

# Jasper County Request for Proposal (RFP) #2025-2

# SECURITY OFFICER SERVICES

# For

# Jasper County Judicial Building 967 W. Adams Street, Ridgeland, SC 29936

Proposal Due Date: April 9, 2025 – 3:00 PM Jasper County Council is seeking proposals from qualified security companies for armed security services for the Jasper County Judicial Building, 967 W. Adams Street, Ridgeland, SC 29936.

Proposals will be received until 3:00 PM, local time, Wednesday, April 9, 2025. To qualify for consideration, **one (1) original and two (2) duplicates** of the proposal must be received by the procurement officer designated below by **the stated deadline**. It is the sole responsibility of the Proposer to see that the proposal is received before the submission deadline. The Proposer shall bear all risks associated with delays in the U.S. mail or delivery service. Late proposals **will not** be considered. **Proposal shall be accepted in person, by U.S. Mail or by private courier service or online via Vendor Registry**. Proposal shall not be accepted via oral or email communication, telephone, or fax transmission. Only the names of Proposers will be disclosed at the time of opening. A review panel will subsequently review and evaluate the proposals according to the criteria outlined in this Request for Bids.

This solicitation does not commit Jasper County to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of bids submitted, or to procure or contract for the services. Jasper County reserves the right to accept or reject, any, all, or any part of proposals received as a result of this request, or to cancel in part or in its entirety this Request for Proposals if it is in the best interests of Jasper County to do so.

Any requests for clarification or additional information deemed necessary by any Proposer to prepare a complete and accurate proposal must be submitted in writing by 3:00 PM on April 1, 2025.

Written questions or requests for clarification must be received before the question deadline stated above. Any request received **after** the above stated deadline **will not** be considered. All requests received prior to the above deadline will be responded to in writing in the form of an addendum addressed and emailed to all prospective proposers via Vendor Registry.

# **INTRODUCTION**

Jasper Council (the "County") is seeking Security Services for its Judicial Building located at 967 W. Adams Street, Ridgeland, SC 29936.

#### BACKGROUND

The Judicial Building houses magistrate offices and a court room.

#### **SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS**

#### A. PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL DEADLINE:

Proposals will be received until **3:00 P.M. EST, April 9, 2025**, after which time will be publicly opened, and the name of the proposer read.

#### **B. TIME/TERM OF AGREEMENT:**

The agreement resulting from this solicitation will be for a period of twelve (12) months **with** an option for three (3) additional years, pending funding availability, performance satisfaction, and need for services at that time.

#### C. GENERAL OVERVIEW

Jasper County desires to obtain the services of a professional security agency or organization for the purpose of securing the Jasper County Judicial Building located at 967 W. Adams Street, Ridgeland, SC 29936. The selected agency or organization must demonstrate the ability to provide quality security enforcement, which coincides with the desired end results, required by Jasper County. The security firm and security guards must be licensed to do business in South Carolina and in the Town of Ridgeland, South Carolina.

#### **1.0 SCOPE OF SERVICES**

- 1.1 The security agency shall furnish security services consisting of a uniformed, trained, armed security officer to secure the Jasper County Judicial Building. Successful proposer will be responsible for furnishing all materials, supplies, and equipment.
- 1.2 The security officer must have good oral and written communication skills and must demonstrate good judgment and tact in dealing with the public.
- 1.3 The officer must be able to fulfill the requirements of the contract.
- 1.5 A regular review of the contractor's performance by the Director of Administrative Services Division and the offeror is required.

# 2.0 PRIMARY DUTIES OF SECURITY SERVICES CONTRACTOR

- 2.1 Security officer will assist with the reception of customers at the designated reception area of the building.
- 2.2 Security officer will circulate throughout the building, including hallways and stairways of the building periodically throughout the day.
- 2.3 Security office will circulate through the parking lot of the building periodically throughout the day.
- 2.4 Security officer will assist with enforcing the property rules/policies and investigate unauthorized persons or any unusual activity.
- 2.5 Security officer will communicate and cooperate with local law enforcement when necessary.
- 2.6 Security officers may deny entry to any individual who does not cooperate with County personnel or the officer.

