

Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase of Zeiss Scanning Electron Microscope
Sole source # 3150006206

The Mississippi Forensic Laboratory is seeking to purchase Scanning Electron Microscope.

1. Description of the commodity or commodities the MSFL is seeking to procure:

Make and Model: Zeiss Scanning Electron Microscope

Item	Description
1	EVO 10 ® KMAT
2	EVO10 Basic Instrument ®
3	SW SmartSEM Toolkit EVO Control Software For EVO
4	SW Smart SEM 8.02 Perpetual DLic
5	Zeiss Predictive Service Remote Monitor
6	Control Console assy US
7	Dual Joystick Controller
8	CCD-Camera with Objective (Basler) CCD Camera with lens (Basler)
9	LM-5SBSD HD (ASAP)
10	SW Dual Channel Operation DLic
11	24" Monitor Kit
12	EXTIF cable f/SVSEM
13	User manual EN (English)
14	Freight Charges

The Zeiss Scanning Electron Microscope is an instrument that utilized in the Trace Evidence Section for analysis of forensic cases. It visualizes very small particles that cannot be seen with conventional light microscopes. Gunshot primer residue is one of the main types of evidence that can be tested for using this item. This evidence is extremely important in forensic cases that go to trial daily in the state of Mississippi.

Explanation of why the commodity is the only one that can meet the needs of the Agency:

This SEM is the only one that can meet the specific needs of the Mississippi Forensics Laboratory due to its combination of high-performance capabilities and unique features. The system offers 16-bit scan precision and 32k x 24K image resolution, which are critical for high-resolution forensic imaging and large-area elemental mapping, something other SEMs cannot provide at the same level of detail.

2. Explanation of why the source is the only person or entity that can provide the required commodity:

This SEM offers capabilities that set it apart from other competing systems. The ability to adjust the working distance up to 20 mm makes the system more flexible, especially for complex analyses that combine EDS and EBSD. One of the most distinctive features is the Optibeam electron beam control, which enables automatic optimization of the electron beam for either maximum resolution or depth of field, something that other SEMs can't offer.

3. Explanation of why the amount to be expended for the commodity is reasonable:

Estimated Cost: \$122,730.70

The amount is within the expected price range of these items requested.

5. Efforts the Agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity:

Our agency was able to get the company to agree to use the existing x-ray detector equipment already owned by the MSFL to make this SEM work, which will save the state over \$80 thousand dollars.

Any person or entity that objects and proposes that the commodities listed are not a sole source and can be provided by another person or entity should submit a written notice to:

Sonya William or Britney Wesley
Procurement Department
4th Floor, Room 402
Jackson, MS 39216

The notice should contain a detailed explanation of why the commodities are not a sole source procurement, well as, but not limited to the following information:

Interested Party Information

- Contact Name, Phone Number, and email address
- Company Website URL, if applicable

Objection to Sole Source Justification

- Interested parties must present specific objections to the Sole Source certification, including, but not limited to the following:
 - a) A description of the commodity or commodities that Interested Party believes is comparable to Carl Zeiss Microscopy, LLC and related consumables.
 - b) An explanation of why Interested Party's commodity or commodities can also meet the needs of the agency; and
 - c) A list of sources from which Interested Party's commodity may be procured.
- If Interested Party claims that Zeiss Scanning Electronic Microscope and related consumables are available from a source other than Carl Zeiss Microscopy LLC, the objection must contain a written statement from Carl Zeiss Microscopy LLC that the Interested Party is an authorized distributor or reseller of the Carl Zeiss Scanning Electron Microscope and related consumables.

This information should be provided no later than Monday, April 21, 2025, at 5:00 pm local time.

Response may be delivered by hand, via regular mail or overnight delivery.

If after a review of the submitted notice and documents, MSFL determines that the commodity in the proposed sole-source request can be provided by another person or entity, then MSFL will withdraw the sole source request publication from the procurement portal website and submit the procurement of the commodity or commodities to an advertised competitive bid process.

If MSFL determines after the review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity or commodities, then MSFL will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board (PPRB). MSFL will have the burden of proving that the commodity or commodities is only provided by one (1) source.