

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL #09-3129FL
DEBT COLLECTION SERVICES**

Manatee County, a political subdivision of the State of Florida (hereinafter "Manatee County" or the "County") will receive proposals from individuals, corporations, partnerships, and other legal entities authorized to do business in the State of Florida, for the purpose of providing debt collection services.

TIME AND DATE DUE: Proposals will be received until 4:00 p.m., Tuesday, November 24, 2009, at which time they will be **publicly opened**. All interested parties are invited to attend this opening.

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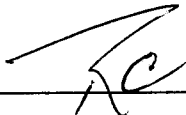
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Important note: A prohibition of Lobbying has been enacted. Please review paragraph A.18 carefully to avoid violation and possible sanctions.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT:

Frank G. Lambertson, Contract Negotiator, PHONE (941) 749-3042, FAX (941) 749-3034
Manatee County, Financial Management Department, Purchasing Division

AUTHORIZED FOR RELEASE: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'FL' or similar, written over a horizontal line.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL #09-3129FL
Debt Collection Services

SECTION A: INFORMATION TO PROPOSERS

PROPOSERS MUST COMPLY WITH THE FOLLOWING INSTRUCTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED FOR SELECTION.

A.01 OPENING LOCATION

These proposals will be publicly opened at Manatee County Purchasing, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, 8th Floor, Suite 803, Bradenton, Florida 34205, in the presence of County officials at the time and date stated on the cover sheet. All proposers or their representatives are invited to attend.

Proposals become "Public Records" ten (10) days after the proposal opening or if an award decision is made earlier than this time as provided by Florida Statute 110.071. **No announcement of pricing or review of the proposal documents shall be conducted at the public opening of the proposals.**

A.02 PROPOSAL INFORMATION AND PROPOSAL DOCUMENTS

Bids and Proposals on <http://www.mymanatee.org>

Bid or Proposal documents and the Notices of Source Selection related to those Bids or Proposals are available for download in a portable document format (.PDF) file on the Manatee County web page on the Purchasing tab under "Bids and Proposals." You may view and print these files using Adobe Acrobat software. You may download a free copy of this software (Adobe) from the County's web page if you do not have it.

Manatee County collaborates with the Manatee Chamber of Commerce on distributing solicitations using the RFP Tool web page on the Chambers website: <http://www.Manateechamber.com> to post Bid and Proposal documents in a portable document format (.PDF) file. This step is in addition to the posting on Manatee County Government web pages.

Manatee County may also use an internet service provider to distribute Bids and Proposals. A link to that service <http://www.DemandStar.com>, is provided on this website under the Tab "DemandStar". Participation in the DemandStar system is not a requirement for doing business with Manatee County.

Note: The County posts the Notice of Source Selection seven calendar days prior to the effective date of the award.

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH VENDOR, PRIOR TO SUBMITTING THEIR BID or PROPOSAL, TO CONTACT THE MANATEE COUNTY PURCHASING OFFICE (see contact information on page one of this document) TO DETERMINE IF ADDENDA WERE ISSUED AND TO MAKE SUCH ADDENDA A PART OF THEIR BID or PROPOSAL.

A.03 PROPOSAL FORM DELIVERY REQUIREMENTS

Any proposals received after the stated time and date will not be considered. It shall be the sole responsibility of the proposer to have their proposal delivered to the Manatee County Purchasing office for receipt on or before the stated time and date.

If a proposal is sent by U.S. Mail, the proposer shall be responsible for its timely delivery to the Purchasing Office. Proposals delayed by mail shall not be considered, shall not be opened at the public opening, and arrangements shall be made for their return at the proposer's request and expense.

A.04 CLARIFICATION & ADDENDA

Each proposer shall examine all Request For Proposal documents and shall judge all matters relating to the adequacy and accuracy of such documents. Any inquiries, suggestions or requests concerning interpretation, clarification or additional information pertaining to the Request For Proposal shall be made in writing through the Manatee County Purchasing Office. The County shall not be responsible for oral interpretations given by any County employee, representative, or others. The issuance of a written addendum is the only official method whereby interpretation, clarification or additional information can be given.

It shall be the responsibility of each proposer, prior to submitting their proposal, to contact the Manatee County Purchasing Office (see contact information on page 1) to determine if addenda were issued and to make such addenda a part of the proposal.

