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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES
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August 5, 2009

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Philip L. Browning, Director

SUBJECT: **DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SOCIAL SERVICES INTENT TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH ACCENTURE LLP FOR THE LEADER REPLACEMENT SYSTEM**

This is to advise your Board that the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) intends to enter into negotiations with Accenture LLP (Accenture) for the LEADER Replacement System (LRS).

The LRS is a critical project for the strategic vision of the State and County. Therefore, DPSS has worked very closely with various County and State stakeholders to ensure the success of the evaluation process. The LRS Evaluation Manual, including the evaluation approach, criteria, and rating scale, was reviewed and approved in 2007 by County Counsel, outside counsel, Chief Information Office (CIO), Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), Internal Services Department (ISD), Auditor-Controller (A-C), and the State's Office of Systems Integration (OSI), as well as reviewed by the State's Independent Verification and Validation consultant.

Due to the size and complexity of the LRS project and the anticipated volume and detail of each proposal, DPSS developed, and has since completed, a comprehensive and highly structured evaluation process that exceeded standard procurement protocol. In order to maintain objectivity and ensure a fair and equitable evaluation of proposals, DPSS reached out to various governmental entities and assembled an unprecedented and diverse Evaluation Committee consisting of representatives from County stakeholders (DPSS, DCFS, CIO, ISD, and A-C) and other California consortia (C-IV/Merced County and CalWIN/Orange County). The Evaluation Committee performed a detailed assessment and evaluation of all proposals.

The A-C analyzed vendor financial statements and associated information (e.g., financial stability, performance history, major customers, credit ratings, investment research, and risk evaluations) to assess the financial status of all proposers. At the conclusion of the evaluation process, the A-C conducted an audit of the evaluation scoring tool to validate the entry of all scores and the mathematical accuracy of computations.

The State's OSI provided oversight during the evaluation process, including observation of Evaluation Committee trainings, all vendor oral presentations, and Evaluation Committee meetings. Upon completion of the evaluation process, the State's Independent Verification and Validation consultant reviewed the highest ranking proposal to validate the effectiveness and soundness of the proposed solution, including the efficacy of the vendor's implementation approach, the viability of the proposed schedule and assessment of related risks, and the appropriate use of proposed technologies. The State's OSI has provided written approval of the methodology and results of our evaluation and selection process.

Based on the results of the evaluation by the Evaluation Committee, Accenture had the highest composite score. We plan to commence contract negotiations with Accenture in September 2009. County Counsel and outside counsel will continue to provide legal services during contract negotiations. Upon completion of contract negotiations and prior to contract award, the resultant LRS Agreement will be submitted for Board, State, and federal approval.

PLB:vo

c: Chief Executive Officer
Acting Chief Information Officer
Acting County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Auditor-Controller
State OSI