



Purchasing Use Only:	
Approval#:	160101

SOLICITATION WAIVER JUSTIFICATION AND REQUEST FORM

ALL FIELDS ARE REQUIRED – INCOMPLETE REQUESTS WILL BE RETURNED TO THE AGENCY

1a	Agency Contact Information - Note: Approved copy will be sent to only the contact(s) listed below:			
	State Agency:	Department of Public Safety, Investigation Division		
		Contact Name and Title	Phone Number	Email Address
		Vicki Nowling, MA3	775-684-4519	vnowling@dps.state.nv.us
	Melissa Carr, MA2	775-684-4593	mcarr@dps.state.nv.us	

Vendor Information:		
1b	Identify Vendor:	INTELLIGENT SOFTWARE SOLUTIONS, INC.
	Contact Name:	ROB ROGERS
	Address:	5450 Tech Center Drive Suite 400 Colorado Springs, CO 80919
	Telephone Number:	703-585-4593
	Email Address:	ROB.ROGERS@ISSINC.COM

1c	Type of Waiver Requested – Check the appropriate type:	
	Sole or Single Source:	X
	Professional Service Exemption:	

Contract Information:				
1d	Is this a new Contract?	Yes	X	No
	Amendment:	#		
	CETS:	#		

1e	Term:			
	One (1) Time Purchase:	X		
	Contract:	Start Date:	Upon approval	End Date: December 31, 2016

1f	Funding:	
	State Appropriated:	
	Federal Funds:	
	Grant Funds:	X
	Other (Explain):	

1g	Total Estimated Value of this Service Contract, Amendment or Purchase:	
	\$70,816.48 (\$40,176.00 for software procurement through RXQ #6530000026650; \$30,640.48 for engineering support and travel through a DPS service contract)	

Provide a description of work/services to be performed or commodity/good to be purchased:

The Nevada Threat Analysis Center (NTAC) is the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) recognized Fusion Center for the State of Nevada. The principle role of the NTAC is to compile, analyze, and disseminate criminal and terrorism-related information, intelligence and other information (including, but not limited to, threat, public safety, law enforcement, public health, social services, and public works information) to support efforts to anticipate, identify, and prevent criminal activity and terrorism across the state.

Product to be Purchased: Dfuze 360 Information Management Analytical and Visualization Tool

The Dfuze 360 information management data analysis and visualization tool enables users to break down large masses of data and information into small, logical component parts, allowing users to reassemble these parts according to specific analytical queries. These queries are then sent to visual displays, rendered in evocative, meaningful, and relevant ways by use of tables, maps, graphs, timelines, and numerous other display types. Dfuze 360's powerful Link Analysis feature allows users to perform advanced investigative analysis. Additionally, Dfuze 360's Word Cloud and advanced Signature Discovery capabilities enable users to conduct data mining against extremely large datasets, allowing analysts to detect useful but otherwise hidden patterns and links to information, driving analysts' discovery and pursuit of new valuable lines of investigation.

What are the unique features/qualifications required for this service or good that are not available from any other vendor:

While there are a small number of vendors that offer information management, data mining, link analysis, and visualization tools, no single platform offers all solutions in a "one-stop-shop" product, with the ability to remotely connect to an unlimited number of data sources, in a "read-only" capacity. Specifically:

#1: Advanced analytics, data mining, and visualization capability

- *Ability to execute complex searches of databases, text documents, RSS feeds, social media sites, disk drives, and mobile data. Ability to mine unstructured text using synonym searches and word clustering algorithms. Ability to conduct timescrolling to conduct temporal analysis, animating visual displays across time to assist analysts in establishing temporal relationships between key events and detecting significant patterns. Ability to generate custom displays, which can be exported into formatted reports such as presentations, documents, spreadsheets, images, and XML files.*

#2: Multiple data sources accessed through a single interface

- *Ability to quickly access available information from a single location. Ability for users to connect to and complete simple and complex searches of information across internal and external data sources, including but limited to: records, evidence and case management systems, CAD/RMS, court databases, and locally created databases and spreadsheets – all from a single interface. Ability to quickly establish direct, live connections to new data sources, allowing the ability to expand and scale access to data as needed.*

#3: Remote connection, keeping data at its source

- *Ability to virtually/remotely access data sources where they reside, with no requirement to move existing data sources or reconfigure their structure. Ability to connect to data*

sources where they physically reside, and how they are currently designed and configured. Ability to expose and access data for querying every field and value of existing structured data and all elements of unstructured data.

