

Notice of Emergency Procurement

Posting Date: August 12, 2024

Emergency:

Originally, Francis Marion University issued an emergency procurement with PO#3964 for \$10,000 on 7/25/24 for a qualified firm to provide all necessary materials/supplies and labor necessary to repair FMU Fire Alarm Panels across campus. The emergency details are as follows:

Around 6pm on Thursday, 07/18/24), Florence County experienced a sudden and severe thunderstorm that included flash flooding, severe lightning, and power outages. During this storm there were at least two lightning strikes on the FMU campus as well as several in the surrounding area. This storm and the associated lightning strikes resulted in severe damage to the main campus Fire Alarm Panel, the video camera matrix box, as well as several security cameras.

Around 5pm on Monday, 07/22/24), Florence County experienced a second severe thunderstorm that also included flash flooding, severe lightning, and power outages. During this storm there were at least three lightning strikes on the FMU campus as well as several in the surrounding area. This storm and the associated lightning strikes resulted in severe damage to the fire alarm panels in Thigpen Hall (O Villa), Cusac Hall (P/Q Villa), Beaty Hall (V/W Villa), the Heyward Community Center, and the Griffin Athletics Complex.

FMU Facilities immediately contacted Johnson Controls to assess and assist in immediate remediation. The loss of the ability of a properly functioning fire alarm system is a safety issue therefore it is critical for immediate remediation.

At the time of the PO, the vendor or the University did not know the extent of the damage.

Vendor Selection:

The mitigation of the lightning and the subsequent remediation process is emergent due to the potential life safety risk of having a fire alarm in disrepair. The fire alarm panels and equipment are proprietary equipment owned by Johnson and Controls, Inc. (JCI) therefore no other vendor can service or supply the necessary equipment. For these reasons, JCI was contacted and was given confirmation to begin the emergent repair work.

JCI can step in to complete this repair work immediately to help avoid any interruptions in the University's fire alarm needs. The estimated cost for this repair currently is \$60,096.74, but only after JCI has completed their entire inspection of the damage will the University know the total value of this purchase, Throughout the University's contract with JCI, the estimated pricing provided by JCI is fair and reasonable.

Company Specifics:

Johnson Controls, Inc.
PO Box 730068
Dallas TX 75373

Contact Person for this Emergency Procurement:

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Any actual bidder, offeror, contractor, or subcontractor who is aggrieved in connection with the intended award or award of a contract shall notify the appropriate chief procurement officer in writing of its intent to protest within seven business days of the date that award or notification of intent to award, whichever is earlier, is posted and sent in accordance with this code. Any actual bidder, offeror, contractor, or subcontractor who is aggrieved in connection with the intended award or award of a contract and has timely notified the appropriate chief procurement officer of its intent to protest, may protest to the appropriate chief procurement officer in the manner stated in subsection (2) within fifteen days of the date award or notification of intent to award, whichever is earlier, is posted and sent in accordance with this code; except that a matter that could have been raised pursuant to subitem (a) as a protest of the solicitation may not be raised as a protest of the award or intended award of a contract.

PROTEST – CPO ADDRESS – MMO: Any protest must be addressed to the Chief Procurement Officer, Materials Management Office, and submitted in writing

(a) by email to protest-mmo@mmo.sc.gov,

(b) by facsimile at 803-737-0639, or

(c) by post or delivery to:

CHIEF PROCUREMENT OFFICER
MATERIALS MANAGEMENT OFFICE
1201 MAIN STREET, SUITE 600
COLUMBIA, S.C. 29201

Jennifer D Hester
Director of Purchasing