

Mississippi Forensic Laboratory  
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase  
Sole source # 3150003656

The Mississippi Forensic Laboratory (MSFL) is seeking to purchase Agilent Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry system including installation and software system updates.

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

**Make and Model:** Agilent 5977B GC/MSD

**Description:** Gas Chromatography – Mass Spectrometry

<b>Item</b>	<b>Catalog number</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>G7077BA</b>	<b>Insert Plus MSD Turbo EI Bundle</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>G3542A</b>	<b>8890 Mainframe MS Ready S/SL</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>G3397B</b>	<b>Ion Gauge Kit for 5977 MSD</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>G4513A</b>	<b>7693A Autoinjector</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>G4514A</b>	<b>7693 Tray</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>G1033B</b>	<b>NIST 2017 MS Library Bundle</b>

The Mississippi Forensics Laboratory is seeking to procure an Agilent Gas Chromatograph/Mass Spectrometer for the purpose of analyzing and identifying potential controlled substances and unknown compounds submitted by law enforcement agencies. The Laboratory receives approximately 1,000 cases (3,000 items) per month for analysis to include pills, powders, liquids and plant material. This is the only equipment compatible and that works on the existing instruments being used by the Mississippi Forensics Laboratory.

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

Mississippi Forensics Laboratory has 21 Agilent Mass Spectrometers throughout four laboratories resulting in an inventory of over \$2.5 million dollars in capital investment. These instruments operate off the same software and hardware formats allowing for cross-compatibility of data sharing, interchange of parts, and a common base operational and repair knowledge. Introduction of a non-compatible instrument would result in significant increase in cost of additional training, validation time, cost of non-interchangeable supplies, production of data from two different formats, and cost of additional mass spectral libraries for a new software format.

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

Agilent is the sole provider and manufacturer of Agilent equipment and does not provide equipment to secondary vendors.

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

Estimated Cost: \$ 101,922.64

Amount is within the expected price range of these items requested. A gas chromatograph/mass spectrometer is a highly sensitive instrument which is designed to identify compounds on a molecular level. The amount can vary as sensitivity is increased or additional quadrupoles are added for further molecular discrimination. The model we have requested is the base model.

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

MSFL receives an established discount provided by the company. The price of this instrument has not varied more than 15-20% over the past 6 years. The MSFL has receive discounted service/maintenance contracts due to volume as well as not having to purchase the most expensive service contract since our employees are already trained in repair and maintenance of Agilent instruments.

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

Betsy M. Toles or Sonya Toaster  
Procurement Department  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Room 402  
Jackson, MS 39216

The notice should contain a detailed explanation of why the commodity is not a sole source procurement, as 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 the Agilent 5977B GC/MSD Gas Chromatography – Mass Spectrometry;
  - 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 the Agilent 5977B GC/MSD Gas Chromatography – Mass Spectrometry are available from a source other than Agilent the objection must contain a written statement from Agilent that the Interested Party is an authorized distributor or reseller of the Agilent Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrometry System and related consumables.

This information should be provided no later than Friday, June 25, 2021 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.