Monday, November 2, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. shall be the deadline for clarification requests, inquiries, suggestions or interpretations and/or additional information pertaining to this Request for Proposals. This deadline has been established to maintain fair treatment for all potential bidders or proposers.

A.05 SEALED & MARKED

Five (5) signed copies of your proposal shall be submitted in one sealed package, clearly marked on the outside "**Sealed Proposal #09-3129FL**" and addressed to:

Manatee County Purchasing
1112 Manatee Avenue West, Suite 803
Bradenton, FL 34205

A.06 LEGAL NAME

Proposals shall clearly indicate the legal name, address and telephone number of the proposer (company, firm, partnership, individual). Proposals shall be signed above the typed or printed name and title of the signer. The signer shall have the authority to bind the proposer to the submitted proposal.

A.07 PROPOSAL EXPENSES

All expenses for making proposals to the County are to be borne by the proposer.

A.08 EXAMINATION OF OFFER

The examination of the proposal and the proposer generally requires a period of not less than ninety (90) calendar days from the date of the opening of the proposals.

A.09 DISCLOSURE

Bids or proposals become "Public Records" ten (10) days after the proposal opening or if an award decision is made earlier than this time as provided by Florida Statute 119.071. No announcement or review of the proposal documents shall be conducted at the public opening of the proposals.

A.10 ERRORS OR OMISSIONS

Once the proposal is submitted, the County shall not accept any request by any proposer to correct errors or omissions in the proposal. No changes shall be allowed until a selection is made and contract negotiations actually begin.

A.11 RESERVED RIGHTS

The County reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all proposals, to waive irregularities and technicalities, and to request resubmission. Any sole response received by the first submission date may or may not be rejected by the County, depending on available competition and timely needs of the County. The County reserves the right to award the contract to a responsible proposer submitting a responsive proposal, with a resulting negotiated agreement which is most advantageous and in the best interests of the County. The County shall be the sole judge of the proposal, and the resulting negotiated agreement that is in its best interest and its decision shall be final. Also, the County reserves the right to make such investigation as it deems necessary to determine the ability of any proposer to perform the work or service requested. Information the County deems necessary to make this determination shall be provided by the proposer. Such information may include, but shall not be limited to: current financial statements prepared by an

independent CPA; verification of availability of equipment and personnel; and past performance records.

A.12 APPLICABLE LAWS

Proposer must be authorized to transact business in the State of Florida. All applicable laws and regulations of the State of Florida and ordinances and regulations of Manatee County will apply to any resulting agreement. Any involvement with any Manatee County procurement shall be in accordance with Manatee County Code of Laws 2-26, as amended. Any actual or prospective proposer who is aggrieved in connection with the solicitation or award of a contract may protest to the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County as required in Chapter 2-26-61 of the Manatee County Code of Laws.

A protest with respect to this Request For Proposal shall be submitted in writing prior to the scheduled opening date of this proposal, unless the aggrieved person did not know and could not have been reasonably expected to have knowledge of the facts giving rise to such protest prior to the scheduled opening date of this proposal. The protest shall be submitted within seven calendar days after such aggrieved person knows or could have reasonably been expected to know of the facts giving rise thereto.

A.13 CODE OF ETHICS

With respect to this proposal, if any proposer violates or is a party to a violation of the Code of Ethics of Manatee County per Manatee County Code of Laws, Article III, Ethics in Public Contracting, and/or the state of Florida per Florida Statutes, Chapter 112, Part III, Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees, such proposer may be disqualified from performing the work described in this proposal or from furnishing the goods or services for which the proposal is submitted and shall be further disqualified from submitting any future proposals for work or for goods or services for Manatee County.

The County anticipates that all statements made and materials submitted in a proposal will be truthful. If a proposer is determined to be untruthful in its proposal or any related presentation, such proposer may be disqualified from further consideration regarding this Request For Proposal.

