

**REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS
FOR
DEFENSE ATTORNEY(s)**

**Issued by the
Professional Municipal Management Joint Insurance Fund**

**Date Issued:
October 20, 2023**

**Responses Due by:
November 21, 2023**

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS (RFQ) FOR DEFENSE ATTORNEY

I. PURPOSE AND INTENT

Through this Request for Qualifications (RFQ), the Professional Municipal Management Joint Insurance Fund (hereinafter the “Fund”) seeks to engage a Service Provider as **Defense Attorney** for the 2024, 2025 and 2026 fund years commencing January 1, 2024 or upon appointment, whichever is later. This contract will be awarded through a fair and open process pursuant to NJSA 19:44A-20.4 et seq. and complies with the best practices recommended by Office of the State Controller.

II. PROPOSAL SUBMISSION

Submit one (1) original paper copy, clearly marked as the “ORIGINAL”. If needed, we will contact responders after the deadline to request an electronic copy of the response, via email. The proposal must be addressed to:

BY MAIL:

Professional Municipal Management Joint Insurance Fund
c/o PERMA Risk Management Services
TRIAD 1828 Centre
PO Box 99106
Camden, NJ 08101
Contains PMM JIF RFQ Response

BY FEDEX, UPS, OR COURIER SERVICE

Professional Municipal Management Joint Insurance Fund
c/o PERMA Risk Management Services
TRIAD 1828 Centre
2 Cooper Street – 18 Floor
Camden, NJ 08102
Contains PMM JIF RFQ Response

The proposal must be received by November 21, 2023 at 11:00 a.m.

Faxed or E-Mailed proposals will NOT be accepted.

Any inquiry concerning this RFQ should be directed in writing to:

Crystal Chuck, PERMA
Professional Municipal Management Joint Insurance Fund
P.O. Box 99106
Camden, NJ 08101
cchuck@permainc.com
856-479-2115

This Request for Qualifications is to solicit professional services. All documents and information submitted in response to this solicitation shall be available to the general public as required by the New Jersey Open Public Records Act N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1 et seq. The Fund will not be responsible for any costs associated with the oral or written and/or presentation of the proposals. The Fund reserves the right to reject any and all proposals in whole or in part and waive such informalities as may be permitted by law. The Fund further reserves the right to make such investigations as it deems necessary as to the qualifications of any and all vendors submitting proposals. The fund reserves the right to negotiate contracts for such services and seek amendments to any proposal.

III. GENERAL INFORMATION ON THE FUNCTIONS OF THE FUND

The Fund is organized pursuant to NJSA 40A: 10-36 to provide property/casualty insurance to its member local units. The Fund also provides its members with a comprehensive risk control and claims management program. The Fund is controlled by Board of Fund Commissioners that annually elects an executive committee. The Fund is regulated by the Department of Banking and Insurance and the Department of Community Affairs.

IV. MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

As a minimum, the applicant shall have seven years' experience as Defense Attorney for a joint insurance fund of the State of New Jersey or ten years' experience as a Defense Attorney for governmental entities. The applicant must demonstrate a consistent pattern of successfully controlling litigation. The applicant also must demonstrate a high degree of knowledge concerning (1) the operation of local governmental units in New Jersey, and (2) workers compensation, and Title 59 liability matters involving New Jersey governmental entities.

The responder must designate and provide background information on all attorneys who may be assigned to defend the Fund.

V. MANDATORY CONTENTS OF PROPOSAL

In its proposal, the firm must include the following:

- 1) Contact Information: Provide the name and address of the firm, the name, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address of the individual responsible for the preparation of the proposal.
- 2) A statement accepting the fee schedule promulgated by the Fund.
- 3) An executive summary of not more than three pages identifying and substantiating why the vendor is best qualified to provide the requested services.
- 4) A staffing plan listing those persons who will be assigned to the engagement if the vendor is selected, including the designation of the person who would be the vendor's officer responsible for all services required under the engagement.

