

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL #10-1752FL
MAIL HANDLING 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 Mail Handling Services.

TIME AND DATE DUE: Proposals will be received until 4:00 p.m., Thursday, February 17, 2011, at which time they will be publicly opened. All interested parties are invited to attend this opening.


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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
frank.lambertson@mymanatee.org
Manatee County, Financial Management Department, Purchasing Division

AUTHORIZED FOR RELEASE: _____ 

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL #10-1752FL
Mail Handling Services

SECTION A: INFORMATION TO PROPOSERS

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

A.01 OPENING LOCATION

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.

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 necessary.

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.

Note: The County posts the **Notice of Source Selection** seven calendar days prior to COMMENCING NEGOTIATIONS with the selected firms.

IT IS THE RESPONSIBILITY OF EACH PROPOSER, PRIOR TO SUBMITTING THEIR 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 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. Addenda shall be posted on <http://www.mymanatee.org>.

It shall be the responsibility of each proposer, prior to submitting their proposal, to contact the Manatee County Purchasing Office at 941-748-4501, Ext. 3042 to determine if addenda were issued and to make such addenda a part of the proposal.

DEADLINE FOR CLARIFICATION REQUESTS

Tuesday, February 1, 2011 at 5:00P.M. shall be the deadline to submit all inquiries, suggestions, or requests concerning interpretation, clarification or additional information pertaining to this Request For Proposals to the Manatee County Purchasing Office.

This deadline has been established to maintain fair treatment for all potential bidders or proposers.

Note: If required, Proposers may obtain further clarification or explanation of this RFP by contacting: Frank Lambertson, Contracts Negotiator, Purchasing Division, Phone: (941)749-3042 or Email: frank.lambertson@mymanatee.org

A.05 SEALED & MARKED

Four (4) signed copies of your proposal shall be submitted in one sealed package, clearly marked on the outside "**Sealed Proposal #11-1752FL**" 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

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 review of the proposal documents shall be conducted at the public opening of the proposals.**

Manatee County will make public at the opening the names of the business entities that submitted an offer and any amount presented as offers without any verification of the mathematics or the completeness of the offer.

A.10 ERRORS OR OMISSIONS

Once a 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. Negotiated agreement may or may not include all elements of this RFP or the resulting successful proposal where alternative terms and conditions become more desirable to the County, and the parties agree to such terms. 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 Chapter 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 Section 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 Florida criminal or civil laws related to public procurement including but not limited to Florida Statutes Chapter 112, Part II, 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 Proposals.

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 hereof. 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 thereby facilitating expedient review of all responses.

A.16 DRUG FREE WORK PLACE

Drug Free Workplace Program: Manatee County Board of County Commissioners adopted a policy requiring Contractors to maintain a Drug Free Workplace, Resolution R-93-22. Proposers are asked to review the attached 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. **Proposer to complete Attachment "A"**

A.17 PUBLIC ENTITY 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 7/1/2000 is \$25,000) for a period of 36 months from the date of being placed on the convicted vendor list.

Manatee Code of Laws 2-26 Article V prohibits the award of County contracts to persons, business entities, or affiliates of business entities who have not submitted written certification to the County that they have not been convicted of bribery, attempted bribery, collusion, restraints of trade, price fixing, and violations of certain environmental laws. A Non-Conviction Certification Form is attached for this purpose. **Proposer is to complete Attachment "B"**

A.18 LOBBYING

After the issuance of any Request For Proposals, prospective proposers or any agent, representative or person acting at the request of such proposer shall not contact, communicate with or discuss any matter relating in any way to the Request For Proposals with any officer, agent or employee of Manatee County other than the Purchasing Official or as directed in the Request For Proposals. This prohibition begins with the issuance of any Request For Proposals and ends upon execution of the final contract, when all solicitations have been rejected, or when the request has been canceled. Violators of this prohibition shall be subject to sanctions as provided in the Manatee County Code of Law Chapter 2-26.

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 it will affirmatively ensure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, women or 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 to request accommodations.

