transfer, or completion of a credit card transaction.

26. **INSPECTION-ACCEPTANCE-** Acceptance shall occur only after receipt and inspection provided such inspection, as appropriate, is accomplished within a reasonable time. The County reserves the right to conduct any test/inspection it may deem advisable to assure goods and services conform to the specifications.
27. **DEFINITE BID QUANTITIES-**Where definite quantities are specifically stated, acceptance will bind the County to order quantities specified and to pay for, at contract prices, all such supplies or services delivered that meet specifications and conditions of the contract. However, the County will not be required to accept delivery of any balances unordered, as of the contract expiration date, unless the Contractor furnished the Purchasing Agent with a statement of unordered balances not later than ten (10) days after the termination date of the contract.
28. **REQUIREMENT BID QUANTITIES-**On "Requirement" bids, acceptance will bind the County to pay for, at unit bid prices, only quantities ordered and delivered. Where the County specifies estimated quantities, the Contractor shall not be required to deliver more than ten (10) percent in excess of the estimated quantity of each item, unless otherwise agreed upon.

CONTRACT PROVISIONS

29. **TERMINATION OF CONTRACTS-**Contracts will remain in force for (i) the full period specified or (ii) until all articles ordered before date of termination, but arriving after the termination date, are satisfactorily delivered, accepted, and any further requirements and conditions are met, unless the Contract is:
 - a. Terminated prior to expiration date by satisfactory deliveries of entire contract requirements, or upon termination by the County for Convenience or Cause.
 - b. Extended upon written authorization of the Purchasing Agent and accepted by Contractor, to permit ordering of unordered balances or additional quantities at contract prices and in accordance with contract terms.
30. **TERMINATION FOR CONVENIENCE-**
 - a. A contract may be terminated in whole or in part by the County in accordance with this clause whenever the Purchasing Agent determines that such a termination is in the best interest of the County. Any such termination will be effected by delivery to the Contractor of a Notice of Termination specifying the extent to which performance is terminated and the date upon which termination becomes effective.
 - b. An equitable adjustment in the contract price shall be made by the Purchasing Agent for completed service, but no amount shall be allowed for anticipated profit on unperformed services. Paragraph 30.b shall survive termination of the contract.
31. **TERMINATION OF CONTRACT FOR CAUSE-**
 - a. If, through any cause, the Contractor fails to fulfill in a timely and proper manner its obligations under this contract, or if the Contractor violates any of the covenants, agreements, or stipulations of this contract, the County has the right to terminate the contract. Any such termination will be effected by delivery to the Contractor of a Notice of Termination specifying the extent to which performance is terminated and the date upon which termination becomes effective. In such event, all finished or unfinished documents, data, studies, surveys, drawings, maps, models, and reports prepared by the Contractor under the contract shall, at the option of the County, become the County's property and the Contractor shall be entitled to receive just and equitable compensation for any satisfactory work completed on such documents.
 - b. Termination of the Contract for Cause does not relieve the Contractor of liability to the County for damages sustained by the County by virtue of any breach of contract by the Contractor for the purpose of set off until such time as the exact amount of damages due to the County from the Contractor is determined.
32. **CONTRACT ALTERATIONS-**No alterations in the terms of a contract shall be valid or binding upon the County unless made in writing and signed by the Purchasing Agent or her authorized agent.