This portion of the proposal should include the relevant resume information for the individuals who will be assigned. This information should include, at a minimum, a description of the person's relevant professional experience, years and type of experience, and number of years with the vendor.

The responder must complete the Political Disclosure Statement, Non-Collusion Certificate, Statement of Ownership Disclosure and Prohibited Activities in Russia-Belarus & Iran Investment Activities attached as Exhibits A, B, C & D.

5) A description of the vendor's experience in performing services of the type described in this RFQ. Specifically identify client size and specific examples of similarities with the scope of services required under this RFQ.

6) A description of resources of the vendor (i.e., background, location, experience, staff resources, financial resources, other resources, etc.).

7) The location of the office, if other than the vendor's main office, at which the vendor proposes to perform services required under this RFQ. Describe your presence in New Jersey. Specifically, the vendor must state in its proposal whether or not the vendor is registered as a small business enterprise ("SBE") with the New Jersey Commerce and Economic Growth Commission New Jersey's Set-Aside Program.

8) Provide references including the contact names, titles and phone numbers.

9) In its proposal, the vendor must identify any existing or potential conflicts of interest, and disclose any representation of parties or other relationships that might be considered a conflict of interest with regard to this engagement, or the Fund.

10) Contract will be in accordance with NJAC 17:44-2.2 - which requires all vendors to maintain all documentation related to the services provided for a period of five years from the date of final payment. Records to be made available to the state office of comptroller upon request.

VI. INTERVIEW & CLARIFICATION

The Fund reserves the right to interview any or all of the applicants submitting a proposal. Although interviews may take place, the proposal should be comprehensive and complete on its face. The Fund reserves the right to request clarifying information subsequent to submission of the proposal.

VII. SELECTION PROCESS AND CRITERIA

All proposals will be reviewed to determine responsiveness. Non-responsive proposals will be rejected without evaluation. For vendors that satisfy the minimum requirements, the Fund will evaluate proposals based on the following evaluation criteria, separate or combined in some manner, and not necessarily listed in order of significance:

- (a) The vendor's general approach to providing the services required under this RFQ.

(b) The vendor's documented experience in successfully completing contracts of a similar size and scope to the engagement addressed by this RFQ

(c) The qualifications and experience of the vendor's management, supervisory or other key personnel assigned to the engagement, with emphasis on documented experience in successfully completing work on contracts of similar size and scope to the services required by this RFQ.

(d) The overall ability of the vendor to mobilize, undertake and successfully complete the engagement within the timeline. This criterion will include, but not be limited to, the following factors: the number and qualifications of management, supervisory and other staff proposed by the vendor to perform the services required by this RFQ; the availability and commitment to the engagement of the vendor's management, supervisory and other staff proposed; the vendor's contract management plan, including the vendor's contract organizational chart.

Exhibit A

SERVICE PROVIDER POLITICAL CONTRIBUTION DISCLOSURE CERTIFICATION

Service provider business entity: _____

Date the contract or engagement is to be authorized: _____

- 1) Names and home addresses of all persons (a) holding 10% or more of the issued and outstanding stock of the service provider business entity, (b) entitled to receive the benefit of 10% or more of the revenues and/or profits of the service provider business entity and (c) any other individual who will have a significant role in servicing this engagement:

Name

Address

- 2) List all reportable contributions made during the 12 month period preceding the date that the contract or engagement is legally authorized to any official, candidate, joint candidates committee or political party representing elected officials or candidates as defined pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-3(p), (q) and (r) of any member local unit insured by the Professional Municipal Management Joint Insurance Fund. **(List of members attached.)**

Local Unit	Contributor	Date	Recipient	Amount

Service Provider Affirmation

The undersigned, being authorized and knowledgeable of the circumstances, does hereby certify the above is complete and accurate. The undersigned is fully aware that if I or any of the persons listed above have misrepresented in whole or part this affirmation and certification, I and/or the service provider business entity will be liable for any penalty permitted under law.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____

Print Name: _____

If necessary, attach additional sheets.