A.14 COLLUSION

By offering a submission to this Request For Proposal the proposer certifies the proposer has not divulged to, discussed or compared his proposal with other proposers and has not colluded with any other proposer or parties to this proposal

whatsoever. Also, the proposer certifies, and in the case of a joint proposal, each party thereto certifies, as to their own organization that in connection with this proposal:

- a. any prices and/or data submitted have been arrived at independently, without consultation, communication or agreement, for the purpose of restricting competition, as to any matter relating to such prices and/or cost data, with any other proposer or with any competitor;
- b. any prices and/or cost data quoted for this proposal have not been knowingly disclosed by the proposer prior to the scheduled opening directly or indirectly to any competitor;
- c. no attempt has been made or will be made by the proposer to induce any other person or firm to submit or not to submit a proposal for the purpose of restricting competition;
- d. the only person or persons interested in this proposal as principal or principals is/are named therein and that no person other than therein mentioned has any interest in this proposal or in the contract to be entered into; and
- e. no person or agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure this contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage, or contingent fee, excepting bona fide employees.

A.15 PROPOSAL FORMS

Proposals must be submitted in the format specified in Section B of the Request For Proposal. The contents of each proposal shall be separated and arranged with tabs in the same order as listed in the subsections within Section B identifying the response to each specific item to facilitate an expedient review of all responses.

A.16 PUBLIC CONTRACTING AND ENVIRONMENTAL CRIMES

In accordance with Section 287.133, Florida Statutes, a person or affiliate who has been placed on the convicted vendor list following a conviction for a public entity crime may not submit a proposal on a contract to provide any goods or services to a public entity, may not submit a proposal on a contract with a public entity for the construction or repair of a public building or public work, may not submit proposals on leases or real property to a public entity, may not be awarded or perform work as a contractor, supplier, subcontractor, or consultant under a contract with any public entity, and may not transact business with any public entity in excess of the threshold amount provided in Section 287.017 for Category Two (as of 1/01/2005 is \$25,000) for a period of 36 months from the date of being placed on the convicted vendor list.

In addition, the Manatee County Code of Law prohibits the award of any contract to any person or entity who/which has, within the past 5 years, been convicted of, or admitted to in court or sworn to under oath, a public entity crime or of an environmental law that, in the reasonable opinion of the purchasing official, establishes reasonable grounds to believe the person or business entity will not conduct business in a responsible manner. To ensure compliance with the foregoing, The Code requires all persons or entities desiring to contract with the County to execute and files with the purchasing official an affidavit, executed under the pain and penalties of perjury, confirming that person, entity, and any person(s) affiliated with the entity, does not have such a record and is therefore eligible to seek and be awarded business with the County. In the case of a business entity other than a partnership or a corporation, such affidavit shall be executed by an authorized agent of the entity. In the case of a partnership, such affidavit shall be executed by the general partner(s). A confirming Public Contracting and Environmental Crimes certification affidavit is attached for this purpose.

A.17 DRUG FREE WORK PLACE

Manatee County Board of County Commissioners adopted a policy regarding maintaining a Drug Free Workplace, Resolution R-93-22. Proposers are asked to review the attached copy of the Resolution and provide either a certification of compliance with the program outlined in this Resolution or describe your firm's policy or program as it relates to maintaining a drug free workplace. This response will be considered with the other criteria described herein.

A.18 LOBBYING

After the issuance of any Request For Proposals or Invitations For Bids, prospective bidders, proposers or any agent, representative or person acting at the request of such bidder or proposer shall not contact, communicate with or discuss any matter relating in any way to the Request For Proposals or Invitation For Bids with any officer, agent or employee of Manatee County other than the Purchasing Director or as directed in the Request For Proposals or Invitation For Bids. This prohibition begins with the issuance of any Request For Proposals or Invitation For Bids, and ends upon execution of the final contract or when the invitation or request has been canceled. Violators of this prohibition shall be subject to sanctions as provided in the Manatee County Procurement Code.

A.19 EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Manatee County, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the Regulations of the Department of Commerce (15 CFR, Part 8) issued pursuant to such Act, hereby notifies all prospective proposers that they will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, minority business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to participate in response to this advertisement and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, creed, sex, age or national origin in consideration for an award.

A.20 AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT

The Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida, does not discriminate upon the basis of any individual's disability status. This non-discrimination policy involves every aspect of the County's functions including one's access to, participation, employment, or treatment in its programs or activities. Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation for the **public meetings** specified herein (i.e. Information Conference or Proposal Opening), should contact the person named on the first page of this document at least twenty four (24) hours in advance of the activity.

SECTION B: FORM OF PROPOSAL

This section identifies specific information which must be included with each response. Each proposal shall be arranged with tabs identifying the response to each specific item. Proposals must contain:

B.01 MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Manatee County is seeking professional service agencies, companies, corporations, partnerships, individual's organizations and/or other legal entities organized under the laws of the State of Florida to provide nationwide debt collection services. The Proposer, the legal business that has the power to contract or sue and be sued that proposed to enter into a contract for the services outlined herein must have provided professional nationwide debt collection services in the last three (3) years.

