



THE UNIVERSITY OF
SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI.

UNIVERSITY POLICE

Mr. Ronnie Taylor
Procurement Specialist
i-Tech

10 May 2016

Dear Mr. Taylor –

This letter is to provide a business justification for Sole Source Procurement of Axon camera systems for the University Police Department.

The University Police Department has used the Axon Flex and Axon Body camera systems over the past three year period with great success. These camera systems have been worn by officers while patrolling on foot, in vehicles and on bicycles and motorcycles. The cameras are simple to activate, provide sufficient battery life for an entire shift, and record wide-angle, high quality audio and video.

All law enforcement agencies are facing an increased public expectation that body worn cameras will be available to officers, and while UPD has had them available for the past three years the current contract is set to expire at the end of the calendar year and the department is in need of additional cameras as currently some officers are working without a camera.

The business needs for the sole source purchase are met by the unique characteristics of the Axon system. The most important features for us are the use of a standalone Evidence Transfer Module, the cloud-based storage and the ability to maintain compatibility with our existing system.

The Evidence Transfer Module allows the user to upload video simply by plugging the controller into the module. No computer is required, and the user need not spend any time managing the data. The end user simply inserts the controller and walks away. Eliminating the requirement for additional tasks is a significant savings in time and personnel that are unique to this system.

The cloud-based storage allows for all video to be accessible anywhere. Guest users, such as

prosecuting attorneys, can be allowed access as determined by their level of need. Data issues such as security, audits of modifications, backup, etc. are managed in the cloud. Not having to provide these services here at UPD is another significant savings in time and personnel that are unique to this system.

The past three years of use has created a large database of stored video that has been used as required to provide proof in court, to resolve complaints and for training purposes. The existing user knowledge base and competency with the Axon system is unique to the Axon system.

While there are now other products on the market, from various vendors, none of them have the track record (in general or with our department) that Axon does. The particular product features set forth below are not substantially met by these competing products.

The University Police Department either currently uses or proposes to purchase under this project the following hardware and software, with each having set forth the unique functionality or characteristics that justify a sole-source procurement.

Axon Body 2 Video Camera

- Video playback on mobile devices in the field via Bluetooth pairing
- Retina Low Light capability sensitive to less than 1 lux
- Audio tones and haptic (vibration) notification to alert user of usage
- Audio mute during event option
- Wi-Fi capability
- High, medium, and low quality recording available (customizable by the agency)
- Up to two-minute buffering period to record footage before pressing record button
- Multiple mounting options using holster attachment: shirt, vest, belt, and dash mounts available
- 12+ hours of battery operation per shift (even in recording mode)
- LED lights to show current battery level and operating mode
- 143-degree lens
- Includes Axon Signal technology

Axon Flex Camera (DVR)

- Video playback on mobile devices in the field via Bluetooth pairing
- Retina Low Light capability sensitive to less than 1 lux
- Audio tones to alert user of usage
- High, medium, and low quality recording available (customizable by the agency)
- 30-second buffering period to record footage before pressing record button
- Multiple mounting options using magnetic attachment: head, collar, shoulder, helmet, ball cap, car dash, and Oakley sunglass mounts available

Axon Flex Controller

- 12+ hours of battery operation per shift (even in recording mode)
- LED lights to show current battery level and operating mode
- Tactical beveled button design for use in pocket
- Available with Axon Signal technology

Axon Body Video Camera

- Video playback on mobile devices in the field via Bluetooth pairing
- Retina Low Light capability sensitive to less than 1 lux
- Audio tones to alert user of usage
- High, medium, and low quality recording available (customizable by the agency)
- 30-second buffering period to record footage before pressing record button
- Multiple mounting options using holster attachment: shirt, vest, belt, and dash mounts available
- 12+ hours of battery operation per shift (even in recording mode)
- LED lights to show current battery level and operating mode
- Tactical beveled button design for use in pocket
- 130-degree lens

Evidence.com Dock

- Automated docking station uploads to Evidence.com services through Internet connection
- No computer necessary for secure upload to Evidence.com
- Charges and uploads simultaneously

Evidence.com Data Management System

- Software as a Service (SaaS) delivery model that allows agencies to manage and share digital evidence without local storage infrastructure or software needed
- SaaS model reduces security and administration by local IT staff: no local installation required
- Automatic, timely security upgrades and enhancements deployed to application without the need for any local IT staff involvement
- Securely share digital evidence with other agencies or prosecutors without creating copies or requiring the data to leave your agency's domain of control
- Controlled access to evidence based on pre-defined roles and permissions and pre-defined individuals
- Password authentication includes customizable security parameters: customizable password complexity, IP-based access restrictions, and multi-factor authentication support
- Automated category-based evidence retention policies assists with efficient database management
- Ability to recover deleted evidence within seven days of deletion
- Stores and supports all major digital file types: .mpeg, .doc, .pdf, .jpeg, etc.
- Requires NO proprietary file formats
- Ability to upload files directly from the computer to Evidence.com via an Internet browser
- Data Security: Robust Transport Layer Security (TLS) implementation for data in transit and 256-

bit AES encryption for data in storage

- Security Testing: Independent security firms perform in-depth security and penetration testing
- Reliability: Fault- and disaster-tolerant infrastructure in at least four redundant data centers in both the East and West regions of the United States
- Chain-of-Custody: Audit logs automatically track all system and user activity. These logs cannot be edited or deleted, even by account administrators and IT staff
- Protection: With no on-site application, critical evidence stored in Evidence.com is protected from local malware that may penetrate agency infrastructure
- Stability: TASER International is a publicly traded company with stable finances and funding, reducing concerns of loss of application support or commercial viability
- Application and data protected by a CJIS and ISO 27001 compliant information security program
- Dedicated information security department that protects Evidence.com and data with security monitoring, centralized event log analysis and correlation, advanced threat and intrusion protection, and incident response capabilities
- Redact videos easily within the system, create tags, markers and clips, search seven fields in addition to five category-based fields, create cases for multiple evidence files

Axon Capture Application

- Free app for IOS and Android mobile devices
- Allows users to capture videos, audio recordings, and photos and upload these files to their Evidence.com account from the field
- Allows adding metadata to these files, such as: Category, Title, Case ID, and GPS data

Axon View Application

- Free app for IOS and Android mobile devices
- Allows user to view the camera feed from a paired Axon Body or Axon Flex camera in real-time
- Allows for playback of videos stored on a paired Axon Body or Axon Flex system
- Allows adding meta-data to videos, such as: Category, Title, Case ID, and GPS data

TASER International, Inc. Axon Sole Source Letter Revised January 26, 2016 Page 4

TASER Professional Services

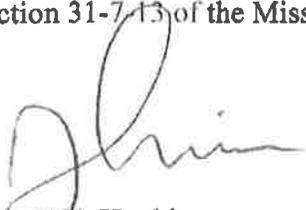
- Dedicated implementation team
- Project management and deployment best practices aid
- Training and train-the-trainer sessions
- Integration services with other systems

TASER Customer Support

- Online and email-based support available 24/7
- Human phone-based support available Monday–Friday 7:00 AM–5:00 PM MST; support is located in Scottsdale, AZ, USA
- Library of webinars available 24/7

Remote-location troubleshooting

Accordingly, I respectfully request that the Axon Flex camera system be approved for a Sole Source Procurement under the provisions of section 3.109.02 of the Mississippi Procurement Manual and of section 31-7-13 of the Mississippi Code.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "R. Hopkins", written in black ink.

Robert N. Hopkins
Chief of Police