City of Jonesboro, Georgia Request for Proposals for Special Forensic Audit Services

RFP-ADM-2025-002

The City of Jonesboro, Georgia Mayor and City Council are Requesting RFP's for Forensic Financial Audit Services.

Proposals are to be submitted for services auditing the following time span:

For FY 2023 thru FY 2024 (January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2024)

Proposals due to be submitted: Thursday, February 13, 2025 at 2:00pm

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REQUEST, SOLICITATION AND INVITATION FOR PROPOSAL FOR FORENSIC AUDIT FY 2023 and FY 2024

SPECIAL FORENSIC AUDIT SERVICES

INTRODUCTION

The City of Jonesboro, Georgia, hereinafter called the "City" is seeking proposals for forensic audit of credit card transactions, accounts payables transactions, and employee benefit transactions for the City's elected officials and City staff for the period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2024.

The City of Jonesboro is an independent reporting entity within the criteria adopted by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board "GASB" as established by GASB 14.

The response to this request, together with the related costs, data, and supporting documentation will be used to make the final vendor selection. The proposal will be included as part of the contract between the City of Jonesboro and the selected firm. The City reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and the right to its option to waive or refuse to waive any defect or informality in any proposal. The City Manager and/or other qualified City personnel for the purpose of selecting proposals with whom negotiations may be conducted, will subject all responsive proposals received to an evaluation.

Offeror(s) are cautioned to initially submit sufficient information to enable the evaluation personnel to fully ascertain each offeror(s) capability to perform all the requirements contemplated by this solicitation. All commitments made in the proposal shall become a part of any resultant contract.

Negotiations may be conducted with all offeror(s) considered to be in the competitive range, if it is determined that negotiations are required.

Proposals must be submitted so as to arrive to the Jonesboro City Center no later than <u>2:00</u> <u>pm. on Thursday, February 13, 2025.</u>

Attention: ChaQuias Miller-Thornton

City Manager

Jonesboro City Center 1859 City Center Way

Jonesboro, Ga

Inquiries to be submitted no later than Thursday, February 6th, 2025 at 2:00pm to City Manager ChaQuias Miller-Thornton via email at: cmthornton@jonesboroga.gov.

Award of contract will be made in the best interest of The City of Jonesboro.

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DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES REQUIRED

A. Purpose

a. The City of Jonesboro is soliciting Request for Proposals for the purpose of entering into a Contract for Professional Services – Forensic Audit of the City of Jonesboro credit card transactions, accounts payable transactions, and employee benefits transactions (elected city officials and city staff) for the 2023 and 2024 fiscal years.

B. Scope of Work to be Performed

- a. The auditor shall perform such forensic accounting procedures as necessary to identify, quantify and ameliorate any and all irregular purchasing, procurement, inventory, standard operation procedures, policies, regulations, and/or other financial activity past and present relating to credit card activity, accounts payable transactions, and employee benefit transactions (elected city officials and city staff) for fiscal years of FY 2023 thru FY 2024. Submission must include quotes for hourly rates.
- b. During the course of the initial investigation, the scope of work may be further expanded or altered at the recommendation of the auditor, with written approval by the City of Jonesboro Mayor and Council. Submission must include quotes for hourly rates for additional services.
- c. After completion of the service contract with this request, further forensic investigation may be requested. Further, the auditor shall be available as a witness both fact and expert, to support any and all legal action on behalf of the City. Submission must include quotes for hourly rates for additional services.

C. Reports to be Issued

- a. Following the completion of the audit, the auditor shall issue a written report communicating all discovered abnormal activity, past or present, its quantification, cause and consequence.
- b. Immediately upon completing of the Forensic Audit, the auditor shall orally report its finding to the City of Jonesboro Mayor and Council.
- c. For the forensic activity so engaged, the auditor will be required to quantify and document its results to a level consistent with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles and Government Auditing Standards.
- d. It is further expected that the auditor will advise the City and recommend to the City appropriate actions to prevent further irregular activities relating to purchasing, inventory, standard operating procedures, policies, regulations, procurement and other financial activity.
- e. All working papers and reports must be retained, at the auditor's expense, for a minimum of seven (7) years unless the firm is notified by the City in writing to extend that period.