# **3.0 GENERAL DUTIES OF SECURITY SERVICES CONTRACTOR**

Below is a list of duties, which include, but are not limited to, the tasks which may be requested of the awarded Contractor to be performed in fulfillment of the awarded contract.

- 3.1 The Security officer should be specifically trained to be alert and take appropriate action as instructed by their company's operating procedures, rules, and regulations on the following:
  - Emergencies
  - Safety or hazardous conditions
  - Complaints

• Disturbances or any other actions that would jeopardize the security or safety to property, visitors, or staff

Note: An incident report must be filed on the above actions and a copy forwarded to Jasper County Administrator.

- 3.2 Contractor shall be familiar with Jasper County's safety, security and emergency plans, procedures, protocols and assist as directed.
- 3.3 The Security officer must pay close attention to laws prohibiting the carrying of weapons on public premises, and as with all crimes and emergencies notify proper law enforcement authorities immediately of any violations.

# **4.0 NO SOLICITATION POLICY**

The distribution of literature from external sources in working areas or in non-working areas during working time is strictly prohibited. Also strictly prohibited is the solicitation of any kind, for any purpose, from any employee of the security agency.

# 5.0 PERSONNEL/VISITOR CONTROL

Loiterers are not permitted on the premises, most particularly in parking areas and in the vicinity of the reception area. Any person observed loitering will be requested to state his/her business and, if he/she has none with the facility, he/she will be requested to leave the premises.

# **6.0 COMMUNICATIONS**

- 6.1 Telephone: The successful proposer will be provided with access to a telephone at the Jasper County Judicial Building to conduct necessary work-related business. Security officers are prohibited from using Jasper County telephones to make personal calls (local or long distance) and the Security Contractor will be charged for personal calls if they appear on Jasper County telephone bills.
- 6.2 Cellular phones will be provided by the Security Contractor, and the officer must be able to be always reached during business hours.

# 7.0 GENERAL RULES OF CONDUCT

- 7.1 The Security officer shall not leave their post until properly relieved.
- 7.2 The Security officer shall avoid expressing their opinions to other officers, Jasper County employees or visitors concerning such controversial matters as politics, religion, pay or policies and procedures.
- 7.3 The Security officer shall not sell any form of merchandise to any person while on duty or while on Jasper County property.
- 7.4 The Security officer shall always keep their work area clean and neat.
- 7.5 The Security officer shall not use Jasper County office equipment, supplies, etc., unless authorized by Jasper County personnel.
- 7.6 The Security officer shall always be polite, courteous, respectful, and responsive to the staff and public.

# **8.0 UNIFORMS AND APPEARANCE**

Security officers must present a neat, clean appearance. The security officer must wear a uniform that readily identifies the officer as an employee of the contractor. A security officer must look, speak, and act like a professional. Appearance must meet the standard generally accepted for personnel in the business of providing security.

#### 9.0 HOURS OF SERVICE

Hours of service will be Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Jasper County will not pay overtime rates or any rates different than those specified in the fully executed contract and any subsequent fully executed contract modification, unless agreed upon in writing in advance.

#### **10.0 HOLIDAYS**

The facility is closed for statutory Federal, State and Local holidays. Unless otherwise specified, security officer services will not be required on holidays or days when the building is closed, due to weather emergency or other circumstances that requires the building to close to the public.

#### **SOLICITATION AVAILABILITY:**

Proposers may obtain a copy of the Request for Proposal document from Vendor Registry via the Jasper County website: www.jaspercountysc.gov under "Services", then "Bids and Solicitations."

#### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION INQUIRIES:**

Kimberly Burgess, Director Administrative Services Jasper County 358 Third Avenue, Suite 304 P O Box 1149 Ridgeland, SC 29936 (843) 717-3692 kburgess@jaspercountysc.gov

# Contact with persons other that those listed shall be grounds for elimination for the procurement process.

#### **INSTRUCTIONS TO BIDDERS**

To be considered a valid proposal, each organization submitting a proposal ("Proposer") must assure receipt by Jasper County of one original proposal and two duplicates at the following address not later than 3:00 p.m. local time, Thursday, March 13, 2025, at which time all proposals received will be opened. Proposals shall be accepted in person, by U.S. Mail or by private courier service or online via Vendor Registry. A link to County's Vendor Registry webpage may be found under "What's New?", "Bids & Solicitations", on the County's website at www.jaspercountysc.gov. Any bids submitted or delivered after the above time will not be accepted under any circumstances. Proposals should be delivered to the Jasper County Procurement Officer:

