



Lexington-Fayette Urban County
 Division of Police
MEMORANDUM
 Lexington, Kentucky

DATE OF ISSUE

July 29, 2021

EFFECTIVE DATE

NUMBER

BOA:21-015

<p>TO:</p> <p>Lawrence Weathers Chief of Police</p>	<p>SUBJECT:</p> <p>Request for Legistar Submission-Axon Officer Safety Plan Sole Source Contract Request</p>
<p>FROM:</p> <p>Assistant Chief Eric Lowe Bureau of Administration</p>	

I request routing a Sole Source Contract with Axon through the Legistar process.

We started our body worn camera program in 2016 which included a purchase of cameras for 400 officers. This purchase was made pursuant to a competitive bid process where the contract was awarded to Taser International. The contract duration was for five years and is set to expire this October. This company has since changed its name to Axon Enterprise, Inc.

In 2017 we made a sole source purchase of additional cameras for 124 officers to match our authorized strength in primary enforcement positions and deploy cameras to officers in additional units.

In 2021 we made an additional sole source purchase of cameras to complete our deployment of body worn cameras to all sworn officers of the department, safety officers and civilian forensic services employees.

Almost all sworn officers with the department are issued a Taser conducted electrical weapon. The Taser is a force option that is intended to temporarily incapacitate subjects to enable officers to gain control over them and attempt to prevent the requirement to use higher levels of force. Beginning in FY23 all of our current Tasers will be at end of life and require replacement over three fiscal years at a cost of 1.3 million dollars.

With our current contract for body worn cameras expiring we are recommending signing a new agreement with Axon for their Officer Safety Plan (OSP). This plan bundles our cameras, Tasers, storage and additional services.

The OSP plan includes the cameras, storage, replacement cameras at 2 ½ years, Tasers and Taser cartridges. Additionally there are several items included that address recommendations made by the Mayor’s Commission for Racial Justice and Equality. This package would include equipment to allow for the automatic activation of all body worn cameras in the area when a Taser is activated or a firearm is drawn from its holster. We would also be able to link our dispatch system with the video storage system to provide better tracking of incidents where a recording would have been required to ensure compliance with our policies. Finally this would provide an automated system which would require supervisors to conduct routine random audits of videos from officers under their supervision. The system will track these reviews and ensure compliance through reporting to higher level supervisors.

There are no other vendors that provide all of the above mentioned products and services. I have included a sole source letter from Axon as part of this packet.

I am requesting approval of a sole source contract with Axon Enterprise, Inc. to sign a new five year agreement for the Officer Safety Plan described above. This agreement has been through legal review and been signed off on by the Department of Law.

The required funds for FY22 are budgeted and available. Additional funds would be required and will be requested in the subsequent fiscal years.

Funding sources:

1101-505502-5527-76102

1101-505502-5527-75801

1101-505502-5525-76101

1101-505507-5571-75101



Assistant Chief Eric Lowe
Bureau of Administration

attachment