GENERAL CONDITIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

33. **SUBLETTING OR ASSIGNMENT** -It is mutually understood and agreed that the Contractor shall not assign, transfer, convey, sublet or otherwise dispose of his or her contractual duties to any other person, firm or corporation, without the previous written consent of the Purchasing Agent. If the Contractor desires to assign its right to payment of the contract, Contractor shall notify the Purchasing Agent immediately, in writing, of such assignment of right to payment. In no case shall such assignment of contract relieve the Contractor from its obligations or change the terms of the contract.
34. **FUNDING**- The obligation of the County to pay compensation due the Contractor under the contract or any other payment obligations under any contract awarded pursuant to this contract is subject to appropriations by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors to satisfy payment of such obligations. The County's obligations to make payments during subsequent fiscal years are dependent upon the same action. If such an appropriation is not made for any fiscal year, the contract shall terminate effective at the end of the fiscal year for which funds were appropriated and the County will not be obligated to make any payments under the contract beyond the amount appropriated for payment obligations under the contract. The County will provide the Contractor with written notice of non-appropriation of funds within thirty (30) calendar days after action is completed by the Board of Supervisors. However, the County's failure to provide such notice will not extend the contract into a fiscal year in which sufficient funds have not been appropriated.
35. **DELIVERY/SERVICE FAILURES**-If a Contractor (i) fails to deliver goods or services within the time specified or within a reasonable time as interpreted by the Purchasing Agent; or (ii) fails to make replacements or corrections of rejected articles or services when so requested, immediately or as directed by the Purchasing Agent, then the Purchasing Agent shall have the authority to purchase in the open market goods or services of comparable grade or quality to replace goods or services not delivered or rejected. On all such purchases, the Contractor shall reimburse the County, within a reasonable time specified by the Purchasing Agent, for any expense incurred in excess of contract prices. Such purchases shall be deducted from the contract quantities if applicable. Should public necessity demand it, the County reserves the right to use or consume articles delivered or services performed which are substandard in quality, subject to an adjustment in price to be determined by the Purchasing Agent.
36. **NON-LIABILITY**-The Contractor shall not be liable in damages for delay in shipment or failure to deliver when such delay or failure is the result of fire, flood, strike, the transportation carrier, act of God, act of Government, act of an alien enemy or by any other circumstances which, in the Purchasing Agent's opinion, are beyond the reasonable control of the Contractor. Under such circumstances, however, the Purchasing Agent may, at her discretion terminate the contract.
37. **NON-DISCRIMINATION**-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 non-discrimination 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.
 - d. The Contractor will include the provisions of the foregoing paragraphs a, b, and c above in every subcontract or purchase order of over \$10,000 so that the provisions will be binding upon each subcontractor or vendor.
 - e. Contractor shall, throughout the term of this contract, comply with the Human Rights Ordinance, Chapter 11 of the Code of the County of Fairfax, Virginia, as reenacted or amended. Contractor shall further require that all of its subcontractors will comply with the Human Rights Ordinance, Chapter 11 of the Code of the County of Fairfax, Virginia, as reenacted or amended
38. **SMALL, WOMEN-OWNED, AND MINORITY-OWNED BUSINESS USE**-
- a. It is the declared policy of the County of Fairfax, through its Small and Minority Business Enterprise Program, that Fairfax County and its employees undertake every effort to increase opportunity for use of small or minority businesses in all aspects of procurement to the maximum extent feasible.
 - b. Where it is practicable for any portion of the awarded contract to be subcontracted to other suppliers, the contractor is encouraged to offer such subcontracting opportunities to small, women and minority businesses.
 - c. Where Federal grants or monies are involved, it is the policy of Fairfax County, through its agents and employees, to comply with the requirements set forth in the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles, and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards, as they pertain to small and minority business use.
39. **GUARANTEES & WARRANTIES**-All guarantees and warranties required shall be furnished by the Contractor and shall be delivered to the Purchasing Agent before contract execution. Unless otherwise stated, manufacturer's standard warranty applies.
40. **PRICE REDUCTION**-If the Contractor makes a general price reduction for any material covered by the solicitation to customers generally, an equivalent price reduction shall apply to this contract for the duration of the contract period (or until the price is further reduced). Such price reduction shall be effective at the same time and in the same manner as the reduction in the price to customers generally. For purpose of this provision, a "general price reduction" shall mean any horizontal reduction in the price of an article or service offered (1) to Contractor's customers generally, or (2) in the Contractor's price schedule for the class of customers (i.e., wholesalers, jobbers, or retailers), which was used as the basis for bidding on this solicitation. An occasional sale at a lower price, or sale of distressed merchandise at a lower price is not a "general price reduction" under this provision. The Contractor shall submit its invoice at such reduced prices indicating on the invoice that the reduction is pursuant to the "Price

GENERAL CONDITIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

Reduction" provision of the contract documents. The Contractor will also within ten days of any general price reduction notify the Purchasing Agent of such reduction by letter. FAILURE TO DO SO MAY RESULT IN TERMINATION OF THE CONTRACT.

41. **CHANGES**-If in the Purchasing Agent's opinion, it becomes proper or necessary in the execution of this contract to make any change in design, or to make any alterations that will increase the expense, the Purchasing Agent shall determine an equitable adjustment to the Contractor's compensation.

No payment shall be made to the Contractor for any extra material or services, or of any greater amount of money than stipulated to be paid in the contract, unless some changes in or additions to the contract requiring additional outlay by the Contractor are first expressly authorized and ordered in writing by contract amendment or otherwise furnished by the Purchasing Agent.

42. **PLACING OF ORDERS**-Orders against contracts will be placed with the Contractor by Purchase Order or Procurement Card (P-Card) executed and released by the Purchasing Agent or their designee. When a Blanket Purchase Order has been released by the Purchasing Agent, telephonic orders may be placed directly with the Contractor by authorized personnel in the ordering Agency.