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 mail handling 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 mail handling services in the last two (2) 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. Specify the office and its' location of the business entity which is to be the primary location of the principal and key personnel. List the key personnel at that location. For the remaining key personnel detail at what location(s) they will work from and how they will provide management or technical support from the locations that they will work from.
- b. An Executive Summary showing that the Proposer has the interest, knowledge, understanding of, and the means to provide the services as outlined in the RFP.
- c. Provide a list of clients for whom your firm has provided similar professional services within the last two (2) years. Such information should include: name, title, address, phone number of the organizations or individuals provided as references and the date (by month and year) when these services were provided.
- d. Identify each person(s) of your firm who will be professionally associated with the County in the day-to-day operations and oversight of this project. Describe their respective areas of expertise. Include personalized resumes which identify the qualification, training and experience of each person(s).

- e. A description of the mail sorting, handling and automation services which your firm can provide to the County including the types of mail (e.g. first class, flats, post cards brochures and etc.) and the weights and sizes of mailings.
- f. Descriptions of the equipment your firm uses in sorting and bar coding mail and the capabilities of the equipment. Can the equipment handle handwritten mail?
- g. Description of your firm's procedure for handling non-machine readable mail.
- h. Description of your firm's ability to meet United States Post Office requirements for addressing updates in order to qualify for automation discount postal rates.
- i. Description of your firm's backup systems to ensure that mail is picked up daily, at appropriate times, bar coded, sorted and delivered to the post office on the day the mail is postmarked, and the communication process if mail pickup is delayed past 4:00 P.M.
- j. Description of your firm's procedure for documenting the quantities and types of mail processed. Provide copies of documentation and invoices.
- k. Provide a copy of your firm's Documentation Reconstruction Insurance.
- l. The proposer shall submit their pricing mechanisms and their applicable rates for the services enumerated in this RFP. Attachment C may be used to provide your pricing information if applicable.
- m. The proposer may submit a proposal for providing various coding, sorting and delivery services for all the classes of mail, or any class or combination thereof.
- n. Submit any other additional information which would assist the County in the evaluation of your proposal.
- o. 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.

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 approval by the Purchasing Official 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 PURPOSE

The purpose of this Request For Proposal is to solicit proposals from qualified individuals, corporations, partnerships, and other legal entities to bar code, to sort and to deliver the County's (and other constitutional offices if required) outgoing mail to the Post Office on a daily basis, Monday through Friday.

The County's estimated annual outgoing mail volume is as follows:

<u>Weight</u>	<u>1st Class</u>
0-1 ounces	593,000
1-2 ounces	26,000
2-3 ounces	<u>5,000</u>
Total	624,000

These approximate volumes are estimates only, and are not guaranteed.

E.02 SCOPE OF SERVICES

The following generally describes the required Mail Handling Services:

- a. Contractor shall pick-up County mail on a daily basis between the hours of 3:00P.M. and 4:00P.M., Monday through Friday except on County designated holidays as listed in below.
- b. Contractor's employee or agent at the time of pick-up, shall sign and return to the County a daily mail count ticket that has been filled-in by the County with the actual count of all mailings. Daily mail count tickets shall be provided at no cost to the County by the Contractor.
- c. Contractor shall notify the County's Contract Manager or designee prior to 4:00 P.M. if the Contractor will be delayed in picking up the County mail and that such time delay will extend beyond 4:00 P.M.
- d. Contractor shall accept all County non-handwritten 1st class mail at presort postal rates for processing by the Contractor.
- e. County shall meter same day 1st class mail with the appropriate postage based on the pricing mechanism utilized by County.
- f. All Mail Classes (metered) - Next Day Service - shall be metered at the lowest possible United States Postal Service rate for which mail qualifies.

