

**Mississippi State University  
Notice of Proposed Sole Source Purchase**

**256-089**

Mississippi State University anticipates purchasing the item(s) listed below as a sole source purchase. Anyone objecting to this purchase shall follow the procedures outlined below.

1. Commodity or commodities to be purchased (make, model, description):

Magnet Forensics Automate annual renewal to subscription

2. Explanation of the need to be fulfilled by this item(s), how it is unique from all other options, and why it is the only one that can meet the specific needs of the department:

Magnet Forensics Automate is a unique product line only available through Magnet Forensics. Magnet Forensics is an add-on product to the Magnet Forensics mobile device forensics extraction systems. Automate provides mobile forensics technologies unsimilar to other vendors as it accomplishes forensics steps normally accomplished by the users in an automated platform saving investigators time and resources in evidence gathering.

3. Name of company/individual selling the item and why that source is the only possible source that can provide the required item(s):

Automate product line is a proprietary product used by the MCI DFL for mobile devices extraction. Magnet Forensics is one of the companies the DFL provides its capabilities to the 54 MCI Law Enforcement Organizations participating in mobile forensics operations.

4. Estimated cost of item(s) and an explanation why the amount to be expended is considered reasonable:

\$42,715 for one year licensing. This is reasonable for the product line and the product capability.

5. Explanation of the efforts made by the department to determine whether this is the only source and the efforts made to obtain the best possible price:

MS Cyber Initiative DFL efforts seeks out capabilities of different technologies to support operations of the mobile forensics work accomplished by its stakeholders. The Magnet

Forensics product has been in place since 2022 with remarkable return of investment to our law enforcement communities and holds its place as one of the most used products in the lab.

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 shall submit a written notice to:

Jennifer Mayfield, CPPO

Director and CPO, Procurement & Contracts

[jmayfield@procurement.msstate.edu](mailto:jmayfield@procurement.msstate.edu)

Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection"

The notice shall contain a detailed explanation of why the commodity is not a sole source procurement. Appropriate documentation shall also be submitted if applicable.

If after a review of the submitted notice and documents, MSU determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then MSU will withdraw the sole source request publication from the procurement portal website and submit the procurement of the commodity to an advertised competitive bid or selection process.

If MSU determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then MSU will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board. MSU will have the burden of proving that the commodity is only provided by one (1) source.