# **DisPatcheS**

Monthly Journal of the Division of Procurement Services July 2025







## Multiple Protests Affecting State's Sourcing of Microsoft Unified Support Services

Microsoft Unified Support Services –
Agencies should note that the Chief
Procurement Officers have received
several protests challenging sole source
acquisitions of Microsoft Unified Support
Services. Market research does not
support a conclusion that these services
are in fact available from only one source.

These protests have brought the need for Microsoft Unified Support Services to DPS's attention and DPS is investigating the possibility of a statewide term contract for these services.

### **Supplies & Services Contracts Reassigned**

With the gut-wrenching betrayal departure of DeAna Reed-Sharpe, it was necessary to reassign her previous contracts until we have the opportunity to interview and hire a replacement. Please check our website contract sheets for the assigned procurement officer who will manage those contracts until we are fully staffed once again.

And as a reminder, our website is ALWAYS the single best resource to see who is managing which contracts. If you are using "SCEIS Contract Search" to see who is responsible, all that is going to tell you is who ran the solicitation, and THAT is not necessarily the person who is MANAGING the contract now.

#### Love Chevrolet is now Hendrick Chevrolet

Unless you regularly work with the vehicle contracts, you most likely didn't feel the earthquake that occurred when Love Chevrolet, a long-time staple in the SC contracts for vehicles, ceased

to exist and was bought out by Hendrick Auto Group...but it was there.

As sometimes happens, our office did not find out about the change until after the Love vendor ID had been blocked for payment and everyone with an open PO started calling our office. The short version is that Hendrick had some challenges getting the proper information submitted for their new vendor registration, but it was finally completed on July 16, 2025. Hendrick submitted their offer for the vehicle solicitation and was awarded a contract on July 17, 2025, and that contract (4400037566) will be effective on July 29, 2025.

### **ATTAC Group Contract Terminated**

The Executive Search Services contract with ATTAC Group. Inc. (4400028421) was terminated on July 18, 2025, for failure to report and/or pay administrative fees as required by their contract. If anyone has issued a PO against that contract and paid ATTAC Group for services rendered, please reach out to Michael Speakmon (mspeakmon@mmo.sc.gov) with the relevant information about your purchase.

### **NEW Solicitation for Temporary Personnel Services**

You know that part about SRM when you are awarding contracts against a Fixed Priced Bid (FPB) solicitation... and you are supposed to push out the bid opening date to the last day you are accepting new offers...and you are supposed to do that BEFORE you award contracts or else you can't award any new contracts against it? Yeah...well we didn't do that, so now we have to adjust. ③

Ginger Hardee (gghardee@mmo.sc.gov) is now managing the temporary personnel contracts so she issued a replacement solicitation (5400028488) on July 11, 2025. If anyone asks about submitting an offer on for that contract please point them to the new solicitation number, which is also reflected on our website.

Oracle Software and Support (Solicitation 5400027875) – This contract has been cancelled prior to performance. The previous contract has been extended to May 4, 2026, or until the new contract has been negotiated and awarded. We are still in negotiations with the offeror. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Clifton Sanders, at cdsanders@mmo.sc.gov.

The Monthly Statewide Term Contract Town Hall The next Town Hall will be August 12, 2025, at 10:00 AM.

**YOU** can help set the agenda for the meeting by emailing any specific questions you may have a few days before the meeting. We didn't receive any questions via email last month, but we wanted to remind you that it is always an option. Email your questions ahead of time to one of the following people:

G&S Questions – mspeakmon@mmo.sc.gov IT Questions – rbarr@mmo.sc.gov

We've been having issues with different links so the only link to the Town Hall will be on the Dispatches webpage on our website at this location. https://procurement.sc.gov/dispatches. We look forward to seeing you on August 12, 2025!

# Market Research and Agency Input Requests for NEW State Term Contracts (STCs)

The Office of State Procurement (OSP) is seeking input on the following recommendations for new State Term Contracts (STC). If you have any information you can share, please contact the appropriate procurement manager. Our goal is to put contracts in place that will meet your needs, but we need your input to ensure success.