- g. All Mail Classes with Manatee County USPS Permit Imprint - Next Day Service - will not be metered. If the imprint has a specific date for mailing, then the mailing must be mailed on that specified date or delivered to the County Courier Office prior to 4:30 P.M. on the specified mailing date. County will provide such mailings to the Contractor at least one (1) day prior to the required date for mailing.
- h. Contractor shall transport the County's mail to its facility for sorting and bar coding of the 1st Class Mail to meet United States Postal Service's requirements and regulations for receiving the lowest possible postal rates.
- i. Contractor shall provide same day delivery of County 1st Class Mail to a United States Postal Service Center for delivery on the date of the postmark. Contractor shall provide next day delivery for all other classes or 1st Class Mail which has been designated by the County for next day delivery to the United States Postal Service Center.
- j. Contractor shall advise and work with County's Contract Manager to increase the County's volume of 1st Class Mail that will qualify for automation compatible processing and discounting. County shall separate and box separately standard mail, flats and post cards from 1st Class Mail and shall prepare a separate count ticket for pick-up by the Contractor.
- k. At its option, County shall have the Contractor pick up all its pre-posted handwritten 1st Class letter size mail for delivery to the United States Postal Service Center by the Contractor on the date of postmark. Such mail volume shall be limited to forty (40) pounds per day. Contractor shall provide the delivery to the United States Postal Service Center at no cost to the County.
- l. Contractor shall remit all rebates payable to the County on a monthly basis in arrears along with a report of the calculations for the rebate earned.
- m. In the event the County does not earn a rebate in any month, the Contractor shall be required to submit to the County a report of Customer Barcode Percentage Read calculations.
- n. Provide Track and Trace services when requested.
- o. In the event of a hurricane or other disaster the Contractor will implement all possible corrective actions in order to assure that mail handling services is continued and the County's mail is processed as required.

SECTION F - MANATEE COUNTY LOCAL PREFERENCE LAW AND VENDOR REGISTRATION

.01 Vendor Registration

All vendors are encouraged to register with Manatee County using the on-line "Vendor Registration" web page on www.mymanatee.org.

Enclosed is a copy of the current Manatee County law that details the County's Local Preference and definition of a Local Business.

If you assert that your firm meets the stated definition of a Local Business, we ask that in addition to registering on the County's Web page, you fill out the attached "**Affidavit As To Local Business Form**" that is the **last page** in this section of the proposal, have the completed document notarized, and mail the original to the following address: Manatee County Administration Center, 1112 Manatee Avenue West, Suite 803, Bradenton, FL 34205.

Your cooperation in registering your business with Manatee County will enhance our opportunities to identify sources for goods and services, plus identify Local Businesses. This information is used for soliciting quotations up to \$250,000.00 and for competitive solicitations of larger purchases.

You will note that Manatee County collaborates with the Manatee Chamber of Commerce, posting bids on www.manateechamber.com as well as using the same vendor categories for registration. Our staff can assist you with your registration as needed. Our office hours are 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday on regular business days. Please call (941) 749-3014 if you wish to have a purchasing staff member assist you.

Quick steps to on line registration: **www.mymanatee.org**

A link to "Purchasing" is listed under the "Quick Links" on page one of this County Web Site on the left hand side of the Purchasing Web page, click on "Vendor Registration."

This will bring up the Vendor Registration form for on-line input. Please note that the definition of a "Local Business" changed on March 17, 2009. The Web page will be updated to include the current Law which has been provided in this section of the **proposal**.

Thank you for reviewing this information and considering registering your business with Manatee County. Registration is not mandatory; however, by taking the time to register, you are helping the County to provide timely notifications of quotation, bid, and proposal opportunities to your business.

MANATEE COUNTY LOCAL PREFERENCE LAW AND VENDOR REGISTRATION

Section 2-26-6. Local preference, tie bids, local business defined.

(a) Whenever a responsible local business bidder and a responsible non-local business bidder are found, upon the opening of bids, to have both submitted the lowest responsive bid, the bid of the local bidder shall be awarded the contract. Should more than one responsible local business bidder match the responsible non-local business bidder's lowest responsive bid, or should no responsible local business bidder match the lowest responsive bid but two or more responsible non-local business bidders submit lowest responsive bids for equal amounts, then the award of the contract shall be determined by a chance drawing, coin toss, or similar tie-breaking method conducted by the purchasing office and open to the public. Any bidders seeking to be recognized as local businesses for purposes of this local business preference provision may be required by the terms of the bid announcement to certify they meet the definition of local business set forth in this section, and to register as a local business with the county in the manner prescribed by the county to facilitate the county's ability to track the award of contracts to local businesses and to allow the county to provide future notifications to its local businesses concerning other bidding opportunities.

