

Source

Vendor Selected:

Whitlock

Vendor Selection Reason:

This purchase is an extension of an ongoing project to upgrade the technology in our classroom where we were already using Whitlock as the selected vendor. Because the project began over a year ago and we have already paid the original PO, we created a new PO for this specific part of the project and would like to continue to use Whitlock through the duration of the project.

Other Vendors Contacted & Reason for Non-Selection:

- We previously contacted both Camcor and Strategic Connections at the start of this technology upgrade project but opted to go with Whitlock because they offered better prices on equipment that had longer-lasting warranties, and the company has a better established relationship and local onsite-support with the UNC community.



October 9, 2018

To whom it may concern,

Please let this letter serve as confirmation of Topsail Technologies, Inc. as the sole source of contract work to be provided under the Environmental Finance Center (EFC) at the University of North Carolina's project titled "North Carolina Water and Wastewater Utility Financial Reporting and Rates Dashboard". This project is funded under a grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Information Exchange Network program.

The aim of this project is to develop a Financial Reporting System for water and wastewater systems in the State of North Carolina, and to integrate and visualize water and wastewater financial data in a real-time, interactive, online Financial Sustainability and Rates Dashboard tool. In order to carry out this project, the EFC proposed working with a technology solutions partner with significant experience in business database application development to make significant changes to a PostgreSQL database that is being used to collect the financial data. The contractor will build the database infrastructure, network and dashboard capabilities, script and code, and train EFC employees. Topsail Technologies has contracted with the EFC to carry out similar and related work continuously since 2014, and was the contractor that developed the current PostgreSQL database upon which this project builds. We believe that Topsail Technologies is best suited to continue this work in the most cost effective manner.

Topsail Technologies, Inc. was originally selected as a contractor in 2014 under a formal competitive RFP process (Proposal Number 65-RFPB679912). Since then, Topsail Technologies has developed the underlying technology and database framework upon which the EPA Exchange Network-funded project builds. Topsail Technologies has been the sole contractor involved in developing the existing PostgreSQL database and interactive Rates Dashboard platform, the process for creating, and the underlying data and technology. They developed the current database and data visualization technology (code and script) from scratch, and are therefore the most familiar with the current technology and the plans for how to implement significant modifications for the EPA Exchange Network-funded project. Since 2014, the EFC and Topsail Technologies have had great success by working closely together, meeting regularly and coordinating and completing similar database and dashboard development projects.

In consideration of these factors, it is our belief that Topsail Technologies, Inc. has the unique ability to continue this work. Because of Topsail Technologies' familiarity with the database and dashboard products and its role and expertise in building the existing technology, the cost for Topsail Technologies to perform the services required for the EPA Exchange Network project would be less than any other vendor who would need to spend significant time and resources to understand the existing framework.

Sincerely,

Jeff Hughes

Director,
Environmental Finance Center
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill



UNC
SCHOOL OF GOVERNMENT

THE UNIVERSITY
of NORTH CAROLINA
at CHAPEL HILL

KNAPP-SANDBERS BUILDING
CAMPUS BOX 3330
CHAPEL HILL, NC 27599-3330

T 919.966.5381
F 919.962.0634
www.sog.unc.edu

September 12, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

This is a justification letter for using Linda Hoke as a sole source for providing administrative support for the Consortium of University Public Service Organizations (CUPSO).

Linda was employed by the Southern Growth Policies Board for years. During her employment, the Southern Growth Policies Board had a partnership with CUPSO to provide administrative support to the organization and Linda was the lead administrator for his support. When Governor McCrory dissolved the Southern Growth Policies Board in September 2013, the School of Government offered to manage CUPSO finances and provide administrative support for the organization. An agreement was signed between CUPSO and the School of Government that specifically designated Linda Hoke as the lead administrator.

Linda has the administrative experience and CUPSO membership contacts to keep the organization functioning. She completed work as an independent contractor providing administrative support for CUPSO from Oct 2013 through June 2017. As the organization expands its membership, establishes a website, and provides webinars for its members, Linda is needed to continue the support she has provided for CUPSO. Her unique familiarity with both the organization and its members makes it possible for CUPSO to continue offering an annual conference and fall directors' meeting. Also, the CUPSO board members expect Linda to continue providing administrative services to CUPSO while the School of Government provides financial oversight for the organization.

Please let me know if you have any questions regarding this sole source letter of justification. I can be reached directly at 919-962-2757.

Sincerely,

Susan T. Williams

Susan T. Williams
Assistant Dean for Business and Finance

July 26, 2018

To Whom It May Concern:

This is a justification letter for Kristen Lee to serve as a contractual data analyst for various faculty at the School of Government.

Ms. Lee is a recent UNC graduate who has extensive experience in creating Tableau visualizations for public sector clients, most notably the world bank. It is highly unusual to find a Tableau expert well-versed in public sector concerns. This makes her ideally suited to performance data management, manipulation and visualizations for the UNC School of Government.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leisha DeHart-Davis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Leisha DeHart-Davis
Professor of Public Administration and Government.