#4: Direct, live connections to existing sources – ensuring real-time access to information

- *Ability to directly connect to all originating data sources. Data is immediately available and ready to query as soon as it is entered into the data system.*

#5: Protect privacy and civil liberties

- *System includes robust security features to protect privacy, civil liberties and prevent the corruption of data. Ability to conduct a role-based security solution that allows organizations to define levels of access based on duties of the user.*

#6: Economical and practical data sharing solution

- *Ability to connect with multiple data sources simultaneously, with the ability to securely manage and share intelligence information, on a scalable platform.*

Further, Dfuze 360 has the capability to integrate with applications like Google Earth, Analysts Notebook, and Microsoft SharePoint and Exchange. Dfuze 360 also has the ability to leverage commercial web services like Google Maps and Twitter. Dfuze 360 one of very few products that combines a high power Search (Lucene/SOLR) with a robust ad hoc query capability (Query Panel), and delivered with out of the box visualizations (tables, charts, grids and maps) that some other products offer, but also includes 3D maps and robust link analysis views for network analysis.

Dfuze 360 is preconfigured for the intelligence/law enforcement analyst, but can be customized onsite without writing any code to further meet the specific needs of an agency. Dfuze 360 can use any standard relational database for its local storage, and it connects to most existing databases and structured data sources (Excel and csv files). It can be configured by a local administrator to control access and visibility to sensitive data, and permissions can be given to individual users, or to groups made up of users with similar roles.

Dfuze 360 is also one of the only products that allow the customer to request new features or changes to the existing code to meet their agency-specific needs.

4 Explain why this service or good cannot be competitively bid and why this purchase is economically only available from a single source:

Due to the unique capabilities of the Dfuze 360 program – remote data connections to myriad sources simultaneously, management of structured and unstructured data, and advanced data analytics – has no equal. Currently, the Dfuze 360 program is the only publicly available software program that incorporates all of the outlined features into one program. Because of the complex data management capability with built-in data analytics, Dfuze 360 is a highly utilized program within the national Intelligence Community. Further, Dfuze 360 incorporates sophisticated security feature protections, and is an accredited software program for all federal classified networks.

5	Were alternative services or commodities evaluated? Check One.	Yes:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	No:	<input type="checkbox"/>
	<p>a. If yes, what were they and why were they unacceptable? Please be specific with regard to features, characteristics, requirements, capabilities and compatibility.</p> <p><i>SAS – (Statistical Analysis System) The SAS program was reviewed for possible purchase by the NTAC. However, after close scrutiny of program capabilities, it was quickly determined that SAS requires native data for analytical queries and analysis. This would require the NTAC to physically store massive amounts of data, which would not only prove extremely costly; it would possibly conflict with state and agency privacy policies. The remote data access feature of Dfuze 360</i></p>				

eliminates this issue. Further, SAS data manipulation and analysis capabilities are limited compared to the Dfuze 360 program. Specifically, SAS utilizes highly structured data queries, with minimal output options (charts, graphs, maps, etc.). Dfuze 360 has over 15 data output options, with the ability to manipulate all output fields for application specific scenarios, as well as the ability to add an unlimited amount of shapefiles for mapping products.

b. *If not, why were alternatives not evaluated?*

N/A

Has the agency purchased this service or commodity in the past? Check One. Note: If your previous purchase(s) was made via solicitation waiver(s), a copy or copies of ALL previous waivers must accompany this request.

Yes: No: X

a. *If yes, starting with the most recent contract and working backward, for the entire relationship with this vendor, or any other vendor for this service or commodity, please provide the following information:*

<i>Term Start and End Dates</i>	<i>Value</i>	<i>Short Description</i>	<i>Type of Procurement (RFP, RFQ, Waiver)</i>
	\$		
	\$		
	\$		
	\$		
	\$		

What are the potential consequences to the State if the waiver request is denied and the service or good is competitively bid?