Professional Municipal Management Joint Insurance Fund Members

Evesham

Maple Shade

Moorestown

Willingboro

Evesham Township Fire District

Exhibit B

NON-COLLUSION AFFIDAVIT

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

ss:

COUNTY OF

I _____ of the City of _____

in the County of _____ and the State of _____

of full age, being duly sworn according to law on my oath depose and say that:

I am _____

Of the firm of _____

the bidder making the Proposal for the above named project, and that I executed the said Proposal with full authority so to do; that said bidder has not, directly or indirectly, entered into any agreement, participated in any collusion, or otherwise taken any action in restraint of free, competitive bidding in connection with the above named project; and that all statements contained in said Proposal and in this affidavit are true and correct, and made with full knowledge that the **Professional Municipal Management Joint Insurance Fund** relies upon the truth of the statements contained in said Proposal and in the statements contained in this affidavit in awarding the contract for the said project.

I further warrant that no person or selling agency has been employed or retained to solicit or secure such contract upon an agreement or understanding for a commission, percentage, brokerage or contingent fee, except bona fide employees or bona fide established commercial or selling agencies maintained by

_____(N.J.S.A. 52:34-15)
(Name of Contractor)

(Also type or print name of affiant under signature)

Subscribed and sworn to before me this

_____ Day of _____ 20__.

Notary Public of

My commission expires:

Appendix C

STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP DISCLOSURE

N.J.S.A. 52:25-24.2 (P.L. 1977, c.33, as amended by P.L. 2016, c.43)

This statement shall be completed, certified to, and included with all bid and proposal submissions. Failure to submit the required information is cause for automatic rejection of the bid or proposal.

Name of Organization: _____

Organization Address: _____

Part I Check the box that represents the type of business organization:

- ☐ Sole Proprietorship (skip Parts II and III, execute certification in Part IV)
- ☐ Non-Profit Corporation (skip Parts II and III, execute certification in Part IV)
- ☐ For-Profit Corporation (any type) ☐ Limited Liability Company (LLC)
- ☐ Partnership ☐ Limited Partnership ☐ Limited Liability Partnership (LLP)
- ☐ Other (be specific): _____

Part II

- ☐ The list below contains the names and addresses of all stockholders in the corporation who own 10 percent or more of its stock, of any class, or of all individual partners in the partnership who own a 10 percent or greater interest therein, or of all members in the limited liability company who own a 10 percent or greater interest therein, as the case may be. **(COMPLETE THE LIST BELOW IN THIS SECTION)**

OR

- ☐ No one stockholder in the corporation owns 10 percent or more of its stock, of any class, or no individual partner in the partnership owns a 10 percent or greater interest therein, or no member in the limited liability company owns a 10 percent or greater interest therein, as the case may be. **(SKIP TO PART IV)**

(Please attach additional sheets if more space is needed):

Name of Individual or Business Entity	Address

Part III DISCLOSURE OF 10% OR GREATER OWNERSHIP IN THE STOCKHOLDERS, PARTNERS OR LLC MEMBERS LISTED IN PART II

If a bidder has a direct or indirect parent entity which is publicly traded, and any person holds a 10 percent or greater beneficial interest in the publicly traded parent entity as of the last annual federal Security and Exchange Commission (SEC) or foreign equivalent filing, ownership disclosure can be met by providing links to the website(s) containing the last annual filing(s) with the federal Securities and Exchange Commission (or foreign equivalent) that contain the name and address of each person holding a 10% or greater beneficial interest in the publicly traded parent entity, along with the relevant page numbers of the filing(s) that contain the information on each such person. **Attach additional sheets if more space is needed.**

Website (URL) containing the last annual SEC (or foreign equivalent) filing	Page #'s