**Google Services** – We anticipate publishing this solicitation late July 2025 with an anticipated award date of December 2025. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Clifton Sanders at **cdsanders@mmo.sc.gov** 

IT Security Assessments and Incident Response Services (updated from Incident Response and Penetration) Testing – We are working to establish a New State Term Contract for Incident Response and Penetration Testing. The anticipated publish date will be in August. However, if you have any questions or concerns, please contact Yolanda Cohen, at <a href="mailto:ycohen@mmo.sc.gov">ycohen@mmo.sc.gov</a>. If you are a potential user of IT Security Assessments and Incident Response Services contracts, we would love to hear from you to ensure the new state term contract will effectively meet your needs.

IT Professional Services – We appreciate the feedback that has been provided from our stakeholders on this new procurement. We are finalizing the draft document and plan to publish the solicitation in August. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Stacy Adams at sadams@mmo.sc.gov

**Microsoft Unified Support Services** – We're considering soliciting these support services as a new State Term Contract for primary use by agencies, local entities, and school districts. Any information you feel could assist us would be helpful. Please let us know if you're a current or a potential user of Microsoft Support Services. If so, do you obtain theses services directly from Microsoft or through a reseller? What is your pricing? Are you willing to share your negotiated agreements with us for reference? Please provide your information to Keva Jones at kjones@mmo.sc.gov as quickly as possible.

Security Software Products & Services (CrowdStrike Software and Hardware) – We anticipate publishing this solicitation late July with an anticipated award date of December. If you are currently utilizing CrowdStrike products and services, we invite you to share your contract terms and experiences and highlight what aspects have been successful and those lessons learned. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Lillanea Bouknight, at <a href="mailto:lbouknight@mmo.sc.gov">lbouknight@mmo.sc.gov</a>.

Trellix Security Products & Services (Formerly FireEye – Expires 06/21/2026) – We are establishing a New State Term Contract for Trellix Products and Services. We anticipate publishing this solicitation in September 2025 with an anticipated award date in February 2026. If you are a potential user of Trellix products and services, we would love to hear from you to ensure the new state term contract will effectively meet your needs. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Yolanda Cohen at ycohen@mmo.sc.gov.

**Propane** – Ben Duckenfield (bduckenfield@mmo.sc.gov) is finalizing his market research into the possibility of a new STC for propane. If you haven't already, please reach out to Ben directly with information related to your propane needs, the types of tanks you have and possibly their locations. We will use this data to help justify the need for the new contract.

**Uniform Rentals** – Michael Speakmon (mspeakmon@mmo.sc.gov) is conducting market research into a new STC for uniform rentals to include mats, mops, etc. What we are primarily looking for are the different types of uniforms, potential sizes, and other rental items you may have included in your agreements. The intent of the contract is to have a market basket of the most common items with a percent discount off the rest of the items in the two categories. Be sure to let us know if you are interested in this service so we can be sure it meets your entity's needs.

**Non-Lethal Weaponry** – Michael Speakmon (mspeakmon@mmo.sc.gov) has received some input from law enforcement and corrections concerning their non-lethal weaponry needs and will evaluate the information received. He will still accept any new information you may find helpful.

# Market Research and Agency Input Requests for existing State Term Contracts

**Audio Visual (Expires 05/02/2026)** – We anticipate publishing this solicitation in December. If you are currently utilizing this contract, we invite you to share your experiences and highlight what aspects have been successful. For those who have not used the contract due to unmet needs, we welcome your feedback on how we can enhance the new solicitation to better suit your requirements. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Lillanea Bouknight, at <a href="mailto:lbouknight@mmo.sc.gov">lbouknight@mmo.sc.gov</a>.

Biometric Time Keeping (Extended to 07/06/2026 or until a new solicitation is awarded-whichever comes first) – We anticipate publishing this solicitation no later than October 2025. If there are changes that could be made to the existing contract so the new contract would better meet your needs, please provide feedback to Randy Barr at <a href="mailto:rbarr@mmo.sc.gov">rbarr@mmo.sc.gov</a> We anticipate a shift in strategy to better maximize savings, efficiencies, and standardization. Stay tuned for additional information as we continue collaborating with our stakeholder user groups on this contract update.

**Extreme (Expires 03/26/2026)** – We anticipate publishing this solicitation in October 2025 with an anticipated award date of January 2026. If there are changes or improvements that could be made to the existing contract so the new contract would better meet your needs, please provide feedback to Keva Jones at **kjones@mmo.sc.gov** at your earliest convenience.

**Juniper (Expires 05/31/2026)** – We anticipate publishing this solicitation in December 2025 with an anticipated award date of March 2026. If there are changes or improvements that could be made to the existing contract so the new contract would better meet your needs, please provide feedback to Keva Jones at **kjones@mmo.sc.gov**.

