



JOHN L. SCOTT, SHERIFF

County of Los Angeles  
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4700 Ramona Boulevard  
Monterey Park, California 91754-2169



November 6, 2014

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**ADVANCE NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS FOR A  
SOLE SOURCE AGREEMENT WITH JUST DETENTION INTERNATIONAL TO  
PROVIDE CONSULTANT SERVICES FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE  
PRISON RAPE ELIMINATION ACT PROGRAM**

**SUBJECT**

This letter provides advance notification to the Board that the Los Angeles County (County) Sheriff's Department (Department) intends to enter into negotiations without engaging in a competitive solicitation process for a Sole Source Agreement (Agreement) with Just Detention International (JDI) to provide consultant services for the implementation of the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) Program (Program). The Agreement will be fully funded by a Grant (#2013-RP-BX-0019) from the United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA).

**PURPOSE**

The Department will seek the Board's approval for an Agreement with JDI to implement the Program at the Department's detention facilities including, but not limited to, the Twin Towers Correctional Facility, Men's Central Jail, and North County Correctional Facility. The Program includes the development of new policies and procedures, staff-training programs, and inmate/detainee education programs.

The Grant currently expires on September 30, 2015. The Department will seek to extend the period of performance of the Grant to coincide with the expiration of the proposed Agreement.

*A Tradition of Service*

## **BACKGROUND**

The Department administers a large and complex system of detention facilities located throughout the County. In 2012 the Department processed more than 142,000 new admissions of inmates/detainees and housed approximately 18,000 adults on average. The Department acknowledges that sexual abuse is a significant problem in detention facilities worldwide. The Department has taken initial steps in implementing PREA. In 2012 the Department's policies and procedures were updated to comply with PREA standards. The Department also created a public website with information about PREA and the Department's zero tolerance policy, and posted signs in all of its detention facilities regarding the reporting of sexual abuse through PREA.

Full PREA implementation in such a large scale requires a broad-based cultural change through extensive policy analysis, staff-training programs, and inmate/detainee education. The Department intends to achieve full PREA implementation by working with a consulting firm that specializes in PREA standards.

The Department submitted a Grant application to BJA in mid-2013, which was subsequently approved and awarded to the Department on September 30, 2013. On December 3, 2013, the Board approved and delegated authority to the Sheriff to execute the Grant. Budget documents and a request to Sole Source with JDI were subsequently submitted to BJA for approval. On October 17, 2014, the Department received approval from BJA to non-competitively award a service contract to JDI.

## **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The projected cost of the Agreement with JDI, for the term of two years, is estimated at \$217,220; consisting each year of \$108,000 in consulting fees and \$610 in travel expenses. Funding for the Agreement is from the BJA Grant.

## **SOLE SOURCE JUSTIFICATION**

JDI is the only organization on the west coast of the United States that is specifically dedicated to ending sexual abuse in detention facilities. JDI helped draft and secure passage of PREA in 2003, and worked to develop related state laws in California and Texas. Since then, JDI has played a key role in the implementation of these laws, especially in the development of the national standards mandated by PREA, which are the focus of this Program. JDI is the only local organization that meets the requirements

to work with the Department on this Program and is in a unique position to meet the requirements set forth in the Grant. Moreover, the very limited budget of the Grant allocated for travel expenses would make consideration for contractors from the east coast or abroad impossible.

JDI currently works on several other Federally-funded projects related to addressing sexual abuse in detention facilities including several Sole Source agreements. JDI is the lead training and technical assistance provider for the National PREA Resource Center in the areas of victim services and inmate/detainee education. JDI provides technical assistance regarding policy development and audit preparedness. JDI has a cooperative agreement with the Office On Violence Against Women to develop and provide training and technical assistance programs for rape crisis centers to address the challenges of implementing sexual assault response teams in correctional facilities. JDI is the lead contractor on multiple BJA funded projects to establish PREA demonstration sites within county jails, police lock-ups, state prisons, and juvenile detention facilities. Project sites include the Los Angeles Police Department, and facilities in Colorado, California, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, South Carolina, and Washington.

JDI provides expert analysis, first-hand survivor accounts, training, and technical assistance to policymakers, corrections officials, and advocates nationwide. JDI works closely with state, county, and city corrections systems to help them implement the PREA standards. JDI's program in Miami-Dade County, Florida has become a national model for PREA implementation including the establishment of inmate peer education and sexual assault response teams inside a county jail system. JDI mobilizes allied organizations to work with detention systems and train community-based service providers to address the needs of prisoner rape survivors. JDI works with rape crisis centers, while helping them develop partnerships with detention facilities to ensure that survivors of abuse get the care they need in the aftermath of an assault.

JDI is the only service provider that brings the depth of understanding of the PREA standards and the breadth of experience with complex corrections systems needed to help the Department meet its Program goals. JDI's Los Angeles headquarters building is a short drive from all Department facilities and offices, allowing valuable program resources to be focused on the Program rather than administrative expenses on travel.

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**CONCLUSION**

Pursuant to Board policy, the Department will engage in Sole Source negotiations with JDI in two weeks unless otherwise instructed by the Board.

Should additional information be requested, your staff may contact Contracts Manager Edmond Wong, Contracts Unit, at (323) 526-5294.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "John L. Scott". The signature is stylized with a large initial "J" and "S".

JOHN L. SCOTT  
SHERIFF