

**MOBILE COUNTY COMMISSION**

205 Government Street  
Mobile, Alabama 36644-1801  
P.O. BOX 1443  
Mobile, Alabama 36633

BID INVITATION

NO. 34-06

APRIL 28, 2006

In accordance with General Act No. 217, Special Session 1967, notice is hereby given that the Mobile County Commission, Mobile, Alabama, will receive bids on the following items:

FULL COVERAGE BODY ARMOR FOR MOBILE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE AS PER ATTACHED SPECIFICATIONS:  
NOTE: PRICES MUST REMAIN FIRM FROM DATE OF AWARD THROUGH JUNE 30, 2007.

Any questions or comments concerning the bid requirements must be brought to the attention of the Purchasing Agent, Susan Holland, (251) 574-8613, 205 Government Street, 8<sup>th</sup> floor, South, Mobile Alabama 36644, prior to or at the bid opening or will be forever waived.

All bidders shall furnish a five (5%) percent bid bond on any contract exceeding \$10,000.00; provided, that bonding is available for services, equipment or materials.

All foreign bidders (out of the State of Alabama), shall furnish a Certificate of Authority to do business in the State of Alabama.

This inquiry is to establish a price and a source of supply for the purchase of the above listed items by Mobile County and the incorporated areas therein. Purchases by political subdivisions are optional with those agencies.

THE MOBILE COUNTY COMMISSION DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF AGE, SEX, HANDICAPPED DISABILITIES OR ETHNIC ORIGIN.

F.O.B. Mobile DATE OF DELIVERY \_\_\_\_\_ TERMS \_\_\_\_\_

You are invited to submit a bid on the above specifications. The restrictions contained herein are for the purpose of fixing a quality level, and any deviation therefrom must, in detail establish that it meets the quality requirements.

BIDS WILL BE RECEIVED UNTIL 10:00 A.M. MAY 24, 2006  
ALL BID MUST BE SEALED, THE WORD "BID," THE BIDS NUMBER AND THE NAME OF THE ITEM MARKED ON THE OUTSIDE OF THE ENVELOPE. BIDS WILL BE RECEIVED BY THE RECEPTIONIST IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION ADMINISTRATOR ON THE EIGHTH FLOOR OF THE MOBILE COUNTY GOVERNMENT PLAZA. FAILURE TO OBSERVE THE ABOVE INSTRUCTIONS WILL CONSTITUTE GROUNDS FOR REJECTION OF YOUR BID. THE COMMISSION RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS.

MOBILE COUNTY COMMISSION

  
JOHN PAPPENBACH COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

.....  
We propose to meet the above specifications for the sum  
of \$ .....

Delivery can be made in \_\_\_\_\_ days from receipt of order.  
RESPECTFULLY

BY \_\_\_\_\_

**MOBILE COUNTY COMMISSION**

**BID FORM**

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

BID #34-06

*FULL COVERAGE BODY ARMOR FOR MOBILE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE:*

Company \_\_\_\_\_

Company Representative \_\_\_\_\_  
(Print)

Company Representative \_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Fax number ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Federal ID Number \_\_\_\_\_

# SPECIFICATIONS FOR FULL COVERAGE BODY ARMOR

*April 27, 2006*

## MOBILE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

THREAT LEVEL II

### SCOPE

The following detailed product specifications set forth the quantity, style, color, construction, weight, ballistic performance and quality of concealable soft body armor (bullet-resistant vests) intended for use by members of the Mobile County Sheriff's Office. For reasons of safety, comfort, quality control the Department has chosen a soft body armor model currently manufactured by Smith & Wesson Bodyguard located in Camarillo, CA, as an acceptable minimum standard.

The concealable soft body armor model selected is the **Model 66 Level II** or equal. Only products of manufacturers that meet or exceed these specifications will be considered as alternates. Bids based on body armor models made by manufacturers other than Smith & Wesson Bodyguard must be clearly identified as such. These bids must include full product descriptions, drawings and/or photos, technical specifications, as well as a list of at least ten (10) law enforcement agencies currently using that model armor for reference with their bid, if such bid is to be considered.

Only body armor models which have been tested by the National Institute of Justice (NIJ) National Law Enforcement and Corrections Technology Center (NLECTC), and found to comply with the requirements of the current NIJ 0101.04, 05 interim Standard for Threat Level II armor, will be submitted under this specification. Bidder(s) will not submit bids for multiple models of body armor as alternates.

