A-66-20 Additional Backup Sole Source Letter



SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT NASSAU COUNTY CORRECTIONAL CENTER 100 CARMAN AVENUE EAST MEADOW, NY 11554 (516) 572-4100

August 18, 2020

Robert Cleary Chief Procurement Officer County of Nassau One West Street Mineola, New York 11501

Re: Sole Source Justification Letter - Tek84 Whole Body Contraband Detection Scanner

Dear Mr. Cleary,

Legislation permitting the use of ionizing radiation body scanners ("body scanners") for security purposes in local correctional facilities was enacted in October 2018. The regulations governing the use of these body scanners were promulgated by the New York State Department of Health in 2019. The regulations provide that "personnel employed at a local correctional facility may utilize body imaging scanning equipment that applies ionizing radiation to humans for purposes of screening inmates committed to such facility, solely in connection with the implementation of such facility's security program. . ." (see 10 NYCRR § 16.70). The ability to use ionizing radiation body scanners in the correctional environment to discover the presence of dangerous contraband and weapons is an essential component in furtherance of the safe and secure operation of the local correctional facility. Since these body scanners can produce "an anatomical image capable of detecting objects placed on, attached to or secreted within a person's body," they are far superior to the stationary and hand-held magnetometer devices that had been used in the industry for decades. Thus, these body scanners have become the industry standard throughout the nation and the world.

Although there are presently a number of body scanners currently on the market, the Whole Body Contraband Detection Scanner from Tek84 is unique in its design, features and operation. Most importantly for our purposes, this body scanner is smaller in size than other machines and is the only portable body scanner currently on the market. Because of both its ability to fit through a standard 34" wide door frame and its portability without permanent installation in one location, this body scanner will permit usage in a variety of situations throughout the facility. The ability to move the body scanner to the area of the search instead of moving persons who may be in possession of dangerous contraband and weapons is indeed an essential safety and security feature not found in other body scanners. Additionally, while other body scanners utilize a moving platform or conveyer belt type system which moves the person during the scanning process, this body scanner does not require the movement of persons who may be violent or otherwise combative during the scanning process. Finally, this body scanner uses a very low dose of ionizing radiation as compared to other scanners. This is safer for the overall operation of the body scanner, safer for the persons being scanned, safer for the security personnel in the area, and permits greater flexibility in the number of scans that can be conducted on a person. While the ionizing radiation level is lower, the imaging is of a higher resolution providing greater detection. Tek84 has secured various patents on this body scanner with additional patents pending in the United States and internationally.

While there are other body scanners available on the market, we believe that the unique features of this body scanner will meet our needs given the population changes and characteristics of our facility. The price quote for this body scanner is both fair and reasonable, and is in line with other body scanners on the market without the unique features presented in this product.

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Sheriff