DELIVERY PROVISIONS

43. **SHIPPING INSTRUCTIONS - CONSIGNMENT**-Unless otherwise specified in the solicitation each case, container, package, etc., delivered under the contract must be plainly marked, stating the Contractor's name, purchase order number, and delivery address as indicated in the order. Deliveries must be made within the hours of 8:00 AM - 3:00 PM. Deliveries at any other time will not be accepted unless specific arrangements have been previously made with the receiver at the delivery point. No deliveries will be accepted on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, unless previous arrangements have been made. It shall be the responsibility of the Contractor to insure compliance with these instructions for items that are drop-shipped.
44. **RESPONSIBILITY FOR MATERIALS OR GOODS TENDERED**-Unless otherwise specified in the solicitation, the Contractor is responsible for the materials or supplies covered by the contract until they are delivered at the delivery point designated by the County. The Contractor bears all risk of loss on rejected materials or supplies after notice of rejection. Rejected materials or supplies must be removed by and at the expense of the Contractor promptly after notification of rejection, unless public health and safety require immediate destruction or other disposal of rejected delivery. If rejected materials are not removed by the Contractor within ten (10) days after date of notification, the County may return the rejected materials or supplies to the Contractor at its risk and expense or dispose of them as the County's own property.
45. **INSPECTIONS**-Inspection and acceptance of materials or supplies will be made after delivery at the designated destinations unless otherwise stated. If inspection is made after delivery at the designated destination, the County will bear the expense of inspection except for the value of samples used in case of rejection. Final inspection is conclusive except in regard to latent defects, fraud or such gross mistakes as to amount to fraud. Final inspection and acceptance or rejection of the materials or supplies will be made as promptly as practicable, but failure to inspect and accept or reject materials or supplies shall not impose liability on the County for such materials or supplies as are not in accordance with the specifications.
46. **COMPLIANCE**-Delivery must be made as ordered and in accordance with the contract or as directed by the Purchasing Agent when not in conflict with the contract. The decision of the Purchasing Agent as to reasonable compliance with delivery terms shall be final. If the Contractor claims the delay in receipt of goods was caused by the County, the Contractor must provide evidence satisfactory to the Purchasing Agent supporting the Contractor's claim. Any request for extension of delivery time from that specified in the contract must be approved by the Purchasing Agent, such extension applying only to the particular item or shipment affected. If the Contractor is delayed by the County, there shall be added to the time of completion a time equal to the period of such delay caused by the County. However, the Contractor shall not be entitled to claim damages or extra compensation for such delay or suspension. These conditions may vary for construction contracts. See contract for the individual instructions.
47. **POINT OF DESTINATION**-All materials shipped to the County must be shipped F.O.B. DESTINATION unless otherwise stated in the contract or purchase order. The materials must be delivered to the "Ship to" address indicated on the purchase order.
48. **ADDITIONAL CHARGES**-Unless bought F.O.B. "shipping point" and Contractor prepays transportation, no delivery charges shall be added to invoices except when express delivery is authorized and substituted on orders for the method specified in the contract. In such cases, difference between freight or mail and express charges may be added to invoice.
49. **METHOD AND CONTAINERS**-Unless otherwise specified, goods shall be delivered in commercial packages in standard commercial containers that are constructed to ensure acceptance by common or other carrier for safe transportation to the point of delivery. Containers become the property of the County unless otherwise specified by bidder.
50. **REPLACEMENT**-Materials or components that have been rejected by the Purchasing Agent, in accordance with the terms of a contract, shall be replaced by the Contractor at no cost to the County.
51. **PACKING SLIPS OR DELIVERY TICKETS**-All shipments must be accompanied by Packing Slips or Delivery Tickets and must contain the following information for each item delivered:
- The Purchase Order Number,
 - The Name of the Article and Stock Number (Supplier's),
 - The Quantity Ordered,

GENERAL CONDITIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

- d. The Quantity Shipped,
- e. The Quantity Back Ordered,
- f. The Name of the Contractor.

Contractors are cautioned that failure to comply with these conditions is sufficient reason for the County's refusal to accept the goods.

BILLING

52. **BILLING**-Billing for the Fairfax County Public Schools and for County agencies: Unless otherwise specified on the contract or purchase order (PO), invoices are to be submitted for each purchase order immediately upon completion of the shipment or services. Invoices should be mailed to the "BILL TO" address on the PO or to the appropriate address specified in the contract.