> Kimberly Burgess Director of Administrative Services Jasper County 358 Third Avenue, Suite 304 P. O. Box 1149 Ridgeland, SC 29936

Proposal opening will take place in the Jasper County Council Chambers at the address below:

Jasper County Government Building 358 Third Avenue, 3rd Floor Ridgeland, SC 29936

Proposals, amendments thereto or withdrawal requests must be received by the time advertised for proposal to be timely filed. It is the vendor's sole responsibility to ensure that these documents are received by the procurement officer at the time indicated in the solicitation document.

Proposals should be placed on company letterhead or on a document which provides the Proposer name, address, phone number and other pertinent contact information. The successful Proposer will be required to furnish a W-9, appropriate evidence of license to do business in South Carolina and the town of Ridgeland, evidence of license as a security firm, and a certificate of insurance as evidence of the required insurance coverage.

#### **Right to Cancel or Reject**

Jasper County is under no obligation to award this project to the proposed vendor offering the lowest fee. Jasper County is seeking a service solution, not a proposal meeting rigid specification. Jasper County reserves the right to select the vendor and award the contract based on the proposal that is most advantageous to the County.

The County reserves the right to reject any or all Proposals, including without limitation the right to reject any or all nonconforming, non-responsive, unbalanced, or conditional Proposals. The County may cancel or reject any or all proposals in whole or in part when it is in the best interest of the County. The County also reserves the right to waive all informalities not involving price, time, or changes in the Work and to negotiate contract terms with the successful Proposer.

All Proposals will remain subject to acceptance for sixty (60) days after the day of the Proposal opening.

#### **Right of Submitted Materials**

All responses, inquiries, and correspondence about this RFP submitted by Proposers shall become property of Jasper County when received. Proposers must clearly mark as "confidential" each part of their proposal which they consider to be proprietary information that could be exempt from disclosure under section 30-4-40, SC Code (2014). If any part is designated as confidential, there must be attached to that part, an explanation of how this information falls within one or more categories listed in section 30-4-40. The County reserves the right to determine whether this information should be exempt from disclosure and no legal action may be brought against the County or its agents for its determination in this regard.

#### **Questions regarding RFP**

Any questions concerning the submission of this proposal or any questions regarding Jasper County may be submitted via Vendor Registry, a link to which is on the Jasper County website.

#### **Contract Period**

The contract period will be for a twelve (12) month period, with an option to renew after the initial period, for three successive one-year periods, thereafter.

#### **GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Jasper County reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to cancel the solicitation.

Proposer must furnish satisfactory evidence of their ability to furnish services in accordance with the terms and conditions of this request for proposal. County reserves the right to make the final determination as to Proposer's ability to provide services requested herein.

All amendments to and interpretations of this solicitation shall be in writing. Jasper County shall not be legally bound by any amendment or interpretation that is not in writing.

Each Proposer shall fully acquaint itself with conditions relating to the scope and restrictions attending the execution of the work under the conditions of this request. It is expected that this will sometimes require on-site observation. The failure or omission of a Proposer to acquaint itself with existing conditions shall in no way relieve it of any obligation with respect to this request or to the contract.

The contract will be awarded to the most advantageous proposal from a responsive and responsible security company who meets the minimum criteria requirements and whose proposal is determined to be the most advantageous to Jasper County, taking into consideration the Proposer's experience, staff capacity, references, as well as price. All proposals unless otherwise stated will be assumed to meet all specifications and requirements as set forth in the Request for Proposal. Ambiguous bids which are uncertain as to terms, delivery, or compliance with specifications may be rejected or otherwise disregarded. Proposals will be subject to approval and award by the Jasper County Council.

<u>Selection Committee</u>. A Selection Committee will screen and review all proposals according to the comparative criteria. While price is one basic factor for award, it is not the sole consideration.