Please list the names and addresses of each stockholder, partner or member owning a 10 percent or greater interest in any corresponding corporation, partnership and/or limited liability company (LLC) listed in Part II **other than for any publicly traded parent entities referenced above.** The disclosure shall be continued until names and addresses of every noncorporate stockholder, and individual partner, and member exceeding the 10 percent ownership criteria established pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:25-24.2 has been listed. **Attach additional sheets if more space is needed.**

Stockholder/Partner/Member and Corresponding Entity Listed in Part II	Address

Part IV Certification

I, being duly sworn upon my oath, hereby represent that the foregoing information and any attachments thereto to the best of my knowledge are true and complete. I acknowledge: that I am authorized to execute this certification on behalf of the bidder/proposer; that the Professional Municipal Management JIF (PMM JIF) is relying on the information contained herein and that I am under a continuing obligation from the date of this certification through the completion of any contracts with PMM JIF to notify the PMM JIF in writing of any changes to the information contained herein; that I am aware that it is a criminal offense to make a false statement or misrepresentation in this certification, and if I do so, I am subject to criminal prosecution under the law and that it will constitute a material breach of my agreement(s) with the, permitting the PMM JIF to declare any contract(s) resulting from this certification void and unenforceable.

Full Name (Print):		Title:	
Signature:		Date:	

APPENDIX D

Prohibited Russia-Belarus Activities & Iran Investment Activities

Person or Entity

Part 1: Certification

COMPLETE PART 1 BY CHECKING ONE OF THE THREE BOXES BELOW

Pursuant to law, any person or entity that is a successful bidder or proposer, or otherwise proposes to enter into or renew a contract, for goods or services must complete the certification below prior to contract award to attest, under penalty of perjury, that neither the person or entity, nor any parent entity, subsidiary, or affiliate, is identified on the Department of Treasury's Russia-Belarus list or Chapter 25 list as a person or entity engaging in prohibited activities in Russia, Belarus or Iran. Before a contract for goods or services can be amended or extended, a person or entity must certify that neither the person or entity, nor any parent entity, subsidiary, or affiliate, is identified on the Department of Treasury's Russia-Belarus list. Both lists are found on Treasury's website at the following web addresses:

<https://www.nj.gov/treasury/administration/pdf/RussiaBelarusEntityList.pdf>
www.state.nj.us/treasury/purchase/pdf/Chapter25List.pdf.

As applicable to the type of contract, the above-referenced lists must be reviewed prior to completing the below certification.

A person or entity unable to make the certification must provide a detailed, accurate, and precise description of the activities of the person or entity, or of a parent entity, subsidiary, or affiliate, engaging in prohibited activities in Russia or Belarus and/or investment activities in Iran. The person or entity must cease engaging in any prohibited activities and provide an updated certification before the contract can be entered into.

If a vendor or contractor is found to be in violation of law, action may be taken as appropriate and as may be provided by law, rule, or contract, including but not limited to imposing sanctions, seeking compliance, recovering damages, declaring the party in default, and seeking debarment or suspension of the party.

CONTRACT AWARDS AND RENEWALS



I certify, pursuant to law, that neither the person or entity listed above, nor any parent entity, subsidiary, or affiliate appears on the N.J. Department of Treasury's lists of entities engaged in prohibited activities in Russia or Belarus pursuant to P.L. 2022, c. 3 or in investment activities in Iran pursuant to P.L. 2012, c. 25 ("Chapter 25 List"). I further certify that I am the person listed above, or I am an officer or representative of the entity listed above and am authorized to make this certification on its behalf. (Skip Part 2 and sign and complete the Certification below.)

CONTRACT AMENDMENTS AND EXTENSIONS



I certify, pursuant to law, that neither the person or entity listed above, nor any parent entity, subsidiary, or affiliate is listed on the N.J. Department of the Treasury's lists of entities determined to be engaged in prohibited activities in Russia or Belarus pursuant to P.L. 2022, c. 3. I further certify that I am the person listed above, or I am an officer or representative of the entity listed above and am authorized to make this certification on its behalf. (Skip Part 2 and sign and complete the Certification below.)