B.02 ADMINISTRATIVE SUBMITTAL

- a. Proposal Signature Form.
- b. Drug Free Work Place Certification (Attachment B).
- c. Public Contracting and Environmental Crimes Certification (Attachment C).

B.03 INFORMATION TO BE SUBMITTED

- a. Description of your firm's background and size. Include a statement of qualifications that includes you firm's professional credentials and experience in providing the types of services enumerated in the RFP.
- b. Discuss your firm's knowledge as it relates to regulations regarding Bankruptcy and Probate claims in performing the required services. Additionally, discuss your firm's knowledge as it relates to foreclosures.
- c. Identify each principal of the firm and other "key personnel" who will be professionally associated with the County. Describe their respective areas of expertise. Include personalized resumes which identify the qualifications, training and experience of each person(s).
- d. Provide a list of clients for whom your firm has provided similar debt collection services within the last three (3) years. Such information should include, but not be limited to:

Name, title, address and phone number of the organization(s) or individual(s) provided as references(s), the date (by month and year) when these services were provided.

- e. Provide a summary of your firm's workload and evidence to demonstrate your firm's ability to satisfy the County's requirements.

- f. Discuss your firm's knowledge as it relates to utility billing collections and medical collections.
- g. Describe in detail your firm's debt collection procedures and policy for account management. The information submitted shall include, but is not limited to recovery strategy, the acceptance of checks, closed accounts, skip tracing, credit checks and insufficient funds, Include how you firm complies with various local, state and federal laws pertaining to debt collection.
- h. Provide copies of procedures, forms and reports your firm uses to perform debt collection activities including, but not limited to:
 - 1. Debt collection
 - 2. Account Status
 - 3. Skip Tracing
 - 4. Credit Checks
 - 5. Reports submitted to the Credit Bureau
 - 6. Monthly summary reports
- i. Describe your firm's employee training programs for debt collection work. Include how your firm develops and monitors an employee's interpersonal skills of persuasion, diplomacy, courtesy and persistence while performing debt collection duties.
- j. Provide a list of Credit Bureaus your firm is affiliated with, including the number of years of each affiliation.
- k. Provide your fee schedule for your firm's debt collection on delinquent accounts.
 - 1. Commission for services rendered in debt collection on delinquent accounts.
 - 2. Credit Checks.

Include any additional fees that could be incurred in performing debt collection and credit checks for the County.
- l. Specify the office and its' location of the business entity which is to be the primary location of the principal and key and key personnel. List the key personnel at that location. For the remaining key personnel detail at what locations(s) they will work from and how they will provide management or technical support from the locations that they will work from.

- m. Submit a narrative explaining the direct economic benefit to Manatee County to be realized by selecting your firm. During the term of this engagement detail the employment, subcontracting, and support services contracting as economic stimulus that your entity may generate that would directly benefit Manatee County.
- n. Submit any other additional information which would assist the County in the evaluation of your proposal.

NOTE: The County reserves the right to make such investigation and solicit additional information or submittals as it deems necessary to determine the ability of any proposer to perform the Scope of Services stated in this Request For Proposal.

SECTION C: SELECTION

C.01 EVALUATION FACTORS

Evaluation factors are price and perceived ability of the Proposer to perform the Scope of Services as stated in this Request for Proposal in the most timely and efficient manner, and the proposal(s) which will overall best meet the needs of Manatee County as determined from the responses to this Request for Proposal and subsequent investigation by the County.

C.02 RELATIVE IMPORTANCE OF EVALUATION FACTORS

No weight has been assigned to the Evaluation Factors stated above.

C.03 PRELIMINARY RANKING

A Selection Committee may determine from the response to this Request for Proposal and subsequent investigation as necessary, the Proposers most susceptible of being selected for award.

C.04 REVIEW OF PROPOSERS AND PROPOSALS

Review shall be conducted with responsible Proposers who may be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award, for the purposes of clarification to assure full understanding of and conformance to the solicitation requirements, the abilities of the Proposer, and the proposal submitted.