- a. The Selection Committee will review each respondent's proposal to determine compliance with the minimum qualifications.
- b. For those proposals that meet the minimum qualifications, the Selection Committee will select the most qualified respondents for interviews using the comparative criteria outlined below. The County will determine the most advantageous proposal from a

responsible and responsive proposer, taking into consideration price and all evaluation criteria set forth in the RFP.

- c. Interviews may be conducted with these "short-listed" respondents.
- d. On the basis of the proposals, references, and interviews, the Selection Committee will rank respondents using the selection criteria.
- e. Award of contract will be subject to approval by the Jasper County Council.

The County reserves the right to reject any bid that contains prices for services that are unreasonable when compared to the same or other bids if such action is in the best interest of Jasper County.

This solicitation is intended to promote competition. If the language, specifications, terms and conditions, or any combination thereof restricts or limits the requirements in this solicitation to a single source, it shall be the responsibility of the interested vendor to notify the procurement officer in writing to be received prior to the opening date. The solicitation may or may not be changed but a review of such notification will be made prior to award.

All prices and notations should be printed in ink or type written. Errors should be crossed out, corrections entered and initialed by the person signing the bid. Erasures or use of typewriter correction fluid may be cause for rejection. No bid shall be altered or amended after specified time of opening.

# **INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS**

Proposer will maintain public liability insurance policy with respect to the requirements of this contract, naming Jasper County as an additional insured, with a combined single limit of not less than One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) per occurrence based with respect to both bodily injury and property. The vendor assumes all risks of direct and indirect damage or injury to the property of person(s) used or employed on or in connection with the work contracted for, and all damage or injury to any person or property, wherever located, resulting from any action, omission, commission, or operation under the contract, or in connection in any way with the contracted work.

• Workers' Compensation—The vendor shall provide coverage for its employees with statutory workers' compensation limits, and no less than \$1,000,000.00 for Employers' Liability. Said coverage shall include a waiver of subrogation in favor of the County and its agents, employees, and officials.

Commercial General Liability - The vendor shall provide coverage for all operations including, but not limited to Contractual, Products and Completed Operations, and Personal Injury. The limits shall be no less than \$ I,000,000.00, per occurrence, with a \$2,000,000.00 aggregate.
Business Automobile Liability - The vendor shall provide coverage for all owned, non-owned and hired vehicles with limits of not less than \$1,000,000.00, per occurrence, Combined Single Limits (CSL) or its equivalent.

• Vendor agrees to protect, defend, indemnify, and hold harmless Jasper County; it's Commissioners, officers, agents, and employees from and against any and all liability incurred as a result of the work performed pursuant to the terms of this RFP.

• Failure to maintain insurance coverage as required will be grounds for immediate termination of the contract.

• Prior to commencing work or services under this contract, the supplier must furnish Jasper County with Certificates of Insurance as evidence that policies provide the required coverage.

# MINIMUM CRITERIA

To be eligible, the Respondent must demonstrate the company has sufficient capabilities, resources and experience to provide the services under this Solicitation. Any Respondent that fails to meet all the following minimum qualification requirements may be noted as "NON-RESPONSIVE". Those qualifications are as follows:

- Proposer has included a fully executed Non-Collusive Affidavit with their qualifications proposal.
- Company has been in business under its current name a minimum of 5 years.
- All Officers assigned to County facilities must have a valid armed Security Officer license. The proposer must submit proof of such licenses for each Officer assigned to the County in their qualifications proposal.
- All Officers assigned to County facilities must have a minimum of six (6) months' experience as a Security Officer working with diverse groups, and people of all ages and backgrounds.

# PROPOSAL FORMAT

Proposals should follow the outline presented below.

# TAB 1 ORGANIZATIONAL PLAN -

- a. Transmittal Letter/Introduction which must, at a minimum, contain the following:
  - Identification of the offering firm(s), including name, mailing address, email address and telephone number of each firm.
  - Proposed working relationship among the offering firms (e.g., prime contractor), if applicable.
  - A statement to the effect that the proposal shall remain valid for a period of not less than sixty (60) days from the proposal due date; and
  - Signature of a person authorized to bind the offering firm to the terms of the proposal.