**IMPORTANT:** Comfort and wear ability of this garment are paramount considerations in the evaluation of any body armor bid. Superior ballistic characteristics are extremely important, but only if the armor is worn. Deputies will not wear body armor that is not comfortable, or restrictive as relates to allowing the Deputy to perform routine functions due to poor wear ability characteristics. **The County of Mobile will be the sole authority as to the acceptable wearability of any body armor bid.**

### **2. Bidder Compliance Format**

Bidders shall check ( ) each and every paragraph in the appropriate column provided on the right edge of the page as to compliance or non-compliance with specifications. Exceptions will be allowed to items that are not listed as (No Exceptions) if they are equal to or superior to that of specified and provided that they are listed and fully explained on the exception page. The purchaser shall be the sole judge of equality and the decision of the County of Mobile shall be final. **Bids taking total exception to the specifications will not be accepted.**

	BIDDER COMPLIES	
	YES	NO
<b>3. DESIGN REQUIREMENTS</b>		
<p><b>3.1</b> The soft body armor detailed herein is intended to be the standard issue armor for each member of the Department. It is also intended for daily wear as an undergarment and occasional use as an outer garment for special operations. Therefore, vests shall be designed and constructed to provide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. A high degree of concealment</li> <li>2. Minimum restriction of motion or mobility</li> <li>3. An attachment system to attach a soft trauma plate on the ballistic bag without stitching.</li> <li>4. Tails on the front and back garment or carrier panels to keep the armor from "riding up" while sitting or driving</li> <li>5. Removable washable garments or carriers for ease of cleaning</li> <li>6. Optional garments or carriers that quickly and easily convert the standard ballistic panels for over-the-clothes wear</li> <li>7. For comfort and mobility the vests shall be designed to meet on the wearer's side.</li> </ol> <p><b>Vests that provide side protection solely by the front panel (front-to-rear wrap) will be rejected from the bid.</b></p>		
<p><b>3.2 General Design:</b> The soft body armor will be designed to be worn comfortably while being concealed under a lightweight shirt and, shall also be designed for wearing as an external over-the-clothes vest, by way of optional outer carrier.</p> <p>The general armor configuration shall be a slip-on design that covers the majority of the upper torso. Elastic straps with hook and loop fasteners shall be provided for proper adjustment and fit at the waist and shoulders. These straps shall be designed in such a way as to prevent the front, back or sides from "riding up" or slipping down on the wearer during periods of intense physical activity such as running, jumping or climbing.</p> <p>The ballistic components must be removable in order to facilitate laundering of the carrier or garment.</p> <p>Each piece of armor or vest shall include the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. One (1) set of ballistic panels (1 front &amp; 1 back).</li> <li>2. Two (2) washable outer garments or carriers.</li> <li>3. One (1) 5" X 8" Soft Trauma Plate.</li> </ol>		

	BIDDER COMPLIES					
	YES	NO				
<p><b>3.3 Ballistic Panel Materials:</b> All materials shall be new, unused and without flaws that may affect durability and function. Both front and back ballistic panels are to contain high performance bullet-resistant materials made exclusively of Teijin-Twaron IIT™ ballistic fabric. No other ballistic fabric combinations are acceptable. Bidders submitting alternate non-conforming combinations will be rejected from the bid.</p>						
<p><b>3.4 Panel Construction, Thickness, weight and wearability rating:</b> Each front and back ballistic panel shall consist of total of eighteen (18) plies with a certified ballistic element thickness of not more than .145", with an Areal weight of no more than .74 Lbs. per square foot. Bidders offering vest which do not meet these minimum weight and thickness requirements will be rejected form the bid.</p>						
<p><b>3.5 V50 Performance Testing:</b> V-50 Performance Testing is a requirement of the NIJ 0101.04 Test Protocol. Therefore, each bidder must submit NIJ 0101.04 approved V50 test reports for the vest(s) model being submitted. These V-50 test reports will serve as the basis for all future Quality Control Test. Test reports submitted by the bidder shall reflect the following minimum V50 results: (use only one row)</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 40px;">Panel Level/Round</td> <td>9mm (average panel 1 &amp; 2)</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding-right: 40px;">II</td> <td>1669 fps</td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Bid submissions that do not include approved 0101.04 V50 test reports at the time of bid opening will be rejected.</b></p>	Panel Level/Round	9mm (average panel 1 & 2)	II	1669 fps		
Panel Level/Round	9mm (average panel 1 & 2)					
II	1669 fps					
<p><b>3.6 Ballistic Panel Cover Material:</b> Each ballistic panel shall be fully enclosed within a cover (the "Cover") made from a minimum of 70 denier, 1.9 oz. per square yard, nylon ripstop, DWR, urethane coated fabric, capable of withstanding minimum water pressure of 10 psi as per American Association of Textile Chemists and Colorists (AATCC) Test Method 35-2000. The Cover shall be sealed around the entire ballistic panel via ultrasonic bonding, using a minimum frequency level of 20 KHz. There shall be no stitching on the ballistic cover. <b>Only body armor that has been certified through N.I.J. and tested by H.P. White with this ballistic panel covering will be accepted, all others will be rejected.</b></p> <p>Each ballistic panel will be labeled in strict compliance with the requirements as set forth in the most current NIJ Standard.</p>						

