

## **Request for Qualifications**

Technical Evaluation and Recommendations for  
The Omaha Police/Douglas County Sheriff  
Mobile Data Computer and Automation System

February 2001

Omaha Police Department  
Douglas County Sheriff's Department

## **Omaha/Douglas County COPS More 98 Award**

### **OVERVIEW / GENERAL INFORMATION**

Introduction: The City of Omaha and Douglas County are committed to a long-term goal of a paperless communications system within the Douglas County Criminal Justice System. It is planned that patrol officers and deputies within each law enforcement agency within Douglas County will submit reports electronically by modem from their vehicle. In the case of the Omaha Police Department data will automatically populate their planned Law Records Management System (LRMS). Criminal histories, photo images, fingerprints, reports and state crime information will be electronically and readily accessible to city and county law enforcement agencies, remote service centers and deputies and officers in patrol cars.

In order to bring this planned information technology transfer to fruition the Omaha/Douglas County Consortium applied for, and was awarded, a COPS MORE 98 grant. The total award amount is \$1,540,994. The primary element of this grant is to provide funding for a mobile data infrastructure, and the installation and connectivity of mobile computers in patrol vehicles in agencies within Douglas County. A secondary component of this grant calls for contracting with a systems coordinator to work with all involved agencies so as to allow for a smooth transition for the installation of the needed equipment.

Currently, the City of Omaha and the County of Douglas are in the early stages of technology migration of some mainframe applications to PC/network based technologies. Key criminal justice agencies within the county are dependent upon mainframe technology, which are serviced and maintained by Douglas County Information Services. These systems lack the graphical user interfaces (GUIs) such as multiple windows, mouse-directed pointers, linked icons, drop-down menus and other simple, intuitive tools that modern-day computer users have come to expect. While the systems contain many years worth of data, it is difficult and time-consuming to utilize the information for analysis or report preparation.

The two largest law enforcement agencies in Douglas County are the Sheriff's Department, which is comprised of 206 sworn and non-sworn employees, and the Omaha Police Department, which has approximately 950 sworn and non-sworn employees. Other beneficiaries of this grant are the Omaha Fire Department Arson Squad, and both the Elkhorn and Ralston Police Departments.

### **OMAHA/DOUGLAS COUNTY COPS MORE TEAM**

The Omaha/Douglas County COPS MORE team is made up of representatives from the Omaha Police Department, Douglas County Sheriff's Department, City of Omaha Finance Department, City of Omaha Mayor's Office, U.S. Attorney's Office, and the Douglas County Communications Department.

### **COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY**

In the past, most Douglas County law enforcement agencies relied on Douglas County Information Services (DCIS) to create, install, and maintain mainframe solutions to all their data processing needs. However, in the past few years, the Sheriff's Department and the Omaha Police Department have started to implement new client server systems to support new technology advancements in public safety. Due to this technology change, DCIS is a cooperative partner, working with the Sheriff's Department, Omaha Police Department, and other county law enforcement agencies to select computer software and hardware vendors which provide interfaces required to access newer PC/network based solutions, while still maintaining mainframe systems.

Recently, Douglas County and the City of Omaha contracted with Deloitte & Touche to provide information technology assessment for the entire county. The final draft of this study recommended the establishment of an enterprise-wide criminal justice system for use by all pertinent city and county departments. The proposed mobile data computing system is a significant component of this larger system. The Deloitte & Touche study was conducted to evaluate and plan the city and county's migration to newer technologies with the goal of improving efficiency and service levels.

## **MAIN PRIORITY**

The main priority within this grant is:

Contract with a Systems Coordinator to oversee and examine existing data sources within the Criminal Justice Systems in order to determine where data exists and how to improve and broaden the scope of data access. Familiarization with related projects such as the Deloitte & Touche study, Omaha Police Department's (OPD) RMS, and the mobile data efforts may be helpful.