D. Professional & Minimum Qualifications Required

a. Firms submitting quotes must be qualified to perform independent audits of Governmental Records and have certification in financial forensics (CFF) as well as Certified Fraud Examiner (CFE). The firm must have been engaged during the last five (5) years, as independent Forensic Auditors. The selected firm shall be retained for the express purpose of rendering an opinion on the activity and

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- procedures related to the financial affairs of the City of Jonesboro for the periods previously indicated.
- b. The firm must demonstrate their experience and expertise in conducting forensic audits of public entities, including staff that are Certified in Financial Forensics.
- c. The firm must be a member of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants.
- d. The firm must employ a minimum of two (2) certified public accountants who have been licensed in that capacity for a period of not less than five (5) years each prior to the date of appointment.
- e. The firm must have a minimum of five (5) years of experience in providing auditing services within the State of Georgia.

E. Independence

The firm should provide an affirmative statement that it is independent of the City of Jonesboro as defined by generally accepted accounting standards and the U.S. Comptroller General's Government Auditing Standards.

F. Firm Experience

- a. The proposal should state the size of the firm, the size of the firm's forensic governmental audit staff, the location of the office(s) from which the work on this engagement is to be performed and the number and nature of the staff to be employed on this engagement.
- b. The firm shall also provide information on the results of the firm's latest federal or state desk reviews or field reviews of its audits. In addition, the firm shall provide information on the circumstances and status of any disciplinary action taken or pending against the firm during the past three (3) years with state regulatory bodies or professional organizations.

G. Insurance / Indemnification

- a. The successful respondent to whom the contract is awarded shall provide to City of Jonesboro with contract documents a Professional Liability Insurance Certificates with the following limits.
 - i. \$1,000,000 Each Incident; Occurrence, Wrongful Act
 - ii. \$3,000,000 Aggregate.
- b. The insurance certificated names as to the certificate holder shall be as follows: The City of Jonesboro, 1859 City Center Way, Jonesboro, GA 30236 and shall remain in full force during the term of Contract.
- c. The successful respondent shall defend and indemnify the City and hold, it, its officers, agents, representatives and employees, harmless from any and all losses, claims, liabilities or damages of any kind, including attorney's fees and costs, for personal injury (including death), professional liability, damage to property or other liabilities of any kind resulting from, or arising out of, the performance, or lack thereof, of the successful respondent's, its employees' and its agents' obligations under the contract.

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H. Miscellaneous

- a. The successful respondent shall comply with all local, state and federal directives, orders and laws as applicable to this agreement.
- b. All submissions in addition to the above shall include all legally required documents.
- c. The contract, if awarded, shall be awarded to the Professional Service Provider who submits a response which is deemed to provide for the highest quality of service at a fair and competitive price which is most advantageous to the City, price and other factors considered.

PROPOSAL PREPARATION & SUBMISSION

All Firms responding the RFP are expected to comply with the preparation instructions and submission requirements presented in this section for content and format. Failure to comply with these instructions and requirements may result in the disqualification of the offeror(s) proposal from further consideration.

It is the offeror(s) responsibility to ensure that they have a complete and thorough understanding of all the requirements, expressed or implied, regarding the specifications of the RFP prior to the submission of the proposal.

Three (3) proposals shall be enclosed in a single sealed package plainly marked with the words "PROPOSAL FOR SPECIAL FORENSIC AUDIT SERVICES". All proposals will be firm offers and may not be withdrawn for sixty (60) days following the last day for acceptance of best and final offer. Proposals must be signed by an officer of the Firm who is authorized to bind the Firm.

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Request for Proposal

Special Forensic Audit Services fiscal years of FY 2023 thru FY 2024

Required Documentation

The following documents should be included in proposal by all prospective firms:

- Certificate of Liability Insurance (Attachment A)
- Conflict of Interest Certification (Attachment B)
- Proposal Certification (Attachment C)
- Statement of Corporate Ownership (Attachment D)

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Date:

City of Jonesboro Mayor and City Council 1859 City Center Way Jonesboro, GA 30236

Re: Request, Solicitation and Invitation for proposal – Special Forensic Audit Services

Dear Mayor and City Council:

The undersigned hereby submits the enclosed proposal for the position of Special Forensic Audit Services.

The undersigned hereby undertakes and promises to serve as Special Forensic Auditor and to do all work requested as appropriate and required herein as well as the contract documents concerning the same, including all written amendments and changes thereto, if any, which are incorporated herein by reference and made a part of this proposal.

