

#7
Chickasaw
PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS

CHICKASAW PERSONAL COMMUNICATIONS

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February 4, 2016

City of North Little Rock
Attention: Mr. Rick Ezell, OEM Coordinator
Attention: Captain Leonard Montgomery
126 N. Sycamore Street
North Little Rock, AR 72114

FILED 8:30 A.M. _____ P.M.

BY via email

DATE 2/8/16
Diane Whitbey, City Clerk and Collector
North Little Rock, Arkansas

RECEIVED by [Signature]

Re: R-16-24

Gentlemen,

I understand that pursuant to RFP-15-3375 the City of North Little Rock will be considering Resolution R-16-24 at your regularly scheduled council meeting on Monday February 8, 2016. In reviewing your Summary of RFP for Outdoor Siren Warning System I take exception to the accuracy of several assertions /conclusions regarding Chickasaw Personal Communications:

- Chickasaw Personal Communications is an Oklahoma Corporation established in 1989 and operates locations in Oklahoma City, Norman and Ardmore Oklahoma. We are not located in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. I concede that we are an Agent for American Signal Corporation located in Milwaukee, WI, however if that is the criteria used to determine agent/vendor location you should fairly present SafetyCom as located in either Connecticut or New Hampshire where Whelen sirens are manufactured.
- You further assert that "if a siren stops working before or after the inspection and preventative maintenance visit, the City would have to pay extra for the vendor to send someone from Wisconsin to work on our sirens or the siren would have to be shipped to Milwaukee, Wisconsin for repairs". To restate, Chickasaw Personal Communications, the vendor/bidder in your RPF, is located in Oklahoma and service work for your sirens would be dispatched from Oklahoma, furthermore we have committed to make all repairs possible on-site and to furnish you "loaner" components to keep your system operational in the event warranted repairs are required to be made at the factory.
- You also assert "Vendor may not be able to use City's existing radios". In the only specific questions regarding the City's radio system contained in RFP 15-3375, allow me to call your attention to Section 2, Requirement C, Subsection b, item viii "The

radio receiver encoder/decoder unit in the siren enclosure should be compatible with the interface to the city's existing activation system" to which we responded by marking **Comply**, furthermore in the same Subsection b, item ix "The city plans to supply a Motorola XTS5000 portable radio for each siren installed, vendor will supply the encoder as part of the siren system" to which we responded by marking **Comply**. In Sub-items 1 and 2 under Item ix consisting of additional questions regarding the city's desire to use existing radios we answered by marking both sub-items with **Comply**.

In summary, I do not feel the Summary for Outdoor Warning Siren System document accurately presents the business characteristics of Chickasaw Personal Communications nor does it accurately present where service for your sirens would originate from or how it would be performed. Furthermore, I do not understand how anyone could reasonably conclude we *may not be able to use the City's existing radios* based on our answers to your questions contained in the RFP.

Gentlemen, I completely understand the reasoning behind a RFP that allows you the opportunity to make an "evaluation" of the proposals and also affords you the latitude and leeway to accept a quote higher in price based on said evaluation of all aspects of proposals presented provided you can substantiate differentiating factors that will justify paying more for the same or like product. While I understand and appreciate the process, I cannot, and will not, accept or tolerate factual misrepresentations regarding our company and our willingness to comply with your requests for service. Consequently, I respectfully request that you correct your written statement of assessment for Chickasaw Personal Communications before presentation to the North Little Rock City Council.

While I can understand your push and loyalty to a local vendor, there is no need to misrepresent our position to accomplish your goal. Based on your assessment in the "Summary", to simply assert that we did not meet RFP Specifications is a vague and misleading statement. After all, decisions need to be based in facts, not guesses, assumptions or innuendo. If after consideration of only facts the City Council deems it appropriate to spend an **additional \$75,000 to \$90,000** to purchase a siren system along with spending an **additional \$6,400 per year** for a siren maintenance agreement in order to use a local vendor, then the only question remaining is **will the citizens (taxpayers) of North Little Rock agree with that decision?**

Thank you for your consideration of my request.

Respectfully,



Butch McCurdy
General Manager