PAYMENTS

53. **PAYMENT**-Payment shall be made after satisfactory performance that is in accordance with all provisions of the contract, and upon receipt of a properly completed invoice. The County reserves the right to withhold any or all payments or portions thereof for Contractor's failure to perform in accordance with the provision of the contract or any subsequent modifications.
54. **PARTIAL PAYMENTS**-Unless otherwise specified, partial payments will be made upon acceptance of materials or services so invoiced if in accordance with completion date. However, up to 5 percent (5%) of the value of the entire order may be retained until completion of contract.
55. **PAYMENT FOR EQUIPMENT, INSTALLATION, AND TESTING**-When equipment requires installation (which includes erection, setting up or placing in position, service, or use) and testing, and the installation or testing is delayed, payment may be made on the basis of 50% of the contract price when such equipment is delivered on the site. A further allowance of 25% may be made when the equipment is installed and ready for test. The balance shall be paid after the equipment is tested and found to be satisfactory. If the equipment must be tested, but installation is not required to be made by the Contractor or if the equipment must be installed but testing is not required, payment may be made on the basis of 75% at the time of delivery and the balance shall be paid after satisfactory test or installation is completed.

GENERAL

56. **GENERAL GUARANTY**-Contractor agrees to:
- a. Save the County, its agents and employees harmless from liability of any nature or kind for the use of any copyrighted or uncopyrighted composition; secret process, patented or unpatented; invention; article or appliance furnished or used in the performance of a contract for which the Contractor is not the patentee, assignee, licensee or owner.
 - b. Warrant that when the contract includes a software license, or use of licensed software, the Contractor is the owner of the Software or otherwise has the right to grant to the County the license to use the Software granted through the Contract without violating or infringing any law, rule, regulation, copyright, patent, trade secret or other proprietary right of any third party.
 - c. Protect the County against latent defective material or workmanship and to repair or replace any damages or marring occasioned in transit or delivery.
 - d. Furnish adequate protection against damage to all work and to repair damages of any kind to the building or equipment, to his or her own work or to the work of other contractors, for which his or her workers are responsible.
 - e. Pay for all permits, licenses and fees and give all notices and comply with all laws, ordinances, rules, regulations, and policies of the County.
 - f. Protect the County from loss or damage to County owned property while it is in the custody of the Contractor.
57. **SERVICE CONTRACT GUARANTY**-Contractor agrees to:
- a. Furnish services described in the solicitation and resultant contract at the times and places and in the manner and subject to conditions of those documents provided that the County may reduce the said services at any time.
 - b. Enter upon the performance of services with all due diligence and dispatch, assiduously press to its complete performance, and exercise therein the highest degree of skill and competence.
 - c. All work and services rendered in strict conformance to all laws, statutes, and ordinances and the applicable government rules, regulations, methods, and procedures.
 - d. Allow services to be inspected or reviewed by an employee of the County at any reasonable time and place selected by the County. The County is under no obligation to compensate Contractor for any services not rendered in strict conformity with the contract.
 - e. Stipulate that the presence of a County Inspector shall not lessen the obligation of the Contractor for performance in accordance with the contract requirements, or be deemed a defense on the part of the Contractor for infraction thereof. The Inspector is not authorized to revoke, alter, enlarge, relax, or release any of the requirements of the contract documents. Any omission or failure on the part of the Inspector to disapprove or reject any work or material shall not be construed to be an acceptance of any such defective work or material. Notification of an omission or failure will be documented by the Purchasing Agent.

GENERAL CONDITIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

58. INDEMNIFICATION-

- a. **General Indemnification.** Contractor must indemnify, keep and save harmless, and defend the County, its agents, officials, employees and volunteers against Claims that may accrue or arise against the County as a result of the granting a contract, if the Claim was caused by the negligence or error, or omission of the Contractor, its employees, its subcontractor, or its subcontractor's employees. As used in this Section, a Claim includes: injuries, death, damage to property, breach of data security, suits, liabilities, judgments, or costs and expenses. Upon request by the County, the Contractor must at its own expense: appear, defend, and pay all attorney's fees and all costs and other expenses related to the Claim. If, related to a Claim, any judgment is rendered against the County or a settlement reached that requires the County to pay money, the Contractor must at its own expense satisfy and discharge the same. Contractor expressly understands and agrees that any performance bond or insurance protection required by this Contract, or otherwise provided by the Contractor, does not limit the Contractor's responsibility to indemnify, keep and save harmless, and defend the County as provided in this Contract.
- b. **Intellectual Property Indemnification.** In addition to the General Indemnification, Contractor will indemnify the County for and defend the County against third-party claims for infringement of any valid United States patent, trademark or copyright by the Contractor's products, software, services, or deliverables. Contractor must indemnify the County for any loss, damage, expense or liability, including costs and reasonable attorney's fees that may result by reason of any such claim.