SIGNATURE	BUSINESS NAME		
Type or Print Full Name	Title	Date	
Telephone Number	Fax Number	E-Mail	

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ATTACHMENT A

CERTIFICATION OF INSURANCE

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT MY OFFICE CARRIES INSURANCE ADEQUATE TO PROTECT THE CITY OF JONESBORO HEIRAFTER REFERED TO AS THE ("CITY") AND INDEMNIFY THE CITY FOR ANY ERROR OR OMISSION COMMITTED BY THE UNDERSIGNED THAT CREATES LIABILITY TO THE CITY. THIS INCLUDES ERRORS AND OMISSIONS POLICY AND ANY OTHER TYPE OF POLICY THAT CAN BE UTILIZED TO PROTECT THE INTERESTS OF THE CITY. I HAVE ATTACHED COPIES OF THE DECLARATION PAGES OF EACH POLICY THAT DOES OR CAN PROTECT THE CITY FROM ANY ERROR, OMISSION OR ACTIVITY IN WHICH I OR ANYONE FROM MY OFFICE MIGHT ENGAGE IN ON BEHALF OF THE CITY.

I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT THE POLICIES OF INSURANCE THAT ARE CARRIED BY MY OFFICE SHALL CONTINUE TO BE CARRIED DURING THE ENTIRE TERM OF MY APPOINTMENT AS SOLICITOR, IN THE EVENT THAT MY OFFICE IS SELECTED TO SERVE IN THAT CAPACITY. IN THE EVENT THAT THE DECLARATIONS PAGE(S) SUBMITTED SHOWS THE POLICY OR POLICIES OF INSURANCE WILL LAPSE DURING THE COURSE OF THE TERM OF MY APPOINTMENT, I WILL PROVIDE TO THE CITY A COPY OF THE RENEWAL POLICY DECLARATION PAGE. I FURTHER CERTIFY THAT THE RENEWED POLICY SHALL HAVE THE SAME OR GREATER LIMITS OF LIABILITY AS THE ONE PROVIDED FOR AT THE BEGINNING OF MY APPOINTMENT.

CERTIFYING OFFICIAL:	NAME:
	TITLE:
	SIGNATURE:
	DATE:

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ATTACHMENT B

CONFLICT OF INTEREST CERTIFICATION

THE UNDERSIGNED CERTIFIES TO THE CITY OF JONESBORO, STATE OF GEORGIA THAT IN PERFORMING SERVICES TO THE CITY HE/SHE IS AWARE OF NO CIRCUMSTANCE THAT WOULD CONSTITUTE A CONFLICT OF INTEREST, FINANCIAL OR OTHERWISE, BETWEEN HIMSELF/HERSELF (OR HIS/HER FIRM) AND THE INTERESTS OF THE CITY THE UNDERSIGNED CERTIFIES THAT HE/SHE HAS MADE A SEARCH OF HIS/HER FIRM'S CLIENT BASE AND HAS EXECUTED THIS CERTIFICATION SUBSEQUENT TO SUCH SEARCH.

THE UNDERSIGNED ACKNOWLEDGES THIS IS A CONTINUING CERTIFICATION, AND SHALL REMAIN IN EFFECT FOR THE TERM OF THE SERVICES CONTAINED IN THE SOLICITED REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL. I CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING STATEMENTS MADE BY ME ARE TRUE. I AM AWARE THAT IF ANY OF THE FOREGOING STATEMENTS MADE BY ME ARE FALSE, THE CITY IS FREE TO TERMINATE ANY PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AGREEMENT ENTERED INTO WITH THE UNDERSIGNED AND/OR HIS OR HER FIRM.

Applicant Signature: _		
Typed Firm Name:		
Title:		
Date:		

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ATTACHMENT C

I HEREBY CERTIFY THE INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS PROPOSAL IS CORRECT AND ACCURATE TO MY PERSONAL KNOWLEDGE. I AM MAKING THIS CERTIFICATION IN GOOD FAITH.

CERTIFYING OFFICIAL:	NAME:
	TITLE:
	SIGNATURE:
	DATE: _

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STATEMENT OF CORPORATE **OWNERSHIP**

Part I - Ownership Disclosure Certification

Partnership

Check the box that represents the type of Business Entity:

knowingly false, I am subject to punishment under the law.

Name of Business Entity:

Corporation

Subchapter S Corporation

I certify that the list below contains the names and home addresses of all owners having an "Interest" in the "Business Entity".

Sole Proprietorship

Limited Partnership	Limited Liability Co	orporation	Limited Liability Partnership		
Name of Owner		Home Address			
Part 2 - Signature and	Certification:				
I certify that the foregoing statements made by me are true to the best of my					
knowledge, information and belief. I am aware that if I made any statements that are					

Signature: ______Date: _____

Print Name: _____ Title: _____

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