	BIDDER COMPLIES	
	YES	NO
<p><b>3.7 Vest Garment or Carrier - Color and Materials:</b> The outer shell, garment or carrier material shall be one hundred percent (100%) polyester micro fiber on the strike face side. The minimum strike face fabric weight shall be five ounces (5 oz.) per square yard. Bidders will submit test reports for <b>Breaking and Tear Strength as set forth in FED-STD-191, Sections 5100 and 5134. Failure to submit this report will be cause for rejection of the bid.</b></p> <p>The material color shall be black or brown. The body side of the carrier shall be constructed from "wicking mesh" fabric.</p>		
<p><b>3.8 Vest Garment or Carrier - Adjustment Straps:</b> Adjustment straps shall not be less than two inches (2") nor more than four (4") wide, Hook and loop fasteners shall be provided on each strap allowing a minimum of plus or minus two inches (2") adjustment in each torso strap and a minimum of plus or minus three inches (3") on each shoulder strap. All carrier straps shall be removable.</p>		
<p><b>3.9 Garment or Carrier Labeling:</b> Each vest garment or carrier shall be labeled in accordance with the requirements of the NIJ 0101.04 Test Standard.</p>		
<p><b>3.10 Trauma Plate(s):</b> A Soft Trauma Plate shall be included with each vest. It shall attach onto the front of each ballistic panel. The plate shall be constructed from either woven or unidirectional bullet-resistant material cut into a five inch by eight inch (5" x 8") rectangle and shall be encased in a 400 denier nylon slip.</p>		

	BIDDER COMPLIES	
	YES	NO
<p><b>3.11 Manufacturer's Quality Assurance (QA) Program:</b> All soft body armor will be manufactured in accordance with a third party Quality Assurance Program specifically designed for armor such as MIL-I-45208A, Dated December 16, 1973, Quality Control and ANSI/ASQC Q9000 Quality Standard, dated August 1, 1994.</p> <p>The Quality Assurance program shall provide for:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Control of all manufacturing processes and incoming raw materials.</li> <li>2. Have an in-house ballistic laboratory capable of performing ballistic testing of incoming raw materials and in-process samples.</li> <li>3. Have the capability of performing testing in accordance with MIL-STD-662E and the most current NIJ Standard.</li> <li>4. All incoming ballistic material shall undergo V50 ballistic lot tests in accordance with MIL-STD-662E.</li> <li>5. Every vest panel shall be inspected for material defects and proper ply counts a minimum of three times.</li> <li>6. Vest panels shall be subsequently inspected for proper ballistic panel stitching and be weighted on a scale capable of measurements to one one-hundredth of a pound.</li> <li>7. Covers/Carmments and accessories will be inspected for defects at each production stage during manufacturing to assure the absence of defects in the final item.</li> <li>8. Each vest shall receive a final inspection prior to shipment. This inspection shall include a review of the quality control check sheet and confirm the product against the customer's order.</li> <li>9. Shall have personnel assigned whose sole responsibility is quality control and maintain all related serialization, traceability and certification records for soft body armor.</li> </ol>		
<p><b>3.12 Defect Rework Requirements:</b> The reworking of manufacturing defects so that the armor and/or armor materials meet all applicable bid specifications is not allowed.</p>		
<b>4. MEASUREMENTS AND FITTING</b>		
<p><b>4.1 Custom Fitting:</b> The armor manufacturer or manufacturer's authorized representative shall take individual officer measurements. Each delivered vest shall fit in accordance with stringent guidelines. Soft body armor fit guidelines are as follows:</p>		

