The University of Southern Mississippi anticipates purchasing the item(s) listed below as a sole source purchase. Anyone objecting to this purchase shall follow the procedures outlined below.

1. Description of the commodity that USM is seeking to procure:

Head Impact Telemetry System (HITS) by Ridell, Inc. This is an in-helmet player unit designed to detect the magnitude, duration, and direction of helmet impacts in real time via a sideline telemetry system. Used for concussion (brain injury) research in helmeted sports.

1. Explanation of why the commodity is the only one that meets the needs of the agency:

The HITS SRS system is the only system of its kind in the world. The helmets have 6 single axis acceleromerts imbedded within the liner of the helmet. This array allows for not only linear impacts to be detected (other systems can only provide a simply threshold indicator of this measure in a single plane), but also rotational type of impacts to be measured. All measurements are recorded and reported in real-time as they occur. The Warfighter project requires measures of rotation to be provided and described. In our effort to understand rotational forces, we have been approved by the funding agency to measure, via the SRS system, on-field rotational forces in football athletes. Our findings will serve to inform our understanding of rotational forces in Advanced Combat Helmet arrangements.

1. Explanation of why the source is the only source is the only person or entity that can provide the required commodity: Riddell is the only manufacturer that makes this system. Several third-party providers provide simplified measures of basic linear forces to the helmet. These devices are applied to the outside or inside of the helmet. They DO NOT provide data for rotational forces. They DO NOT provide real-time data, thus the Riddell HITS SRS is the only system that will fill the requirement.
2. Explanation of why the amount to be expended for the commodity is reasonable: The cost, which is less than $60,000 has been approved and is considered reasonable by the funding agency.
3. Efforts that the agency went through to obtain the best possible price for the commodity: Multiple on-phone and in-person conversations were conducted to obtain the best possible price from Riddell.

Any person or entity that objects and proposes that the commodity listed is not sole source and can be provided by another person or entity shall submit a written notice to:

Steve Ballew

Director of Procurement & Contracts

Steve.ballew@usm.edu

**Subject Line must read "Sole Source Objection"**

The notice shall contain a detailed explanation of why the commodity is not a sole source procurement. Appropriate documentation shall also be submitted if applicable.

If after a review of the submitted notice and documents, USM determines that the commodity in the proposed sole source request can be provided by another person or entity, then MSU will withdraw the sole source request publication from the procurement portal website and submit the procurement of the commodity to an advertised competitive bid or selection process.

If USM determines after review that there is only one (1) source for the required commodity, then USM will appeal to the Public Procurement Review Board. USM will have the burden of proving that the commodity is only provided by one (1) source.