

Mississippi Forensic Laboratory  
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase  
Sole source # 3150005284

The Mississippi Forensic Laboratory is seeking to purchase Ultra Forensic Technology Integrated Ballistic Identification System (BrassTrax Acquisition Station) and related consumables.

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

**Make and Model: National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN)  
Cartridge Cases Acquisition Package**

| <b>Item</b> | <b>Description</b>                    |
|-------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b>    | <b>BrassTrax Acquisition Station</b>  |
| <b>2</b>    | <b>Color Printer</b>                  |
| <b>3</b>    | <b>One Year Safeguard Warranty</b>    |
| <b>4</b>    | <b>Installation and Commissioning</b> |
| <b>5</b>    | <b>Freight charges</b>                |

The BrassTrax acquisition station enables the entry of gun crime related cartridge case information onto the Integrated Ballistic Identification System (IBIS) network which is called NIBIN. IBIS uses specialized 3D microscopy to capture the unique marks left by firearms on fired cartridge cases. The use of this specialized 3D microscopy which is followed by using powerful proprietary algorithms reveals the most likely matches within the IBIS networks representing millions of cartridge cases worldwide.

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

The Mississippi Forensic Laboratory (MSFL) already utilizes the IBIS System. Purchasing equipment from any other manufacturer would not access the same network information that allows for real time crime gun intelligence. Currently, MSFL has nearly 4000 backlog cases in the Firearms Unit which is waiting for IBIS entry. An additional BrassTrax unit along with the training of new technicians will expedite the reduction of this backlog.

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

The Ultra Forensic Technology IBIS BrassTrax Acquisition Station is the only system that makes it possible for agencies to collaborate across jurisdictions, both within a national program and internationally due to it holding the sole contract for this use with the Federal Government.

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

Estimated Cost: \$146,294.00

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:**

MSFL has negotiated with Ultra Forensic Technology who have given us a discount. Ultra Forensic Technology is contracted by the Federal Government (Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives) to bring this technology to as many state and local agencies as possible to reduce gun related crime. In order to fulfil this mission, the price is kept at a reasonable rate for agencies of all sizes.

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:

Britney Wesley 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 commodities are 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 Ultra Forensic Technology IBIS BrassTrax Acquisition Station 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 the Ultra Forensic Technology IBIS BrassTrax Acquisition Station and related consumables are available from a source other than Ultra Forensic Technology, the objection must contain a written statement from Ultra Forensic Technology that the Interested Party is an authorized distributor or reseller of the Ultra Forensic Technology BrassTrax Acquisition Station and related consumables.

This information should be provided no later than Tuesday, November 14, 2023, 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.