

Questions and Answers

Issued Date: November 8, 2024

Solicitation #: CRTS0387

Solicitation Title: CHIPS and Paternity Representation Professional Service Solicitation

Addition(s)/Change(s)/Clarification(s):

- Change in Solicitation Response Due Date
- Change in Terms and Conditions
- Other

Please Note the Following Addition(s)/Change(s)/Clarification(s):

1. Under the work schedule section it states: "All contracts will be awarded for one year starting in 2025 with opportunities for four additional one-year renewals." Does that mean that a contractor may only work as a contractor for four years in total or that a contractor must then reapply after four years?
A: Contractors work five years in total then must re-apply.
2. I applied for the CPS parent panel. Do I need to resubmit anything to be considered for the paternity panel, or is it something we can discuss at a potential future interview?
A: You may make your interest in the paternity panel known during the interview phase.
3. What if our current cases not resolved by the end of 2024, can we still continue to represent them?
A: Cases with hearings through the end of January 2025 can continue with their current representation; after that point cases will transition to contracted attorneys.
4. Are the retainer fee rates listed correct?
A: The CHIPS retainer fees originally listed were not correct. The corrected rates are:
 - Retainer fee from Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 2025: \$7,500 per month.
 - Retainer fee from Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 2026: \$7,725 per month.
 - Retainer fee from Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 2027: \$7,957 per month.
 - Retainer fee from Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 2028: \$8,196 per month.
 - Retainer fee from Jan. 1-Dec. 31, 2029: \$8,442 per month.
5. Is there a reason the appellate rate is different from the rate public defenders receive?
A: The appellate rate was determined based primarily on the rates already being paid to Ramsey County contract attorneys working in other areas, while also taking into account the public defender appellate rate.

6. Can you clarify if the Paternity Panel rate is correct?

A: Yes it is correct.

7. Will Paternity Panel be compensated hourly for time spent in Court?

A: Hours spent in court is included in the monthly retainer rate.

8. Can attorneys work fewer than the standard number of court days listed?

A: Yes, they can work a different schedule with the amount of the retainer pro-rated accordingly.

All Addendum(s) are to be acknowledged on the Solicitation Cover Page to be included with your submission. FAILURE TO DO SO MAY RESULT IN REJECTION OF THE SOLICITATION RESPONSE. Unless otherwise specified above, the Solicitation Response due date and time all other Terms and Conditions remain the same.

Sincerely,

Steven Kensinger

Principal Procurement Specialist

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Ramsey County representatives recommending this Addendum acknowledge that all Ramsey County solicitation policies and procedures have been followed.