On December 2nd, 2015, Nevada Governor, Brian Sandoval, signed Executive Order (EO) 2015-34, outlining a number of new operating requirements for the Nevada Threat Analysis Center. Section 2 of EO2015-34, specifically requires the NTAC to accomplish the following:

The NTAC shall gather, assess, analyze, and disseminate information related to all crimes, all hazards, and terrorist threats to best protect and serve the residents and visitors to Nevada, which shall include:

7

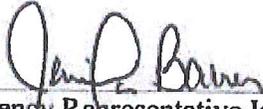
- A. Coordinating the development, reporting, and dissemination of criminal and terrorist intelligence information from Nevada's fusion and intelligence centers, local law enforcement, public safety agencies, tribal organization, private entities, and members of the general public.*
- B. Processing suspicious activity reports and creating criminal and terrorist intelligence products in accordance with federal guidelines, and disseminating these reports to all relevant local, state, tribal, and federal agencies based on classification level, audience, and subject matter under applicable state and federal law.*
- C. Developing and maintaining training programs to enhance and broaden Nevada's ability to collect threat-related information.*
- D. Collaborating with other analysis centers within Nevada to increase information sharing, develop continuity of operations plans for state and local governments, and to share best practices.*

Absent the ability to leverage the advanced data management and analytical capability of the Dfuze 360 program, the NTAC will be severely impacted in its ability to effectively and efficiently meet the requirements set forth in EO 2015-34 in a timely manner; potentially causing a direct and significant impact to public safety across the State of Nevada. Post 9/11, the U.S. security environment has become an increasingly challenging and complex terrain. The need to effectively manage internal risk, threats to the public, and hazards to critical infrastructure has never been greater. In an effort to align current operational capacity with leading criminal and terror-related core operating capabilities, analytical best practices, and focused collaborative support services, the Nevada Threat Analysis Center is committed to establishing customized technological solutions.

8 **What efforts were made or conducted to substantiate there is no competition for the service or good and to ensure the price for this purchase is fair and reasonable?**
In an effort to meet the distinctive requirements of EO 2015-34, the NTAC conducted extensive research of possible analytical programs. Additionally, the NTAC leveraged the broad experience of their recently hired Senior Intelligence Analyst (SIA). Utilizing the wide-ranging background in the Intelligence Community at the national-level, the NTAC SIA recommended the NTAC pursue the Dfuze 360 program.
Additionally, the Dfuze 360 program is significantly less expensive than SAS, as well as other (limited capability) analytical programs.

9	Will this purchase obligate the State to this vendor for future purchases? Check One.	Yes:		No:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
	a. <i>If yes, please provide details regarding future obligations or needs.</i>				

By signing below, I know and understand the contents of this Solicitation Waiver Request and Justification and attest that all statements are true and correct.



Agency Representative Initiating Request

Jennifer Bauer, ASO Department of Public Safety – Director’s Office
Print Name of Agency Representative Initiating Request

30 December 2015
Date


Signature of Agency Head Authorizing Request

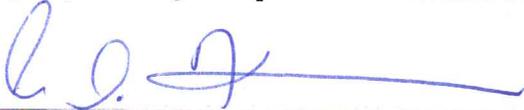
Ryan Miller, Deputy Chief Department of Public Safety – Investigation Division
Print Name of Agency Head Authorizing Request

30 December 2015
Date

PLEASE NOTE: In an effort to avoid possible conflict with any equipment, system or process already installed or in place by the State of Nevada or to assist in our due diligence, State Purchasing may solicit a review of your request from another agency or entity. The signature below indicates another agency or entity has reviewed the information you provided. This signature does not exempt your agency from any other processes that may be required.

ENTERPRISE IT SERVICES

Name of agency or entity who provided information or review:



Representative Providing Review

CATHERINE D. KRAUSE

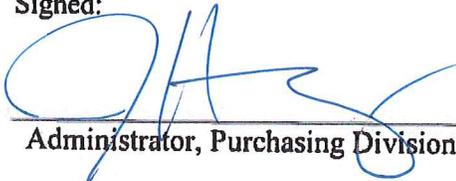
Print Name of Representative Providing Review

12/31/15
Date

Please consider this memo as my approval of your request. This exemption is granted pursuant to NAC 333.150(2)(a)(b)(c), NRS 333.400. This exemption may be rescinded in the event reliable information becomes available upon which the Purchasing Administrator determines that the service or good sought may in fact be contracted for in a more effective manner. Pursuant to NRS 284.173(6), contracts for services do not become effective without the prior approval of the State Board of Examiners (BOE).

If you have any questions or concerns please contact the Purchasing Division at 775-684-0170.

Signed:



Administrator, Purchasing Division or Designee

12-31-2015
Date