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The neck cutout of the upper portion of the front ballistic panel shall be fit so as to maintain concealability when worn with an open-collar uniform shirt.</li> <li>2. The bottom edge of the front ballistic panel must be within one inch (1") of the highest waist belt (usually a duty belt) when the wearer is in a relaxed seated position.</li> <li>3. The side edges of the front and back ballistic panels shall be fit for a one-inch (1") gap between panels during the initial custom fitting.</li> <li>4. The bottom edge of the back ballistic panel must be within one inch (1") of the duty belt when the wearer is in a standing position.</li> <li>5. The front ballistic panel intended for females shall be designed to closely follow the curvature of each individual female's chest. To increase comfort and wearability it will be constructed without any seams or darts. <b>Female vests constructed with seams or darts will be rejected from the bid.</b></li> </ol>		
	<b>BIDDER COMPLIES</b>	
	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
<p><b>4.2 Proximity for Fitting:</b> The successful bidder must provide personnel and/or locations in sufficient quantity and quality to adequately take initial measurements and make fittings. It will be required that the successful bidder have one or more permanent outlets at all times during the contract period.</p> <p>The location(s) for measurement taking must also be available during a normal business week at any time during the contract period. Hours of operation of these facilities shall be Monday through Friday, with normal business hours such as 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with the exception of recognized holidays.</p>		
<p><b>4.3 ADJUSTMENTS AND ALTERATIONS:</b> Any vest issued that does not fit properly shall be returned to the manufacturer for alteration. All such fit adjustments shall be performed in fourteen (14) days or less.</p> <p>The bidder must repair or replace any and all vests that become unserviceable because of manufacturing defects during the required warranty period.</p>		

	BIDDER COMPLIES	
	YES	NO
<b>5. POST AWARD TESTING</b>		
<p><b>5.1</b> The Department reserves the right to perform post-award laboratory testing on any and all armor submitted to verify strict conformance to these specifications.</p> <p>This testing will be conducted at a recognized NIJ testing laboratory in strict accordance with retest methodology detailed under the NIJ 0101.04 Standard.</p> <p>At least ten (10) days notice will be given in writing to the manufacturer so as to allow for attendance and/or observation of the test(s).</p>		
<b>6. ARTICLES REQUIRED FOR BID SUBMISSION</b>		
<p><b>6.1 Armor Samples:</b> If an alternate product is offered, one complete sample of both the male and female vest(s) being bid is required and must be submitted <b>ten (10) days before bid opening to verify compliance with specifications</b> with the bid. Samples shall be provided at no cost to the bidding agency and must be clearly marked with the bid number and the bidder's name. The samples shall be a Male, Medium Regular and a Female, Medium Regular.</p>		
<p><b>6.2 NIJ Test Documentation:</b> Independent laboratory testing documentation showing compliance with the NIJ 0101.04 Standard Threat Level II certification for all armor submitted. <b>Vest Certified to earlier NIJ Standards will be rejected from the bid</b></p>		
<p><b>6.3 NIJ 0101.04 Approved V50 Test Reports:</b> 9MM V-50 Test reports conducted in compliance with NIJ 0101.04 Test Protocol Procedures. <b>Bidders submitting non-NIJ approved V-50 Test Reports will be rejected from the bid.</b></p>		
<p><b>6.4 Quality Assurance Documentation:</b> Manufacturers who utilize an administrative QA program such as ISO/ANSI must provide a complete copy of all administrative and production QA procedures.</p>		