In the event of a claim covered by this subparagraph, and in addition to all other obligations of Contractor in this Paragraph 58, Contractor must at its expense and within a reasonable time: (a) obtain a right for the County to continue using such products and software, or allow Contractor to continue performing the Services; (b) modify such products, software, services or deliverables to make them non-infringing; or (c) replace such products or software with a non-infringing equivalent. If, in the Contractor's reasonable opinion, none of the foregoing options is feasible Contractor must immediately notify the County and accept the return of the products, software, services, or deliverables, along with any other components rendered unusable as a result of the infringement or claimed infringement, and refund to the County the price paid to Contractor for such components as well as any pre-paid fees for the allegedly infringing services, including license, subscription fees, or both. Nothing in Paragraph 58, however, relieves the Contractor of liability to the County for damages sustained by the County by virtue of any breach of contract related to a third-party infringement claim.

- c. **Right to Participate in Defense.** The County may, at its sole expense, participate in the defense or resolution of a Claim. Contractor will have primary control of the defense and resolution of the Claim, except when such defense or resolution requires the County to (i) admit liability or wrongdoing; or (ii) to pay money. In either of these cases Contractor must obtain the County's prior written consent before raising such defense or entering into such resolution.
- d. **No Indemnification by the County.** The parties agree that under applicable law the County cannot indemnify or defend the Contractor. To the extent any promise or term contained in this Contract, including any exhibits, attachments, or other documents incorporated by reference therein, includes an indemnification or obligation to defend by the County, that promise or term is stricken from this Contract and of no effect.

59. OFFICIALS NOT TO BENEFIT-

- a. Each bidder, offeror, or contractor shall certify, upon signing a bid, proposal, or contract, that to the best of their knowledge no Fairfax County official or employee having official responsibility for the procurement transaction, or member of their immediate family, has received or will receive any financial benefit of more than nominal or minimal value relating to the award of this contract. For purposes of this Paragraph, "financial benefit" means any payment, loan, subscription, advance, deposit of money, services personal use rebates or anything of more than nominal or minimal value, present or promised, unless consideration of substantially equal or greater value is exchanged. If a financial benefit has been received or will be received, this fact must be disclosed with the bid or proposal or as soon thereafter as it appears that a financial benefit will be received. Failure to disclose the information prescribed above may result in suspension or debarment, or rescission of the contract made, or could affect payment pursuant to the terms of the contract.
- b. Whenever there is reason to believe that a financial benefit of the sort described in paragraph "a" has been or will be received in connection with a bid, proposal or contract, and that the Contractor has failed to disclose such benefit or has inadequately disclosed it, the County Executive, as a prerequisite to payment pursuant to the contract, or at any other time, may require the Contractor to furnish, under oath, answers to any interrogatories related to such possible benefit.
- c. In the event the bidder or offeror has knowledge of financial benefits as outlined above, this information should be submitted with the bid or proposal. If the above does not apply at time of award of contract and becomes known after inception of a contract, the bidder or offeror must disclose such facts to the Fairfax County Purchasing Agent, 12000 Government Center Parkway, Suite 427, Fairfax, Virginia 22035-0013. Relevant Invitation/Request for Proposal Number (see cover sheet) should be referenced in the disclosure.

60. **LICENSE REQUIREMENT-**All firms doing business in Fairfax County, shall obtain a license as required by Chapter 4, Article 7, of The Code of the County of Fairfax, Virginia, as amended, entitled "Business, Professional and Occupational Licensing (BPOL) Tax." Questions concerning the BPOL Tax should be directed to the Department of Tax Administration, telephone (703) 222-8234 or visit: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/taxes/business/understanding-bpol-tax>. The BPOL Tax number must be indicated in the space provided on the Cover Sheet, "Fairfax License Tax No." when appropriate.