IF UNABLE TO CERTIFY



I am unable to certify as above because the person or entity and/or a parent entity, subsidiary, or affiliate is listed on the Department's Russia-Belarus list and/or Chapter 25 Iran list. I will provide a detailed, accurate, and precise description of the activities as directed in Part 2 below, and sign and complete the Certification below. Failure to provide such will prevent the award of the contract to the person or entity, and appropriate penalties, fines, and/or sanctions will be assessed as provided by law.

Part 2: Additional Information

PLEASE PROVIDE FURTHER INFORMATION RELATED TO PROHIBITED ACTIVITIES IN RUSSIA OR BELARUS AND/OR INVESTMENT ACTIVITIES IN IRAN.

You must provide a detailed, accurate, and precise description of the activities of the person or entity, or of a parent entity, subsidiary, or affiliate, engaging in prohibited activities in Russia or Belarus and/or investment activities in Iran in the space below and, if needed, on additional sheets provided by you.

Part 3: Certification of True and Complete Information

I, being duly sworn upon my oath, hereby represent and state that the foregoing information and any attachments there, to the best of my knowledge, are true and complete. I attest that I am authorized to execute this certification on behalf of the above-referenced person or entity.

I acknowledge that the Contracting Unit is relying on the information contained herein and hereby acknowledge that I am under a continuing obligation from the date of this certification through the completion of any contracts with the Contracting Unit to notify the Contracting Unit in writing of any changes to the answers of information contained herein.

I acknowledge that I am aware that it is a criminal offense to make a false statement or misrepresentation in this certification. If I do so, I recognize that I am subject to criminal prosecution under the law and that it will also constitute a material breach of my agreement(s) with the Contracting Unit and that the Contracting Unit at its option may declare any contract(s) resulting from this certification void and unenforceable.

Full Name (Print)		Title	
Signature		Date	

MANDATORY EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY LANGUAGE
N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. (P.L. 1975, C. 127)
N.J.A.C. 17:27

GOODS, PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND GENERAL SERVICE CONTRACTS

During the performance of this contract, the contractor agrees as follows:

The contractor or subcontractor, where applicable, will not discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment because of age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex. Except with respect to affectional or sexual orientation and gender identity or expression, the contractor will take affirmative action to ensure that such applicants are recruited and employed, and that employees are treated during employment, without regard to their age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex. Such action shall include, but not be limited to the following: employment, upgrading, demotion, or transfer; recruitment or recruitment advertising; layoff or termination; rates of pay or other forms of compensation; and selection for training, including apprenticeship. The contractor agrees to post in conspicuous places, available to employees and applicants for employment, notices to be provided by the Public Agency Compliance Officer setting forth provisions of this nondiscrimination clause.

The contractor or subcontractor, where applicable will, in all solicitations or advertisements for employees placed by or on behalf of the contractor, state that all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment without regard to age, race, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex.

The contractor or subcontractor, where applicable, will send to each labor union or representative or workers with which it has a collective bargaining agreement or other contract or understanding, a notice, to be provided by the agency contracting officer advising the labor union or workers' representative of the contractor's commitments under this act and shall post copies of the notice in conspicuous places available to employees and applicants for employment.

The contractor or subcontractor, where applicable, agrees to comply with any regulations promulgated by the Treasurer pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq., as amended and supplemented from time to time and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The contractor or subcontractor agrees to make good faith efforts to employ minority and women workers consistent with the applicable county employment goals established in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:27-5.2, or a binding determination of the applicable county employment goals determined by the Division, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 17:27-5.2.

The contractor or subcontractor agrees to inform in writing its appropriate recruitment agencies including, but not limited to, employment agencies, placement bureaus, colleges, universities, labor unions, that it does not discriminate on the basis of age, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression,

disability, nationality or sex, and that it will discontinue the use of any recruitment agency which engages in direct or indirect discriminatory practices.