Firms responding to this Request for Proposal shall be available for presentation/interviews, to the Selection Committee and/or Board of County Commissioners upon notification from the Purchasing Office at a time and date determined by the County.

C.05 SELECTION FOR NEGOTIATION

The Proposer whose ability and proposal is determined to be the most advantageous to the County, taking into consideration the evaluation factors set forth in this Request for Proposal, shall be recommended to the County Administrator for authorization to negotiate an agreement for the stated Scope of Services.

C.06 AWARD

Award of an agreement is subject to the successful negotiations and the vote of the Board of County Commissioners to authorize execution of the agreement.

SECTION D: NEGOTIATION OF THE AGREEMENT

D.01 GENERAL

The following general terms and conditions apply to the proposal submitted for consideration and the subsequent negotiations:

- a. The proposal will serve as a basis for negotiating an agreement.
- b. Upon submission, all proposals become the property of the County which has the right to use any or all ideas presented in any proposal submitted in response to this Request For Proposal whether or not the proposal is accepted.
- c. All products and papers produced in the course of this engagement become the property of the County upon termination or completion of the engagement.

D.02 AGREEMENT

The selected proposer shall be required to negotiate a formal agreement, in a form acceptable to Manatee County.

The Manatee County Board of County Commissioners will be presented the negotiated agreement as the best and final offer for consideration of award and execution. The Board of County Commissioners shall determine if award of the agreement is to be: considered; rejected and direct further negotiations; rejected and terminate negotiations; or accepted, authorizing the County Administrator or designee to execute the agreement.

SECTION E: SCOPE OF SERVICES

E.01 OVERVIEW

The intent of this Request for Proposal and resulting agreement is to provide to Manatee County a professional debt collection agency to perform debt collection services on a commission basis for the Utilities Department, and various other County departments on an as required basis.

There are approximately 7,000 utility bills totaling \$1,400,000 and 9,000 ambulance service bills totaling \$3,500,000 that the County has put into the Collections or Bad Address account and are referred to a Debt Collections Service.

E.02 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

The Proposer will perform all services specified in this Proposal in accordance with generally accepted professional standards. The Proposer will perform all services as expeditiously as is consistent with professional skill and care and the orderly progress of the work. All work of any kind, will conform to and be in compliance with applicable codes, laws, ordinances, regulations and restrictions. The following generally describes the "Scope of Services" that will be the successful Proposer's responsibility.

- a. The County will assign delinquent accounts to the Proposer for collection. The Proposer will acknowledge receipt of all forwarded accounts within twenty four (24) hours of receipt of forwarded accounts and will use all legal means to effect collection of such accounts.
- b. The County will forward to the Proposer the delinquent account information, credit check request, or any other debt collection information, in report format, via mail or electronic batch file. The Proposer will forward information to the County using the same agreed upon transaction method.
- c. The Proposer shall receive for services performed under standard collection procedures a negotiated percentage of all monies collected upon assigned balance due accounts while in the possession of the Proposer.
- d. The County will reserve the right and authority to withdraw accounts upon discovery of invoicing disputes, legal restrictions to collect and declaration of hardship.

- e. The Proposer shall comply with all provisions of Federal Public law 95-109 title "Fair Debt Collection Practice Act" as amended, with Florida Statute 559 and with all other federal, state or local laws, rules and regulations that may apply.
- f. The Proposer shall continue debt collection procedures on all uncollected accounts for a period of not less than one (1) calendar year unless otherwise notified by the County to discontinue the debt collection effort.
- g. The Proposer will submit to the County its policy on your firm's debt collection procedures. The policy will include, but is not limited to, the acceptance of checks, the acceptance of checks which are returned from a bank as unpaid and insufficient funds, accounts closed, skip tracing and credit checks.
- h. The Proposer shall have a primary contact person and other "key" personnel designated as contacts for the County's Account Manager. The personnel will be available from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday, excluding Holidays.
- i. The Proposer shall provide credit check services for the County. A one-time fee will be established for processing the credit checks and the Proposer will be required to complete the credit check within 72 hours of receipt of the request.
- j. The Proposer shall provide records management, on a monthly basis, including but not limited to:
 - 1. Account status of all delinquent accounts that the County assigned to your firm documenting the debt collection activity on the accounts.
 - 2. Summary report indicating the accounts that had either part or full payment to either the County or the Contractor.
 - 3. An invoice to the County for commission due for monies collected from delinquent accounts and other Credit activities performed for the County.
 - 4. Summary of reports of requested credit checks.
 - 5. Summary of accounts reported to the Credit Bureau and subsequently released.
- k. The record management reports and time schedules of report transmittals shall be distributed to designated contacts by the referring County departments.