#### TAB 2 FIRM'S QUALIFICATIONS

- a. Describe the company's previous experience and capability of providing the requested services described under Section B, Scope of Work.
- b. Disclose any conditions (e.g., bankruptcy, pending litigation, etc.) that may affect the proposer's ability to perform contractually. Certify that the firm is not debarred, suspended or otherwise declared ineligible to contract by any federal, state or local public agency.
- c. Indicate the names and types of similar properties that your company currently services and in what locations.
- d. Provide the number of full-time and part-time employees currently employed with your company.
- e. What type of training do each of your Security Officers need to complete in order to work for your company?

# TAB 3. STAFF QUALIFICATIONS

- a. Describe the specific training each staff person has and any additional certifications they may have received.
- b. Personnel Selection Process What are your requirements for hiring employees? Provide detailed information about the training staff need to complete in order to qualify for employment with your firm.
- c. Training and Development of Staff Explain how your organization ensures that personnel performing the Services are qualified and proficient. Are staff trained in customer service relations and problem-solving techniques?
- d. List any work rules which may have an effect on your rate of staffing. (i.e. hourly premiums, hourly reporting minimums, break schedules, etc.)

# TAB 4. WORK PLAN/TECHNICAL APPROACH

- a. Describe your firm's understanding of the County's objectives and requirements in providing the Scope of Work identified in Section B, demonstrate the proposer's ability to meet those requirements, and outline clearly and concisely the plan for accomplishing the specified work; and
- b. State any exceptions to or deviations from the requirements of this RFP.

#### TAB 5. COST PROPOSAL

a. Firm should submit hourly rates for regular work hours and an hourly rate for Emergency/Holiday.

- b. Vendor should provide the hourly rates for on-site security detail as well as the hourly rates for mobile units.
- c. If there are any additional costs, please provide the rates and description of services.
- d. Invoices will be paid within 15 days of receipt and must contain the following information: Name of the officers; locations worked; dates worked and hours worked.

#### TAB 6. REFERENCES

The Respondent must submit a minimum of at least three (3) references for clients which the Respondent has provided services similar to those requested by this Solicitation. If available, the Respondent should include references for similar services provided to public agencies. References can only be listed for work performed within the last five (5) years. References should include the following information:

- 1. Name of Agency;
- 2. Contact person name, title, and telephone number (email optional);
- 3. Beginning/ending dates of contracts;
- 4. Brief description of services provided

#### **SELECTION PROCESS**

The Selection Committee consisting of County staff, will review, analyze and evaluate the proposals received using the comparative criteria to identify the highest ranked proposals. Proposals will be evaluated and rated as "Highly Advantageous" (HA), "Advantageous" (A) or "Not Advantageous" (NA) for each criterion indicated in the table below. At that point, the Panel may conduct interviews and/or conduct contract negotiations with the highest rated proposer(s). The proposal that best serves the interests of the Jasper County, with price and all evaluation factors considered, including proposed revisions, shall be recommended to the County Council for contract award. The County expressly acknowledges that the contract may be awarded to the Proposer who does not submit the lowest Fee Proposal.

The selected firm must have the expertise to carry out such work and have experience working on similar projects. The County requires that the successful bidder demonstrate that it has the requisite skills to complete this endeavor.

# **COMPARATIVE CRITERIA**

The following are the criteria that will be used in evaluating the submitted proposals.

Criteria	Rating
Firm's Experience	<u> </u>
HA: The proposal demonstrated significant experience with	Highly Advantageous:
providing similar services for 5 or more years.	
A: The proposal demonstrated some experience with providing similar services for 3-4 years.	Advantageous:
NA: The proposal demonstrated experience with providing similar services for less than 3 years	Not Advantageous:
STAFF EXPERIENCE/QUALIFICATIONS	
HA: The respondent's staff are all licensed as security guards in SC; have participated in substantial training programs; and firm has sufficient staff.	Highly Advantageous:
A: Some respondent's staff are licensed as security guards in SC; have participated in some training programs; and firm has sufficient staff.	Advantageous:
NA: The respondent's staff are not licensed as security guards in SC; but have participated in some training programs; and some concern whether firm has sufficient staff.	Not Advantageous:
WORK PLAN/APPROACH	
HA: The respondent's proposal very clearly demonstrated the firm's ability to meet the goals and objectives identified in the RFP.	Highly Advantageous:
A: The respondent's proposal demonstrated some ability to meet the goals and objectives identified in the RFP, but proposal lacked sufficient details.	Advantageous:
NA: The respondent's proposal lacked details and wasn't very clear about meeting the goals and objectives identified in the RFP.	Not Advantageous:
REFERENCES	