In addition to the projects mentioned above the successful applicant will need to familiarize themselves with data systems that include, but are not limited to, Douglas County MIS, the Nebraska Criminal Justice Information System (NCJIS) and NCIC/NCIS.

The Douglas County law enforcement agencies rely on the NCJIS via access through DCIS. It constantly accesses State and local criminal information sources, including criminal history, motor vehicle information, jails/corrections, probation, etc. The Nebraska State Patrol maintains access to NCIC for national criminal information checks and various statewide sources such as NCIS, wants/warrants, missing persons, etc. Even though all criminal justice agencies access DCIS, not all agencies will be able to access the Omaha Police Department's LRMS.

## **GENERAL PROJECT DESCRIPTION**

The Omaha/Douglas County law enforcement agencies need to create a better understanding of what their technology needs are in relation to data/information access, and develop a plan of action to meet these needs. Most county agencies do have the technical expertise and knowledge of available products, vendors, networks and systems, etc. to embark on a project of this scope. The purpose of this project is to migrate some of the Douglas County criminal justice agencies' mainframe applications to PC / network based technologies which may be shared by all criminal justice

agencies in the Omaha metropolitan area. A management consultant, with experience in criminal justice, is expected to provide an objective evaluation of our vision and plans, review systems and technical feasibility, and prepare a “road map” that includes implementation sequences to achieve these goals.

The management consultant will evaluate current and proposed technology plans and systems, identify areas for coordination, identify alternatives and weaknesses, suggest corrective measures and plans for technology migration from mainframe orientation to PC / network based solutions. The consultant will understand the needs for interface with other components of the Criminal Justice System.

A management consultant will:

- Be provided oversight by the Omaha/Douglas County COPS MORE advisory team;
- Be briefed on existing mainframe and PC / network based systems currently in use by Douglas County law enforcement agencies;
- Be briefed on Douglas County’s current and future technology plans including the role of MDC’s in data access and information sharing;
- Examine current usage, identify needs, and provide recommendations to include the following;
  - ◆ Evaluation of current criminal justice systems;
  - ◆ Identify needs for implementation that at a minimum should include cost estimates for equipment and personnel (ongoing staffing);
  - ◆ This report should address three areas: operations, case management and research;
  - ◆ Review and recommendation regarding mobile data computers by the COPS MORE grantee agencies in relationship to other county and state computer systems.
- Work with COPS MORE agencies to identify necessary infrastructure, hardware, software, interfaces and all costs for all systems identified;
- Identify areas to improve coordination across agencies to ensure that all systems are compatible with each other. That current fingerprinting, photo imaging and other systems are readily extended to mobile data computers in patrol cars. Ensure that Global Positioning System (GPS) capabilities are available for criminal data exchange which is seamless with local, national and federal systems.
- Prepare implementation sequence for infrastructure, hardware and software upgrades, and service transition, with associated costs;
- Produce a final report that is in essence a road map that explains where the system is today, needs to be, to ensure coordination of data access and information sharing for criminal justice agencies. This should include proposed implementation and maintenance plan, cost

and time estimates, and all other pertinent recommendations;

Essentially, the consultant will provide the overview, industry knowledge, technological expertise, and criminal justice experience to evaluate objectives and plans, outline a working plan and ensure that key elements or technologies are not omitted. The consultant will work with the COPS MORE advisory team to ensure that all elements needed for grant implementation are accomplished.

## **REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS RESPONSE REQUIREMENTS**

This section describes the contents of the Qualifications Packet as requested by the COPS MORE team. All Qualification Packets should be on 8 ½ by 11-inch paper. Submit 8 copies.

**Due Date:** All Qualification Packets shall be received by the Mayor's Office, City of Omaha, by 4:00 pm on **March 9, 2001**.