(b) Nothing herein shall be deemed to prohibit the inclusion of requirements with respect to operating and maintaining a local place of business in any invitation for bids when the bidder's location materially affects the provisions of the services or supplies that are required by the invitation.

(c) Local business is defined as a business legally authorized to engage in the sale of the goods and/or services to be procured, and which certifies within its bid that for at least six (6) months prior to the announcement of the solicitation of bids it has maintained a physical place of business in Manatee, Desoto, Hardee, Hillsborough, Pinellas or Sarasota County with at least one full-time employees at that location.

(d) Each solicitation for bids made by the county shall contain terms expressly describing the local business preference policies of the county, and shall provide that by electing to submit a bid pursuant to a request for bids, all bidders are deemed to understand and agree to those policies.

(e) For all contracts for architecture, professional engineering, or other professional services governed by Florida Statute § 287.055, the Consultants' Competitive Negotiation Act, the county shall include the local business status of a firm among the factors considered when selecting which firms are "most highly qualified." In determining which firm is the "most qualified" for purposes of negotiating a satisfactory contract, preference shall be given to a local business where all other relevant factors are equal.

(f) Local preference shall not apply to the following categories of contracts:

1. Goods or services provided under a cooperative purchasing agreement or similar "piggyback" contract;
2. Contracts for professional services subject to Florida Statute § 287.055, the Consultants' Competitive Negotiation Act, except as provided for in subsection (e) above;
3. Purchases or contracts which are funded, in whole or in part, by a governmental or other funding entity, where the terms and conditions of receipt of the funds prohibit the preference;

Section 2-26-6. Local preference, (CONTINUED)

(f) Local preference shall not apply to the following categories of contracts☺ continued)

4. Purchases or contracts made pursuant to a non-competitive award process, unless otherwise provided by this section;
5. Any bid announcement which specifically provides that the general local preference policies set forth in this section are suspended due to the unique nature of the goods or services sought, the existence of an emergency as found by either the county commission or county administrator, or where such suspension is, in the opinion of the county attorney, required by law.

(g) To qualify for local preference under this section, **a local business must certify to the County that it:**

1. Has not within the five years prior to the bid announcement admitted guilt or been found guilty by any court or state or federal regulatory enforcement agency of violation of any criminal law, or a law or administrative regulation regarding fraud;
2. Is not currently subject to an unresolved citation or notice of violation of any Manatee County Code provision, except citations or notices which are the subject of a current legal appeal, as of the date of the bid announcement;
3. Is not delinquent in the payment of any fines, liens, assessments, fees or taxes to any governmental unit or taxing authority within Manatee County, except any such sums which are the subject of a current legal appeal.

Ref: Ordinance 09-21 and 09-23 **PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED** in open session, with a quorum present and voting, on the 17th day of March, 2009.

MANATEE COUNTY GOVERNMENT AFFIDAVIT AS TO LOCAL BUSINESS

(Complete and Initial Items B-F)

Authorized Representative

[name] _____, am the [title] _____
and the duly authorized representative of: [name of business] _____

and that I possess direct personal knowledge to make informed responses to these certifications and the legal authority to make this Affidavit on behalf of myself and the business for which I am acting; and by electing to submit a proposal pursuant to this **Request For Proposals**, shall be deemed to understand and agree to the local business preference policies of Manatee County; and that I have the direct knowledge to state that this firm complies with all of the following conditions to be considered to be a Local Business as required by the Manatee County Code of Law, Section 26-6.

