

Request For Proposals (“RFP”) to Provide Operational Audit Services to the Nassau County Interim Finance Authority

Please be advised that responses to questions are provided to the best of NIFA’s knowledge at the time given but in no event shall NIFA be bound by any such responses. In addition, NIFA reserves the right to post all responses on its website and/or share them with other RFP respondents.

November 27, 2024

Question 1: Can you please elaborate on the statement of purpose and scope of audit, being initially explained as: “...The audit is for the purpose of examining the causes of the County’s increased costs of outside counsel during fiscal years 2023 and 2024 and to recommend management improvements?”

Answer: Please refer to attached Resolution No. 24-1090.

Question 2: Are the RFP services being undertaken as a proactive effort, or is it in response to an incident, investigation, improper activity, etc.? If the latter, what was the event that [led] to this need?

Answer: See response to Question 1.

Question 3: What is the Authority’s projected budget to complete the scope of work?

Answer: The budget will be determined by the selected respondent’s approach to the objectives described in the RFP, the methods by which it intends to achieve its approach, and how long it estimates this will take.

Question 4: What is the Authority’s estimated timeline to have the scope of work completed?

Answer: Approximately within eight months of the award, but this may vary.

Question 5: Are there any specific business licenses that the Authority requires (or prefers) proposers to have? If yes, please list those licenses and the name of the organization that issues them.

Answer: The Authority is seeking responses from proposers qualified to do business in New York State. Please refer also to RFP Section V. A. (Proposal Requirements, Technical).

Question 6: Are there any specific personal certifications that the Authority requires (or prefers) proposers to have? If yes, please list those licenses and the name of the organization that issues them.

Answer: See response to Question 5.

Question 7: Does the Authority foresee an identification of gaps, or risk assessment to be completed as part of this operational audit?

Answer: They should be included if you believe them integral to the process of reaching your conclusions.

December 5, 2024

Question 1: How do we disclose a potential conflict?

Answer: Please disclose any and all potential conflicts of interest and address how the potential conflict will not materialize into an actual conflict.

Question 2: How many law firms did the County use in 2022?

Answer: We do not have access to this information.

Question 3: Approximately how many invoices and how many law firms comprise the legal expenses for fiscal years 2023 and 2024 that would be subject to review?

Answer: We do not have access to this information.

Question 4: With what frequency does the County Attorney's office solicit external legal services?

Answer: The County Attorney's Office periodically conducts solicitations to qualify firms for a panel from which it then selects firms for assignments according to its procedures. It also procures firms outside of that process as it deems necessary.

Question 5: Are there executed contracts with each law firm engaged by the County between 2022 and 2024?

Answer: Yes, to our knowledge.

Question 6: Does the County Attorney's office have a procurement policy that would cover the engagement of outside law firms?

Answer: Nassau County has a procurement policy, with which all County departments must comply.

Question 7: If the proposer is a WBE, does NIFA require MBE participation as well? If so, what percentage would be required to go to an MBE?

Answer: NIFA sets an overall goal of 30% for MWBE participation.

December 9, 2024

Question 8: Is remote work permissible for the delivery of the audit services, or is there an expectation for on-site work in Nassau County?

Answer: Yes.

Question 9: Can we leverage the relevant work experience of our employees gained before their tenure with Moctar Konate Group LTD to meet the company experience requirements specified in the RFP?

Answer: Yes.

Question 10: Beyond the stated evaluation criteria (experience, cost, and work plan), are there any additional factors that NIFA will prioritize in its review of proposals?

Answer: No.

NASSAU COUNTY INTERIM FINANCE AUTHORITY

RESOLUTION NO. 24-1090

AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS TO RETAIN A FIRM TO AUDIT THE USE OF OUTSIDE COUNSEL BY THE COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

WHEREAS, the Nassau County Attorney's Office's costs relating to outside counsel have rapidly grown over the last three years; and

WHEREAS, such costs have grown from \$6,095,071 in Fiscal Year 2022 to \$9,012,173 in Fiscal Year 2023, to an authorized amount of \$14,555,000 in Fiscal Year 2024, including spending in the Litigation Fund; and

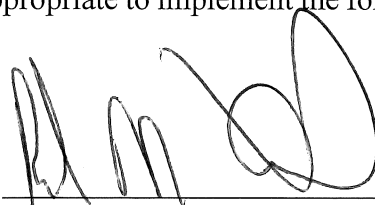
WHEREAS, these increases have potentially shown a lack of management at a critical County department; and

WHEREAS, an audit of use of outside counsel by the County Attorney's Office is necessary and desirable to examine the causes of the increased costs and to recommend management improvements; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the materials presented to this meeting are ordered to be filed with the records of the Nassau County Interim Finance Authority (the "Authority"); and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Directors of the Authority hereby authorize the Chairman or Executive Director of the Authority or their designee(s) to issue a request for proposals to retain a firm to audit the use of outside counsel by the County Attorney's Office; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Chairperson or the Executive Director or their designee(s) are further authorized to take all actions deemed necessary or appropriate to implement the foregoing, and the taking of related actions.



Richard M. Kessel
Chairperson

October 22, 2024