



**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

FROM: Bob Doyle, Sheriff-Coroner-PA

SUBMITTAL DATE:
05/31/06

SUBJECT: Approval of Pro Force Law Enforcement as a Sole Source Vendor to Provide Taser Weapons and Supplies for the Sheriff's Department.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: Move that the Board of Supervisors authorize the Purchasing Agent to purchase Taser weapons and supplies from Pro Force Law Enforcement not to exceed the amount of \$75,550.58, without securing competitive bids, in accordance with Ordinance 459.4.

BACKGROUND: In March 2006, the Sheriff's Department's Ben Clark Training Center purchased five Taser X26 weapons (Less-lethal electro muscular disruption, electronic devices) and supplies from Pro Force Law Enforcement for testing purposes. The Sheriff's Department would like to expand testing of this less-lethal device by purchasing thirty-six more X26 Tasers and supplies and deploying them throughout the county. The Taser X26 is manufactured by Taser International. Pro Force International, located in Brea, is Taser International's only authorized distributor for the State of California.

Twenty-four Sheriff's personnel received 12 hours certified instructor level training from Taser International free of charge, a savings of \$7,200. With twenty-four certified instructors, the Department can develop and provide its own user certification training.

BR 06-101 (Continued on Page 2)

Janis K. Conklin for
Bob Doyle, Sheriff-Coroner-PA

FINANCIAL DATA	Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$75,551	In Current Year Budget:	Yes
	Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$49,100	Budget Adjustment:	No
	Annual Net County Cost:	\$0	For Fiscal Year:	FY 2005-06

SOURCE OF FUNDS: Department Budget & Contract City Revenue	Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Requires 4/5 Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE

County Executive Office Signature *Lucy A. Pearson*

- Dep't Recomm.: Consent Policy
- Per Exec. Ofc.: Consent Policy

Prev. Agn. Ref.:

District: All

Agenda Number:

3 . 29

Departmental Concurrence

Purchasing: *Mark De...*
Assistant Director

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Prior to the initial purchase, the Department did extensive research into less-lethal electronic devices. The Taser X26 and the Stinger are the only electronic devices on the market with the ability to store data regarding the number of fires, date, time, and voltage expended that could be downloaded to a computer and utilized as evidence. In a comparison of the weapon's features, the Department found the Taser X26 to be superior to the Stinger device as the Taser X26 is half the weight of the Stinger and penetrates clothing up to two inches thick, 63% deeper than the Stinger. The Taser X26 deploys its darts with compressed nitrogen whereas the Stinger deploys its darts with gun powder. The design of the Taser X26 most closely resembles the grip of the duty weapons used by Department personnel.

Use of this type of technology can help reduce worker's compensation claims, increase officer safety, and reduce the number of officer involved shootings. Currently, worldwide, over 6,000 law enforcement agencies deploy Taser technology, locally including the Los Angeles Police Department, Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, Riverside Police Department, Banning Police Department, Corona Police Department, Hemet Police Department, Cathedral City Police Department and Indio Police Department. Ventura County Sheriff's Department recently purchased 495 Tasers from Pro Force Law Enforcement and San Bernardino County Sheriff is also testing the Taser X26.

Stinger is manufactured by Stinger Systems, an east coast vendor who has only recently launched their product on the market. Stinger could only provide three law enforcement references and none of them were from western United States. However, the Sheriff's Department has been in contact with a Stinger distributor and will be testing the Stinger device within the next year.

Price Reasonableness

The purchase from Pro Force Law Enforcement will include thirty-six X26 Tasers, warranties, data download software kits, batteries and belt clips. Total price, including tax and shipping, will be \$75,550.58. Taser International quoted \$77,610.94 with differences in the cost of supplies and shipping. Taser International requires its distributors to sell Taser weapons for the same price, however, distributors can give discounts on supplies. Pro Force Law Enforcement discounts consumable items and provide volume discounts on large orders. Pro Force Law Enforcement sells Tasers for the same price to all law enforcement agencies, a standard set by the manufacturer.

Date: June 2, 2006

From: Deputy Michael Canizales Department/Agency: Sheriff's Department
Darcelle Smaby, Administrative Supervisor

To: Board of Supervisors

Via: Purchasing Agent

Subject: Sole Source Procurement; Request for

The below information is provided in support of my Department requesting approval for a sole source. Outside of a duly declared emergency, the time to develop a statement of work or specifications is not in itself justification for sole source.

Supply/Service being requested: Purchase of **Taser X26** (Less-lethal electro muscular disruption, electronic controlling device).

Supplier being requested: **ProForce Law Enforcement** 655 Berry Street, Brea, CA. 92821 CA. Seller Permit #SR OH 100-370647

Alternative suppliers that can or might be able to provide supply/service:

Taser International of Phoenix, AZ. (Manufacturer)

Extent of market search conducted: The Taser *X26 model* was searched for through several internet sites and law enforcement equipment distributors such as Gall's and San Diego Police Equipment. There were retailers and distributors that do sell Taser products but do not sell the X26 model. I was referred back to Taser International of Scottsdale, Arizona.

Jim Halsted (Taser International's West Coast Regional Manager) was contacted and asked for a list of authorized dealers in the state of California and its' surrounding states. Halsted advised ProForce Law Enforcement in Brea, CA was the sole distributor for the state of California and Davidson's Law Enforcement is the sole distributor for the state of Arizona. Under contractual agreement with Taser International, Davidson's and ProForce Law Enforcement are not able to submit bids for Taser products outside of their assigned sales territory. Halsted advised Taser International was able to submit a bid from the factory direct. The pricing is relatively the same, however, the shipping costs are higher through Taser International.

Unique features of the supply/service being requested from this supplier, which no alternative supplier can provide: The Taser X26 and the Stinger are the only two electronic weapons that allow for the storage of data regarding the number of fires, the date, time and voltage expended that can be downloaded to a computer and used as evidence. In comparison of the weapon's features, the Taser X26 is superior in that it is half the weight of the Stinger and penetrates clothing 63% thicker. The Taser X26 deploys with nitrogen whereas the Stinger deploys with gun powder. The Taser X26 most closely resembles the grip of the duty weapon used by Department personnel.

Stinger is manufactured by Stinger Systems, an east coast vendor who has only recently launched their product on the market. Stinger could only provide three law enforcement references and none of them were from western United States. However, the Sheriff's Department has been in contact with a Stinger distributor and will be testing the Stinger device within the next year.

Reasons why my department requires these unique features and what benefit will accrue to the county: This exclusive technology can help reduce worker's compensation claims and increase officer safety possibly reducing the number of officer involved shootings. Currently, over 6,000 law enforcement agencies nationally deploy Taser technology.

Price Reasonableness: Taser International requires their distributors to sell Taser weapons for the same price, however, distributors can give discounts on supplies. Pro Force Law Enforcement discounts consumable items and provides volume discounts on large orders. Pro Force Law Enforcement sells Taser weapons for the same price to all law enforcement agencies, a standard set by the manufacturer.

Does moving forward on this product or service further obligate the county to future similar contractual arrangements? This product does not obligate the county to further contractual arrangements.

Janiak Conklin 6/2/06
Department Head Signature Date

Purchasing Department Comments:

For continued testing purposes.

Approve Approve with Condition/s Disapprove
Mark R. De 6-2-06
Purchasing Agent Date

For