HA: The respondent is able to provide three (3) or more references.	Highly Advantageous:
A: The respondent is able to provide (1) to (2) references	Advantageous:
NA: The respondent is able to provide (0) to (1) references.	Not Advantageous:

PRICE PROPOSAL	
HA: The respondent fee proposal is less than the established County internal budget.	Highly Advantageous:
A: The respondent fee proposal is equal to, or no greater than 120% of the established County internal budget.	Advantageous:
NA: The respondent fee proposal is greater than 120% of the established County internal budget.	Not Advantageous:

#### **Payment Requirements**

Proposers should be aware Jasper County will only make payments on the contract issued under this RFP after the work being billed has been completed, and within 15 calendar days of receipt of a properly prepared and County approved invoice from the vendor. Compensation to the selected vendor will be on a per hour basis as identified in the Price Proposal. Supporting documentation is required for payment of reimbursable expenses. No advance payments will be made to the vendor, who must have the capacity to meet all project expenses in advance of payments by Jasper County.

#### **Acceptance of RFP and Contract Terms**

Respondent's submission of a proposal in response to the RFP shall constitute acceptance by the respondent of the terms and conditions of this RFP. In the event that a proposal is accepted for Contract award, the respondent agrees to enter into a contract with the County in a form agreeable to both parties.

A proposal may be corrected, modified, or withdrawn, provided that the correction, modification, or request for withdrawal is made by the respondent in writing and is received at the place and prior to the date and time designated in the RFP for receipt of proposals. After such date and

time, the respondent may not change the fee proposal or any other provision of its proposal in a manner prejudicial to the interests of the County and/or fair competition.

The County shall waive minor informalities or allow the respondent to correct them. If a mistake and the intended fee proposal is clearly evident on the face of the proposal, the County shall correct the mistake to reflect the intended correct fee proposal and shall so notify the respondent in writing and the respondent may not withdraw its proposal. A respondent may withdraw its proposal if a mistake is clearly evident on the face of the proposal, but the intended fee proposal is not similarly evident.

#### **Term of Contract**

The term of this contract will be for a period of twelve (12) months, with the option to renew for three one-year additional terms, at the sole discretion of Jasper County.

#### A. No Warranty

Respondents shall examine the RFP, specifications, and instructions pertaining to the services. Failure to do so shall be at the respondents own risk. It is assumed that the respondent has made full investigation as to be fully informed as to the extent and character of the services and of the requirements of the specifications. No warranty is made or implied as to the information contained in the RFP, specifications, and/or instructions.

#### **B.** Expense of RFP Submission

All expenses incurred in the preparation and submission to the County of proposals in response to this RFP shall be borne by the Respondent.

#### C. Jasper County Reservation of Rights

The County reserves the right to cancel this RFP, or to reject, in whole or in part, any and all proposals received in response to this RFP, upon its determination that such cancellation or rejection is in the best interests of the County. The County further reserves the right to waive any minor informalities in any proposals received if it be in the public interest to do so. The determination of the criteria and process whereby proposals are evaluated, the decision as to who shall receive a contract award, or whether or not an award shall be made as a result of this RFP, shall be at the sole and absolute discretion of the County. The County will not disclose the status of negotiations until the Jasper County Council has approved the award of a contract for service.

#### **D.** Insurance Requirements

The Proposer agrees to indemnify and hold harmless Jasper County against all losses and liabilities arising out of or resulting from all injuries or death or damage to property, including theft, on account of performance of work or services by the proposer or proposer's employees or subcontractors pursuant to this Agreement. Proposers shall maintain liability insurance sufficient to fulfill its obligations under this paragraph, in amounts acceptable to the County and shall provide proof of such insurance to County upon request. Proposer may not change such insurance during the term of this agreement without providing written notice to the County.

The Respondent must be willing and able to carry and maintain the required insurance as set forth in the Professional/Technical Services Contract, and to name the following: "Jasper County Council, its affiliated entities and the entities which manage, Jasper County or its affiliates."