	BIDDER COMPLIES	
	YES	NO
<p><b>6.5 Proof of Insurance:</b> Proof of product liability insurance is required. Minimum acceptable limits are twenty million dollars (\$20,000,000) coverage per incident. The insurance company shall be authorized to transact business in the state of [home state of the Department, Agency or Jurisdiction].</p> <p>Failure to submit <u>any</u> of the above items with the bid shall be just cause for rejection of the bid.</p>		
<b>7. GUARANTEE/WARRANTY</b>		
<p><b>7.1</b> Any armor exhibiting defects during the warranty period shall be replaced without cost, including freight, by the bidder and/or manufacturer.</p>		
<p><b>7.2 Ballistic Panels:</b> The manufacturer shall certify that all ballistic panels of an armor unit are warranted for at least five (5) years from date of delivery.</p>		
<p><b>7.3 Garments or Carriers:</b> The carriers or garments shall be warranted for at least twenty-four (24) months. Bidders who warranty is less than 24 months will be rejected from the bid.</p> <p>Failure to submit <u>any</u> of the above items with the bid shall be just cause for rejection of the bid.</p>		
<b>8. PACKAGING AND MARKING</b>		
<p><b>8.1</b> Armor shall be packaged and shipped consistent with good commercial practices.</p>		
<p><b>8.2 Plastic Bags:</b> Each set of armor shall be packaged in a suitable sealed plastic bag. Each bag shall have the officer's name clearly marked for easy identification. The armor shall lie flat with the front panel laid over the back panel with the straps neatly attached.</p>		

	<b>BIDDER COMPLIES</b>	
	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>8.3 Shipping Cartons:</b> The shipping carton shall have no voids or slack space that will allow crushing or distortion from stacking.		
<b>8.4 Packing Slips:</b> Each shipping carton shall contain a packing slip bearing the purchase order number, manufacturer's name, commodity, quantity, lot number and serial numbers. The packing slip shall be easily identified and readily available. If attached to, or included within a carton, that carton shall be suitably marked to facilitate locating the slip.		
<b>8.5 Options:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Extra Garment</li> <li>b. Outer carrier</li> <li>c. Carry Bag</li> </ul>		

BID INVITATIONS WERE MAILED TO THE FOLLOWING VENDORS FOR FULL  
COVERRAGE BODY ARMOR FOR MOBILE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE:

ATD AMERICAN CO  
ATTN: BID MANAGER  
135 GREENWOOD AVE  
WYNCOTE PA 19095-1396

GT DISTRIBUTORS  
ATTN: BID MANAGER  
100 MACFARLAND AVE  
ROSSVILLE GA 3041-0458

BARNARD AND ASSOCIATES  
ATTN: BID MANAGER  
2199 NE 180<sup>th</sup> ST  
N MIAMI FL 33162

GULF STATE DISTRIBUTORS  
ATTN: BID MANAGER  
6000 E. SHIRLEY LANE  
MONTGOMERY AL 36117

BOB BARKER CO  
ATTN: BID MANAGER  
PO BOX 429  
FUQUAY-VARINA NC 27526

KELLYS GRAPHIC PRINTWEAR  
ATTN: BID MANAGER  
108 HOWELL ST  
CHICKASAW AL 36611

BRIGADE QUARTERMASTER LTD  
ATTN: BID MANAGER  
1025 COBB INTERNATIONAL DR  
KENNESAW GA 30156

LAW ENFORCEMENT SUPPLY  
ATTN: BID MANAGER  
1257 KENNERSTONE CIR STE H  
MARIETTA GA 30066

COASTAL POLICE SUPPLY  
ATTN: BID MANAGER  
6475 SPANISH FORT BLVD  
SPANISH FORT AL 36527

PETERSON GROUP  
ATTN: BID MANAGER  
6151 VALLEY STATION DR  
PELLHAM AL 35124

DOWN RANGE TACTICAL  
ATTN: BID MANAGER  
6404 HILLCREST PARK CT  
MOBILE AL 36695

TOOLS OF THE TRADE  
ATTN: BID MANAGER  
233 N HOUSTON RD STE 117  
WARNER ROBINS GA 31093

EMERGENCY RESPONSE AND  
TACTICAL  
ATTN: BID MANAGER  
5800 CENTRAL AVE PIKE  
KNOXVILLE TN 37912

AZARS UNIFORMS  
ATTN: BID MANAGER  
2759 PLEASANT VALLEY RD  
MOBILE AL 36606

FIREHOUSE SALES AND SERVICE  
ATTN: BID MANAGER  
608 S BROAD ST STE A  
MOBILE AL 36603

LEOS UNIFORMS  
ATTN: BID MANAGER  
3756 GOVERNMENT BLVD  
MOBILE AL 36693

FIRST CHOICE ARMOR & EQUIP  
ATTN: BID MANAGER  
764 N MAIN ST  
BROCKTON MA 02301

PLACED ON BULLETIN BOARD  
APRIL 27, 2006  
BID 34-06

GALLS INC  
ATTN: BID MANAGER  
1340 RUSSELL CAVE RD  
LEXINGTON KY 40505