



Karen L. Davidson
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September 12, 2024

Purchasing

Memorandum

TO: Bill D. Hicks, District Attorney-34th Judicial District
Tom Krampitz, General Counsel, Border Prosecution Unit

CC: County Administrator Betsy Keller
County Auditor Barbara Parker
County Attorney Steven Arellano

FROM: County Purchasing Agent Karen L. Davidson 

RE: Solution to Proposed Contract with Texas Association of Counties

I have reviewed your request to procure a new provider for the Border Prosecution Unit Grant prime contract with the Texas Association of Counties TAC for the services listed on your memo. Thank you for seeking guidance prior to the purchase of services.

Guidance:

The TAC is a statutorily created association that is comprised of (and funded by) active county officials from all over Texas. The Interlocal Cooperation Act allows El Paso County to contract with other political subdivisions, municipalities, and special districts, as well as combinations of two or more of those qualifying entities. I am referencing LGC 791.011 (g).

There is at least some case law to support the idea that association or organizations made up of municipalities or counties are permitted to enter into interlocal agreements with individual counties and state agencies. I don't see an issue with El Paso County entering into an interlocal agreement with the Texas Association of Counties.

I would recommend the next step for you to reach out to County Attorney's to establish the Interlocal Agreement and upload it to Cobblestone for processing and approvals. You may load this memo as backup for the agreement. This recommendation has been reviewed by my attorney Steven Arellano for the County Attorney's Office.

If you wish I am happy to make sure I am available for a Zoom meeting at your convenience.

Thank you for your partnership.