The contractor or subcontractor agrees to revise any of its testing procedures, if necessary, to assure that all personnel testing conforms with the principles of job-related testing, as established by the statutes and court decisions of the State of New Jersey and as established by applicable Federal law and applicable Federal court decisions.

In conforming with the applicable employment goals, the contractor or subcontractor agrees to review all procedures relating to transfer, upgrading, downgrading and layoff to ensure that all such actions are taken without regard to age, creed, color, national origin, ancestry, marital status, affectional or sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability, nationality or sex, consistent with the statutes and court decisions of the State of New Jersey, and applicable Federal law and applicable Federal court decisions.

The contractor shall submit to the public agency, after notification of award but prior to execution of a goods and services contract, one of the following three documents:

Letter of Federal Affirmative Action Plan Approval

Certificate of Employee Information Report

Employee Information Report Form AA302

The contractor and its subcontractors shall furnish such reports or other documents to the Div. of Contract Compliance & EEO as may be requested by the office from time to time in order to carry out the purposes of these regulations, and public agencies shall furnish such information as may be requested by the Div. of Contract Compliance & EEO for conducting a compliance investigation pursuant to **Subchapter 10 of the Administrative Code at N.J.A.C. 17:27.**

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990
Equal Opportunity for Individuals with Disability

The contractor and the Camden County Municipal Joint Insurance Fund, (hereafter "owner") do hereby agree that the provisions of Title 11 of the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (the "Act") (42 U.S.C. *§12101* et seq.), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability by public entities in all services, programs, and activities provided or made available by public entities, and the rules and regulations promulgated pursuant there unto, are made a part of this contract. In providing any aid, benefit, or service on behalf of the owner pursuant to this contract, the contractor agrees that the performance shall be in strict compliance with the Act. In the event that the contractor, its agents, servants, employees, or subcontractors violate or are alleged to have violated the Act during the performance of this contract, the contractor shall defend the owner in any action or administrative proceeding commenced pursuant to this Act.

The contractor shall indemnify, protect, and save harmless the owner, its agents, servants, and employees from and against any and all suits, claims, losses, demands, or damages, of whatever kind or nature arising out of or claimed to arise out of the alleged violation. The contractor shall, at its own expense, appear, defend, and pay any and all charges for legal services and any and all costs and other expenses arising from such action or administrative proceeding or incurred in connection therewith. In any and all complaints brought pursuant to the owner's grievance procedure, the contractor agrees to abide by any decision of the owner which is rendered pursuant to said grievance procedure. If any action or administrative proceeding results in an award of damages against the owner, or if the owner incurs any expense to cure a violation of the ADA which has been brought pursuant to its grievance procedure, the contractor shall satisfy and discharge the same at its own expense.

The owner shall, as soon as practicable after a claim has been made against it, give written notice thereof to the contractor along with full and complete particulars of the claim. If any action or administrative proceeding is brought against the owner or any of its agents, servants, and employees, the *owner shall* expeditiously forward or have forwarded to the contractor every demand, complaint, notice, summons, pleading, or other process received by the owner or its representatives.

It is expressly agreed and understood that any approval by the owner of the services provided by the contractor pursuant to this contract will not relieve the contractor of the obligation to comply with the Act and to defend, indemnify, protect, and save harmless the owner pursuant to this paragraph.

It is further agreed and understood that the owner assumes no obligation to indemnify or save harmless the contractor, its agents, servants, employees and subcontractors for any claim which may arise out of their performance of this Agreement. Furthermore, the contractor expressly understands and agrees that the provisions of this indemnification clause shall in no way limit the contractor's obligations assumed in this Agreement, nor shall they be construed to relieve the contractor from any liability, nor preclude the owner from taking any other actions available to it under any other provisions of the Agreement or otherwise at law.