- l. The Proposer shall maintain and keep all reports and records necessary to comply with any Federal, State, or Local law.
- m. The Proposer shall provide web access to the County through a secure website to detailed collection activity by account.
- n. The Proposer shall provide a toll-free number to respond to inquiries concerning collection activity.

PROPOSAL SIGNATURE FORM
RFP #09-3129FL

Firm Name

Mailing Address:

() _____
Telephone Number

City, State, Zip Code

The undersigned attests to his (her, their) authority to submit this proposal and to bind the firm herein named to perform as per agreement. If the firm is selected by the County the undersigned certifies that he/she will negotiate in good faith to establish an agreement to provide Debt Collection Services according to the requirements of this RFP #09-3129FL.

Signature

Witness Signature

Date: _____

Date: _____

Name and Title of Above Signer

Name and Title of Above Signer

Address of any branch office
proposed to service Manatee County other than above

Name and Title of Firm's Representative for Manatee County

Telephone Number of Firm's Representative for Manatee County

ATTACHMENT "A"

RESOLUTION R-93-22

A RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MANATEE COUNTY, FLORIDA, IMPLEMENTING ¶3-101(7)3(1) OF THE MANATEE COUNTY PROCUREMENT CODE (ORDINANCE 84-02 AS AMENDED) TO ESTABLISH MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR BIDDERS WITH RESPECT TO MAINTAINING A DRUG FREE WORKPLACE; REQUIRING WRITTEN CERTIFICATION TO THE COUNTY OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS ESTABLISHED HEREIN; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY AND EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County recognizes that substance abuse is a complex societal problem that continues to threaten the welfare of the residents and community; and

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners considers substance abuse on the job to be an unsafe and counter-productive work practice; and

WHEREAS, consistent with its policy to promote a safe work environment and encourage personal health for all citizens of Manatee County, the Commission finds it necessary to combat substance abuse in the workplace by promoting education and awareness; and

WHEREAS, consistent with the Drug Free Workplace Act (§112.0455, Florida Statutes) and policies applicable to Manatee County employees pursuant to Resolution R-93-10, the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County has determined that it is necessary and in the best interest of the County to adopt the drug free workplace requirements for persons or entities contracting with Manatee County; and

WHEREAS, ¶3-101(7)B of the Manatee County procurement Code (Ordinance 84-02, as amended) authorizes the adoption of requirements for maintaining a drug free workplace applicable to persons or entities bidding on contracts with Manatee County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida, as follows:

1. **Certification Required:** No person or entity submitting a bid pursuant to ¶3-101 shall be awarded or receive a county contract for public improvements, procurement of goods or services (including professional services) or a county lease, franchise, concession or management

agreement, unless such person or entity has submitted a written certification to the county that it will provide a drug free workplace by:

- a. providing a written statement to each employee notifying such employee that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of a controlled substance as defined in §893.02(4), Florida statutes, as the same may be amended from time to time, in the person's or entity's workplace is prohibited specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition. Such written statement shall inform employees about:
 - (i) the dangers of drug abuse in the workplace;
 - (ii) the person's or entity's policy of maintaining a drug free environment at all its workplaces, including but not limited to all locations where employees perform any task relating to any portion of such contract, business transaction or grant;
 - (iii) any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and
 - (iv) the penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations.
- b. Requiring the employee to sign a copy of such written statement to acknowledge his or her receipt of same and advice as to the specifics of such policy. Such person or entity shall retain the statements signed by its employees. Such person or entity shall also post in a prominent place at all of its workplaces a written statement of its policy containing the foregoing elements (i) through (iv).
- c. Notifying the employee in the statement required by subsection 1. that as a condition of employment the employee will:
 - (i) abide by the terms of the statement; and
 - (ii) notify the employer of any criminal drug statute conviction for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than five (5) days after such a conviction.