GENERAL CONDITIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

61. **AUTHORIZATION TO CONDUCT BUSINESS IN THE COMMONWEALTH:** A contractor organized as a stock or nonstock corporation, limited liability company, business trust, or limited partnership or registered as a registered limited liability partnership shall be authorized to transact business in the Commonwealth as a domestic or foreign business entity if so required by Title 13.1 or Title 50 of the *Code of Virginia* or as otherwise required by law. Any business entity described above that enters into a contract with a Fairfax County pursuant to the Fairfax County Purchasing Resolution shall not allow its existence to lapse or its certificate of authority or registration to transact business in the Commonwealth, if so required under Title 13.1 or Title 50, to be revoked or cancelled at any time during the term of the contract. Fairfax County may void any contract with a business entity if the business entity fails to remain in compliance with the provisions of this section.
62. **COVENANT AGAINST CONTINGENT FEES-**The Contractor warrants that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure this contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee, except bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial or selling agencies maintained by the Contractor for the purpose of securing business. For violation of this warranty, the County shall have the right to terminate or suspend this contract without liability to the County or in its discretion to deduct from the contract price or consideration, or otherwise recover, the full amount of such commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee.
63. **VIRGINIA FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT-**All proceedings, records, contracts and other public records relating to procurement transactions shall be open to the inspection of any citizen, or any interested person, firm or corporation, in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act except as provided below:
- a. Cost estimates relating to a proposed procurement transaction prepared by or for a public body shall not be open to public inspection.
 - b. Any competitive sealed bidding bidder, upon request, shall be afforded the opportunity to inspect bid records within a reasonable time after the opening of all bids but prior to award, except in the event that the County decides not to accept any of the bids and to reopen the contract. Otherwise, bid records shall be open to public inspection only after award of the contract. Any competitive negotiation offeror, upon request, shall be afforded the opportunity to inspect proposal records within a reasonable time after the evaluation and negotiations of proposals are completed but prior to award except in the event that the County decides not to accept any of the proposals and to reopen the contract. Otherwise, proposal records shall be open to the public inspection only after award of the contract except as provided in paragraph "c" below. Any inspection of procurement transaction records under this section shall be subject to reasonable restrictions to ensure the security and integrity of the records.
 - c. Trade secrets or proprietary information submitted by a bidder, offeror or Contractor in connection with a procurement transaction or prequalification application submitted pursuant to the prequalification process identified in the Special Provisions, shall not be subject to the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; however, the bidder, offeror or Contractor shall (i) invoke the protections of this section prior to or upon submission of the data or other materials, (ii) identify the data or other materials to be protected, and (iii) state the reasons why protection is necessary.
 - d. Nothing contained in this section shall be construed to require the County, when procuring by "competitive negotiation" (Request for Proposal), to furnish a statement of the reasons why a particular proposal was not deemed to be the most advantageous to the County.
 - e. The County cannot maintain as confidential any information, data, or records obtainable through the Virginia Freedom of Information or similar law. This includes records or information that have not been properly designated as trade secret or proprietary information pursuant to Va. Code Ann. § 2.2-4342(F).
 - f. A bidder or offeror shall not designate as trade secrets or proprietary information (a) an entire bid, proposal, or prequalification application; (b) any portion of a bid, proposal, or prequalification application that does not contain trade secrets or proprietary information; or (c) line item prices or total bid, proposal, or prequalification application prices.

BIDDER/CONTRACTOR REMEDIES

64. INELIGIBILITY-

- a. Any person or firm suspended or debarred from participation in County procurement shall be notified in writing by the Purchasing Agent.
 - 1. The Notice of Suspension shall state the reasons for the actions taken and such decision shall be final unless the person or firm appeals within ten (10) days of receipt of the Notice by instituting legal action as provided in the Code of Virginia.
 - 2. The Notice of Debarment shall state the reasons for the actions taken and the decision shall be final unless the person or firm appeals within ten (10) days of receipt of the Notice by instituting legal action as provided in the Code of Virginia.
- b. The Purchasing Agent shall have the authority to suspend or debar a person or firm from bidding on any contract for the causes stated below:
 - 1. Conviction for commission of a criminal offense as an incident to obtaining or attempting to obtain a public or private contract or subcontract, or in the performance of such contract or subcontract;
 - 2. Conviction under state or federal statutes of embezzlement, theft, forgery, bribery, falsification or destruction of records, receiving stolen property, or any other offense indicating a lack of business integrity or business honesty which currently, seriously, and directly affects responsibility as a County Contractor;
 - 3. Conviction under the state or federal antitrust statutes arising out of the submission of bids or proposals;
 - 4. Violation of contract provisions, as set forth below, of a character which is regarded by the Purchasing Agent to be so serious as to justify suspension or debarment action:

GENERAL CONDITIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

- a. failure without good cause to perform in accordance with the specifications or within the time limit provided in the contract; or
 - b. a recent record of failure to perform or of unsatisfactory performance in accordance with the terms of one or more contracts; provided, that failure to perform or unsatisfactory performance caused by acts beyond the control of the Contractor shall not be considered to be a basis for suspension or debarment;
 - 5. Any other cause the Purchasing Agent determines to be so serious and compelling as to affect responsibility as a Contractor, such as debarment by another governmental entity for any cause listed herein, or because of prior reprimands;
 - 6. The contractor has abandoned performance, been terminated for default on a Fairfax County project, or has taken any actions that inure to the detriment of Fairfax County or a Fairfax County project ;
 - 7. The Contractor is in default on any surety bond or written guarantee on which Fairfax County is an obligee.
 - c. If, upon appeal, it is determined that the action taken by the Purchasing Agent was arbitrary or capricious, or not in accordance with the Constitution of Virginia, statutes or regulations, the sole relief available to the person or firm shall be restoration of eligibility. The person or firm may not institute legal action until all statutory requirements have been met.
- 65. APPEAL OF DENIAL OF WITHDRAWAL OF BID-**
- a. A decision denying withdrawal of a bid submitted by a bidder or offeror shall be final and conclusive unless the bidder appeals the decision within ten (10) days after receipt of the decision by instituting legal action as provided in the Code of Virginia. The bidder or offeror may not institute legal action until all statutory requirements have been met.
 - b. If no bid bond was posted, a bidder refused withdrawal of bid under the provisions of Article 2, Section 5.A.8, of the Fairfax County Purchasing Resolution, prior to appealing, shall deliver to the County a certified check or cash bond in the amount of the difference between the bid sought to be withdrawn and the next low bid. Such security shall be released only upon a final determination that the bidder was entitled to withdraw the bid.
 - c. If, upon appeal, it is determined that the decision refusing withdrawal of the bid was not an honest exercise of discretion, but rather was arbitrary or capricious or not in accordance with the Constitution of Virginia, applicable state law or regulation, or the terms or conditions of the Invitation to Bid, the sole relief shall be withdrawal of the bid.
- 66. APPEAL OF DETERMINATION OF NONRESPONSIBILITY-**
- a. Any bidder who, despite being the apparent low bidder, is determined not to be a responsible bidder for a particular County contract shall be notified in writing by the Purchasing Agent. Such notice shall state the basis for the determination, which shall be final unless the bidder appeals the decision within ten (10) days of receipt of the notice by instituting legal action as provided in the Code of Virginia. The bidder may not institute legal action until all statutory requirements have been met.
 - b. If, upon appeal, it is determined that the decision of the Purchasing Agent was arbitrary or capricious and the award for the particular County contract in question has not been made, the sole relief available to the bidder shall be a finding that the bidder is a responsible bidder for the County contract in question. Where the award has been made and performance has begun, the County may declare the contract void upon a finding that this action is in the best interest of the public. Where a contract is declared void, the performing Contractor shall be compensated for the cost of performance up to the time of such declaration. In no event shall the performing Contractor be entitled to lost profits.
- 67. PROTEST OF AWARD OR DECISION TO AWARD-**
- a. Any bidder or offeror may protest the award or decision to award a contract by submitting a protest in writing to the Purchasing Agent, or an official designated by the County of Fairfax, no later than ten (10) days after the award or the announcement of the decision to award, whichever occurs first. Any potential bidder or offeror on a contract negotiated on a sole source or emergency basis who desires to protest the award or decision to award such contract shall submit such protest in the same manner no later than ten days after posting or publication of the notice of such contract as provided in Article 2, Section 2, of the Fairfax County Purchasing Resolution. However, if the protest of any actual or potential bidder or offeror depends in whole or in part upon information contained in public records pertaining to the procurement transaction which are subject to inspection under Article 2, Section 5.C of the Fairfax County Purchasing Resolution, then the time within which the protest must be submitted shall expire ten days after those records are available for inspection by such bidder or offeror under Article 2, Section 5.C, or at such later time as provided herein. No protest shall lie for a claim that the selected bidder or offeror is not a responsible bidder or offeror. The written protest shall include the basis for the protest and the relief sought. The Purchasing Agent shall issue a decision in writing within ten (10) days of the receipt of the protest stating the reasons for the action taken. This decision shall be final unless the bidder or offeror appeals within ten (10) days of receipt of the written decision by instituting legal action as provided in the Code of Virginia. Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit a bidder to challenge the validity of the terms or conditions of the Invitation for Bid or Request for Proposal.
 - b. If prior to award it is determined that the decision to award is arbitrary or capricious, then the sole relief shall be a finding to that effect. The Purchasing Agent shall cancel the proposed award or revise it to comply with the law. If, after an award, it is determined that an award of a contract was arbitrary or capricious, then the sole relief shall be as hereinafter provided. Where the award has been made but performance has not begun, the performance of the contract may be declared void by the County. Where the award has been made and performance has begun, the Purchasing Agent may declare the contract

GENERAL CONDITIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

void upon a finding that this action is in the best interest of the County. Where a contract is declared void, the performing Contractor shall be compensated for the cost of performance at the rate specified in the contract up to the time of such declaration. In no event shall the performing Contractor be entitled to lost profits.

- c. Pending final determination of a protest or appeal, the validity of a contract awarded and accepted in good faith in accordance with this article shall not be affected by the fact that a protest or appeal has been filed.
- d. An award need not be delayed for the period allowed a bidder or offeror to protest, but in the event of a timely protest, no further action to award the contract will be taken unless there is a written determination that proceeding without delay is necessary to protect the public interest or unless the bid or offer would expire.