**Submission:** All eight Qualification Packets must be sent to:  
Gail Braun  
City of Omaha  
Office of the Mayor  
1819 Farnam Street, Suite 300  
Omaha, NE 68183

**Qualification Packets:** The Qualification Packets should contain the following information:

- The firm's contact person with respect to this project, the person's place in the organization, and the telephone and fax numbers, and office and email addresses at which the person can be reached.
- A. Statement of Qualifications, including Main Office Location and Staffing: In this section, please describe your agencies qualifications, main office and staffing with specific regard to those resources which would be available for the successful completion of this evaluation and recommendation project for the COPS MORE grant. Please be sure to list the qualifications of the specific personnel who will be working on this project.
- B. Experience with Similar Project(s): In this section, Respondent is to describe successful projects of similar content and scope. Additionally, if respondent has previous experience with law enforcement agencies, please describe similar projects in this section.
- C. Client Listing: List of clients with name, address, telephone number and contact name for reference purposes. The COPS MORE team will contact criminal justice clients and/or others for professional references of your agency.
- D. Timeline: In this section, respondent is to clearly state whether or not the agency can successfully complete the project in the timeline provided in the grant (Report due July 30, 2001).

- E. Additional Information: Respondent may provide any other information the firm deems helpful or appropriate. This section is not mandatory and may be left blank.
- F. Samples of Work: A sample of previous work may be requested.

### **VIII. SELECTION CRITERIA**

Selection of a technical consultant will be made using a qualifications-based selection process. Firm(s) on a short list will be invited to make a presentation to the Selection Committee. The Selection Committee will include representatives from the COPS MORE team. Following are the selection criteria that will be used to determine qualifications of the consultant:

- A. Selection Criteria:
  - 1. Response to the requirements of the “Request for Qualifications”
  - 2. Qualifications of the firm to provide professional services outlined
  - 3. Qualifications of the specific personnel who will work on the project
  - 4. Project management experience and demonstrated ability to meet required time schedule. Consideration will be given to location of the firm’s office and resulting availability of the firm for meetings with staff and others.
  - 5. Five years minimum experience in computer technology arena, preferably in a consulting capacity, to meet the unique needs of existing mainframe and PC / network based systems. Particular focus will be given to the successful completion of similar type projects.
  - 6. Ability to work with the COPS MORE team comprised of representatives from government agencies as demonstrated by client list, professional references, or other means.
  - 7. Ability to provide accurate cost estimating services, as demonstrated by information supplied by respondent, professional references, or other means.
  - 8. Experience and knowledge of designing PC / network based two and three tier client server systems for law enforcement applications, that include mobile data computing and multi-level technology interfacing and integration.
  - 9. Demonstrated experience in performing services to the satisfaction of their clients.
- B. The COPS MORE team will also evaluate qualifications by inquiries into the Respondents’ references. The COPS MORE team is especially concerned with the Respondent’s:

- Ability to effectively work with government agencies.
  - Ability to understand mainframe and Windows client based systems, networks and integration, mobile data computers, and complex wide area networks.
  - Past experience working with criminal justice/law enforcement records management systems.
  - Ability to complete projects on time and within budget.
- C. The highest ranked respondent will be invited by the COPS MORE team to negotiate the final price for services and to sign a contract for services. If for any reason, the final negotiations can not be agreed to by either party, the COPS MORE team will call on the second ranked respondent, and so on.
- D. The selected firm will be asked to start the project by **April 1**, and complete the work by **July 30, 2001**.

## NOTICES

In addition to the aforementioned requirements, all Respondents who submit a Qualifications Packet should notice the following:

1. All work performed for the COPS MORE team, including all documents associated with the project, shall become the exclusive property of the COPS MORE team.
2. The COPS MORE team reserves the right: 1) not to enter into any agreement, 2) not to select any Respondent, or 3) to cancel this process at any time.
3. Selected Respondent is expected to perform and complete this project.
4. Any and all cost arising from this Request for Qualifications process incurred by the Respondent shall be born by the Respondent, without reimbursement by either the City of Omaha or Douglas County.