- d. At all times pertinent to the performance of any contract with Manatee County, notify the county within ten (10) days after receiving notice under subsection c. from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction.
 - e. Imposing appropriate personnel action against such employee up to and including termination; or requiring such employee to satisfactorily participate in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a federal, state or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency.
 - f. Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug free workplace through implementation of sections a. through e. of this subsection.
2. **Severability.** If any part, section, subsection, or other portion of this Resolution, or any application thereof to any person or circumstances declared to be void, unconstitutional, or invalid for any reason, such part, section, subsection, or other portion, or the prescribed application thereof, shall be severable, and the remaining provisions of this Resolution, and all applications thereof not having been declared void, unconstitutional or invalid, shall remain in full force and effect.
3. **Effective Date.** This Resolution shall take effect ninety (90) days after adoption by the Board of County Commissioners.

ADOPTED in open session by a majority of the duly elected Board of County Commissioners of Manatee County, Florida, this 2nd day of February, 1993.

ORIGINAL DOCUMENT SIGNED BY BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS CHAIRMAN MS. LARI ANN HARRIS ON FEBRUARY 2, 1993 AND IS ON FILE AT MANATEE COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE.

<R93-22>

ATTACHMENT "B"

Drug Free Work Place Certification

SWORN STATEMENT PURSUANT TO RESOLUTION R-93-22, ON DRUG FREE WORK PLACES

THIS FORM MUST BE SIGNED AND SWORN TO IN THE PRESENCE OF A NOTARY PUBLIC OR OTHER OFFICIAL AUTHORIZED TO ADMINISTER OATHS.

This sworn statement is submitted to the Manatee County Board of County Commissioners by:

_____ for _____
[print individual's name and title] [print name of entity submitting sworn statement]

whose business address is: _____

and (if applicable) its Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) is _____ (If the entity has no FEIN, include the Social Security Number of the individual signing this sworn statement: _____)

I understand that no person or entity shall be awarded or receive a county contract for public improvements, procurement of goods or services (including professional services) or a county lease, franchise, concession or management agreement, or shall receive a grant of county monies unless such person or entity has submitted a written certification to the County that it will provide a drug free work place by:

(1) providing a written statement to each employee notifying such employee that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensation, possession or use of a controlled substance as defined by §893.02(4), Florida Statutes, as the same may be amended from time to time, in the person's or entity's work place is prohibited specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violation of such prohibition. Such written statement shall inform employees about:

- (i) the dangers of drug abuse in the work place;
- (ii) the person's or entity's policy of maintaining a drug free environment at all its work places, including but not limited to all locations where employees perform any task relating to any portion of such contract, business transaction or grant;
- (iii) any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs; and
- (iv) the penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations.

(2) Requiring the employee to sign a copy of such written statement to acknowledge his or her receipt of same and advice as to the specifics of such policy. Such person or entity shall retain the statements signed by its employees. Such person or entity shall also post in a prominent place at all of its work places a written statement of its policy containing the foregoing elements (i) through (iv).

(3) Notifying the employee in the statement required by subsection (1) that as a condition of employment the employee will:

- (i) abide by the terms of the statement; and
- (ii) notify the employer of any criminal drug statute conviction for a violation occurring in the work place no later than five (5) days after such a conviction.

(4) Notifying the County within ten (10) days after receiving notice under subsection (3) from an employee or otherwise receiving actual notice of such conviction.

(5) Imposing appropriate personnel action against such employee up to and including termination; or requiring such employee to satisfactorily participate in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program approved for such purposes by a federal, state, or local health, law enforcement, or other appropriate agency.

(6) Making a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug free work place through implementation of sections (1) through (5) stated above.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THE SUBMISSION OF THIS FORM TO THE CONTRACTING OFFICER FOR MANATEE COUNTY IS VALID THROUGH DECEMBER 31 OF THE CALENDAR YEAR IN WHICH IT IS FILED. I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT ANY CONTRACT OR BUSINESS TRANSACTION SHALL PROVIDE FOR SUSPENSION OF PAYMENTS, OR TERMINATION, OR BOTH, IF THE CONTRACTING OFFICER OR THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DETERMINES THAT:

- (1) Such person or entity has made false certification.
- (2) Such person or entity violates such certification by failing to carry out the requirements of sections (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), or (6) or Resolution R-01-36 Section 4, E (1) (a) or
- (3) Such a number of employees of such person or entity have been convicted of violations occurring in the work place as to indicate that such person or entity has failed to make a good faith effort to provide a drug free work place as required by Resolution R-01-36 Section 4, E (1) (a).