Place of Business: I certify that the above business is legally authorized to engage in the sale of goods and/or services and has a physical place of business in Manatee, DeSoto, Hardee, Hillsborough, Pinellas or Sarasota County with at least one (1) fulltime employee at that location. The physical address of the location which meets the above criteria is: _____ [Initial] _____

Business History: I certify that business operations began at the above physical address with at least one fulltime employee on [date] _____ [Initial] _____

Criminal Violations: I certify that within the past five years of the date of this **proposal** announcement, this business has not admitted guilt nor been found guilty by any court or local, state or federal regulatory enforcement agency of violation of any criminal law or administrative regulation regarding fraud. [Initial] _____

Citations or Code Violations: I certify that this business is not currently subject to any unresolved citation or notice of violation of any Manatee County Code provision, with the exception of citations or notices which are the subject of a legal current appeal within the date of this **proposal** announcement. [Initial] _____

Fees and Taxes: I certify that within this business is not delinquent in the payment of fines, liens, assessments, fees or taxes to any governmental unit or taxing authority within Manatee County, with the exception of those which are the subject of a legal current appeal. [Initial] _____

Each of the above certifications is required to meet the qualification of "Local Business" under Manatee County Code of Law, 2-26-6.

Signature of Affiant _____

STATE OF FLORIDA
COUNTY OF _____

Subscribed to (or affirmed) and subscribed before me this ____ day of ____, 20__, by (name of person making statement).

(Notary Seal) Signature of Notary: _____

Name of Notary (Typed or Printed) _____

Personally Known ____ OR Produced Identification ____ Type of Identification Produced _____

Submit executed copy to Manatee County Purchasing, Suite 803, 1112 Manatee Avenue W., Bradenton, FL 34205

PROPOSAL SIGNATURE FORM
RFP #10-1752FL

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 Mail Handling Services according to the requirements of this RFP #10-1752FL.

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

GOING GREEN

Manatee County is transitioning to a paperless Purchase Order System, all Purchase Order's will be sent to your email address. Please provide the following information:

Company Name: _____

Federal Employee Identification Number: _____

Email Address for Purchase Orders: _____

If you are registered with Manatee County, you can enter your information on lined by updating your vendor registration information. For more information, please visit <http://www.mymanatee.org>

ATTACHMENT "A"

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 "B"

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 contend ere; 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.

ATTACHMENT "C"

PROPOSED COMPENSATION AND PAYMENTS

1. Metered Presort Rate with Service Charge and Residual Postage – County meters at the appropriate presort rate, then pays a service charge and any residual postage to Contractor, if applicable.

METER RATE – for non-handwritten letters less than ¼ inch in thickness

<u>1st Class Letters</u>	<u>Rate</u>
up to 1 ounce in weight	\$ _____
up to 2 ounces in weight	\$ _____
up to 3 ounces in weight	\$ _____

SERVICE FEE and RESIDUAL POSTAGE CHARGEBACKS – _____% Barcode Match

- a. Annual quantity greater than _____ eligible letters
Service Fee \$_____ Residual Postage Chargeback \$_____
- b. Annual quantity greater than _____ eligible letters
Service Fee \$_____ Residual Postage Chargeback \$_____
- c. Annual quantity greater than _____ eligible letters
Service Fee \$_____ Residual Postage Chargeback \$_____
- d. Smaller annual quantities will be charged a service fee, not to exceed \$_____ per eligible letter. There will be no residual chargeback.
- e. For the postage rates in effect as of _____, there are no fees or chargebacks for regular First Class mail. Postage rates will change in _____ and fees may be required.

SERVICE FEE and RESIDUAL POSTAGE CHARGEBACK – less than _____% Barcode Match

a. For any annual quantity, the service fee, not to exceed \$_____ per eligible letter, may be adjusted to accommodate the excess of residual postage needed.

2. Non letter size mail pieces - must be uniform in shape*

a. Flat size mail pieces may be metered at the appropriate 3-digit automation rate for the weight. Service fees will be one half of the net savings (gross savings minus additional postage required to mail). There is a fee of \$_____ to meter non-barcoded mail to full rate. There is currently a _____ per day minimum quantity requirement.

* Flats cannot be irregular in shape such as tubes, rolls and triangles. The surface thickness of a flat size envelope cannot vary more than ¼ inch, i.e. cannot be lumpy such as with a spiral bound pack.

3. Invoices shall not be submitted more than one (1) time per month

4. Fuel Surcharge – A fuel surcharge based on actual fuel cost, may be instituted when the price of regular grade gas exceeds \$_____ per gallon on the first business day of the month. The surcharge equates to \$_____ per month for every \$_____ above the base \$_____ price per gallon.