68. CONTRACTUAL DISPUTES-

- a. Any dispute concerning a question of fact as a result of a contract with the County which is not disposed of by agreement shall be decided by the Purchasing Agent, who shall reduce her decision to writing and mail or otherwise forward a copy to the Contractor within ninety (90) days. The decision of the Purchasing Agent shall be final and conclusive unless the Contractor appeals within six (6) months of the date of the final written decision by instituting legal action as provided in the Code of Virginia. A Contractor may not institute legal action, prior to receipt of the Purchasing Agent's decision on the claim, unless the Purchasing Agent fails to render such decision within the time specified.
- b. Contractual claims, whether for money or other relief, shall be submitted in writing no later than sixty 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. 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 amounts agreed due in the final payment.

69. **LEGAL ACTION**-No bidder, offeror, potential bidder or offeror, or Contractor shall institute any legal action until all statutory requirements have been met. Statutory requirements include, but are not limited to, the requirements of the Virginia Public Procurement Act, as reflected in the Fairfax County Purchasing Resolution and the requirement that any contractor seeking monetary relief or damages from the County must submit its claim to the Board of Supervisors in compliance with Virginia Code § 15.2-1243 through 1249.

70. **VENUE**: This contract and its terms, including but not limited to, the parties' obligations, the performance due, and the remedies available to each party, are governed, construed, and interpreted in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth of Virginia. Any jurisdiction's choice of law, conflicts of laws, rules, or provisions that would cause the application of any laws other than those of the Commonwealth of Virginia do not apply. Any and all disputes, claims, and causes of action arising out of or in any way connected with this contract or its performance must be brought in the applicable court of Fairfax County, or in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Virginia, Alexandria Division.

71. **COOPERATIVE PURCHASING**-The County or any entity identified in the Fairfax County Purchasing Resolution, Article 1, Section 3 may participate in, sponsor, conduct or administer a cooperative procurement agreement as set forth in the Fairfax County Purchasing Resolution.

72. **DRUG FREE WORKPLACE**-During the performance of a 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 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 conjunction with a specific contract awarded to a Contractor in accordance with this section, 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.

73. **IMMIGRATION REFORM AND CONTROL ACT**-Contractor agrees that it does not, and shall not during the performance of the contract for goods and services in the Commonwealth, knowingly employ an unauthorized alien as defined in the Federal Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986.

74. **AUDIT OF RECORDS** The parties agree that the County or its agent must have reasonable access to and the right to examine any records of the contractor involving transactions related to the contract or compliance with any clauses thereunder, for a period of three (3) years after final payment. The contractor shall include these same provisions in all related subcontracts. For purposes of this clause, the term "records" includes documents, and papers regardless of whether they are in written form, electronic form, or any other form.

75. **PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION**: Contractor will comply with all applicable laws regarding safeguarding and protection of personally identifiable information made available through this Contract. Contractor must report to the County all breaches that result in exposure of the County's data or other incidents compromising the security of the County's data. For purposes of this section "County data" means data that the Contractor accesses, stores, or hosts pursuant to this Contract and includes "personal information" defined by Virginia Code § 18.2-186.6 or "medical information" defined by Virginia Code § 32.1-127.1:05. Such reports must be made to the County immediately upon discovery of the breach and no later than three days from when Contractor discovered the breach. The requirements of this paragraph are in addition to and do not relieve Contractor of

GENERAL CONDITIONS AND INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS

its obligation to comply with any requirements imposed by law regarding data breaches. If any notices to individuals or third parties are required by applicable law due to a data breach, the parties will cooperate to ensure that such notice is timely provided. If Contractor experiences a breach of protected health information governed under HIPAA, or substance use disorder information governed under 42 CFR Part 2, the terms of any Business Associate or Qualified Service Organization Agreement between the parties will control.

76. **NONVISUAL ACCESS**-All information technology, which is purchased or upgraded by the County under this contract, must comply with the following access standards from the date of purchase or upgrade until the expiration of the Contract:
- a. Effective, interactive control and use of the technology (including the operating system), applications programs, and format of the data presented, shall be readily achievable by nonvisual means;
 - b. the technology equipped for nonvisual access shall be compatible with information technology used by other individuals with whom the blind or visually impaired individual interacts;
 - c. Nonvisual access technology shall be integrated into networks used to share communications among employees, program participants, and the public; and
 - d. The technology for nonvisual access shall have the capability of providing equivalent access by nonvisual means to telecommunications or other interconnected network services used by persons who are not blind or visually impaired. A covered entity may stipulate additional specifications in any procurement.
 - e. Compliance with the nonvisual access standards set out this Section is not required if the Board of Supervisors determines that (i) the information technology is not available with nonvisual access because the essential elements of the information technology are visual and (ii) nonvisual equivalence is not available.

APPROVED:

/S/ Elizabeth D. Teare
COUNTY ATTORNEY

/S/ LeeAnne Pender
COUNTY PURCHASING AGENT