[Signature]

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF _____

Sworn to and subscribed before me this _____ day of _____, 20____ by _____.

Personally known _____ OR Produced identification) _____
(Type of identification)

Notary Public Signature My commission expires _____

[Print, type or stamp Commissioned name of Notary Public]

ATTACHMENT "C"

PUBLIC CONTRACTING AND ENVIRONMENTAL CRIMES CERTIFICATION

**SWORN STATEMENT PURSUANT TO
MANATEE COUNTY CODE OF LAW**

THIS FORM MUST BE SIGNED AND SWORN TO IN THE PRESENCE OF A NOTARY PUBLIC OR OTHER OFFICIAL AUTHORIZED TO ADMINISTER OATHS.

This sworn statement is submitted to the Manatee County Board of County Commissioners by _____
[print individual's name and title]

_____ for _____
[print name of entity submitting sworn statement]

whose business address is: _____

and (if applicable) its Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) is _____. If the entity has no

FEIN, include the Social Security Number of the individual signing this sworn statement: _____

I understand that no person or entity shall be awarded or receive a county contract for public improvements, procurement of goods or services (including professional services) or a county lease, franchise, concession or management agreement, or shall receive a grant of county monies unless such person or entity has submitted a written certification to the County that it has not:

(1) been convicted of bribery or attempting to bribe a public officer or employee of Manatee County, the State of Florida, or any other public entity, including, but not limited to the Government of the United States, any state, or any local government authority in the United States, in that officer's or employee's official capacity; or

(2) been convicted of an agreement or collusion among bidders or prospective bidders in restraint of freedom of competition, by agreement to bid a fixed price, or otherwise; or

(3) been convicted of a violation of an environmental law that, in the sole opinion of the County's Purchasing Director, reflects negatively upon the ability of the person or entity to conduct business in a responsible manner; or

(4) made an admission of guilt of such conduct described in items (1), (2) or (3) above, which is a matter of record, but has not been prosecuted for such conduct, or has made an admission of guilt of such conduct, which is a matter of record, pursuant to formal prosecution. An admission of guilt shall be construed to include a plea of nolo contendere; or

(5) where an officer, official, agent or employee of a business entity has been convicted of or has admitted guilt to any of the crimes set forth above on behalf of such and entity and pursuant to the direction or authorization of an official thereof (including the person committing the offense, if he is an official of the business entity), the business shall be chargeable with the conduct herein above set forth. A business entity shall be chargeable with the conduct of an affiliated entity, whether wholly owned, partially owned, or one which has common ownership or a common Board of Directors. For purposes of this Form, business entities are affiliated if, directly or indirectly, one business entity controls or has the power to control another business entity, or if an individual or group of individuals controls or has the power to control both entities. Indicia of control shall include, without limitation, interlocking management or ownership, identity of interests among family members, shared organization of a business entity following the ineligibility of a business entity under this Article, or using substantially the same management, ownership or principles as the ineligible entity.

Any person or entity who claims that this Article is inapplicable to him/her/it because a conviction or judgment has been reversed by a court of competent jurisdiction, shall prove the same with documentation satisfactory to the County's Purchasing Director. Upon presentation of such satisfactory proof, the person or entity shall be allowed to contract with the County.

I UNDERSTAND THAT THE SUBMISSION OF THIS FORM TO THE CONTRACTING OFFICER FOR MANATEE COUNTY IS VALID THROUGH DECEMBER 31 OF THE CALENDAR YEAR IN WHICH IT IS FILED. I ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT ANY CONTRACT OR BUSINESS TRANSACTION SHALL PROVIDE FOR SUSPENSION OF PAYMENTS, OR TERMINATION, OR BOTH, IF THE CONTRACTING OFFICER OR THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR DETERMINES THAT **SUCH PERSON OR ENTITY HAS MADE FALSE CERTIFICATION.**

[Signature]

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF _____

Sworn to and subscribed before me this _____ day of _____, 20____ by _____.

Personally known _____ OR Produced identification _____
[Type of identification]

Notary Public Signature My commission expires _____

[Print, type or stamp Commissioned name of Notary Public]

Signatory Requirement - In the case of a business entity other than a partnership or a corporation, this affidavit shall be executed by an authorized agent of the entity. In the case of a partnership, this affidavit shall be executed by the general partner(s). In the case of a corporation, this affidavit shall be executed by the corporate president.