Security Software Products & Services (Quest One Software and Hardware) (Expires 11/29/2025) – We anticipate publishing this solicitation in July with an anticipated award date of September If you are currently utilizing this contract, we invite you to share your experiences and highlight what aspects have been successful. For those who have not used the contract due to unmet needs, we welcome your feedback on how we can enhance the new solicitation to better suit your requirements. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Lillanea Bouknight, at <a href="mailto:lbouknight@mmo.sc.gov">lbouknight@mmo.sc.gov</a>.

**Small Software Applications Development (Expires 05/15/2026) -** We anticipate publishing this solicitation in October 2025 with an anticipated award date in February 2026. If there are changes or improvements that could be made to the existing contract so the new contract would better meet your needs, please provide feedback to Yolanda Cohen at <a href="mailto:ycohen@mmo.sc.gov">ycohen@mmo.sc.gov</a>.

Online Reverse Auction Service (Expires 6/16/2026) - We anticipate publishing this solicitation in November with an anticipated award date of March 2026. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Clifton Sanders at cdsanders@mmo.sc.gov. If you are a current or potential user of the Online Reverse Auction contract, we would love to have your input on improvements that could be made from the existing scope of work.

**Digital Transaction Management** – We anticipate publishing this solicitation in July with an anticipated award date of November 2025. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Clifton Sanders at **cdsanders@mmo.sc.gov**. If you are a current or potential user of the Digital Transaction Management contract, we would love to have your input on improvements that could be made from the existing scope of work.

**Managed Cloud Services** – We anticipate publishing this solicitation in July/August with an anticipated award date of November/December 2025. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Randy Barr, Sr. at **rbarr@mmo.sc.gov**. We have been working with a stakeholder group to revise this solicitation and hope the significant changes will yield positive results for all users.

**Airport Vegetation Management** – Ginger Hardee (**gghardee@mmo.sc.gov**) is beginning her market research on this contract. It has a limited pool of end users, so your input is going to be critical to the continued success of this contract.

**High Density Polyethylene Pipe (HDPE)** – <del>DeAna Reed-Sharpe</del> Michael Speakmon (mspeakmon@mmo.sc.gov) is beginning her his research into the next version of this contract. There are a limited number of items on this one and we don't expect many changes, but please reach out to her him if you need something not already on the existing contract.

Boats, Fiberglass & Aluminum Hull – Michael Speakmon (mspeakmon@mmo.sc.gov) will work with SCDNR to develop the specifications for the boats currently considered, but that doesn't mean others can't contribute as well. If you have some preferences on the specifications for these, or an additional style of boat to add, then reach out to Michael with your request and

we'll be sure to address it.

## State Term Contracts that will NOT be renewed or resolicited

The following current STCs will not be resolicited:

**McAfee Security Products & Services (Expires 02/19/2026)** – McAfee's products and services will be on the new state term contract for Trellix Security Software Products & Services and will be sunset effective 02/20/2026. If you should have any questions or concerns, please contact Yolanda Cohen at <a href="mailto:yochen@mmo.sc.gov">yochen@mmo.sc.gov</a>.

**Thales Data Protection Products (Expires 04/21/2026)** – After careful review of the spend analysis for Thales, it has been determined that this contract will be sunset based on low usage and spend volume on its expiration date of 04/21/2026. If you should have any questions or concerns, please contact Yolanda Cohen at <a href="mailto:ycohen@mmo.sc.gov">ycohen@mmo.sc.gov</a>.

## **Currently Published Solicitations**

**Disaster Recovery Hosting Services (5400028029)** – This solicitation opened on June 20, 2025, and is currently under evaluation. We have an anticipated award date of September. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Randy Barr, Sr. at <a href="mailto:rbarr@mmo.sc.gov">rbarr@mmo.sc.gov</a>.

**Dynamics Licenses Managed Service Provider (5400028721)** – The solicitation was published May 28 and we conducted the pre -bid conference on June 6. The bid opening date is July 21, 2025, with an anticipated award date in September 2025. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Randy Barr, Sr. at <a href="mailto:rbarr@mmo.sc.gov">rbarr@mmo.sc.gov</a>.

**SAP NS2 - Maintenance and Support (Expires 07/27/2025)** – The Intent to Sole Source was published 07/09/2025, with the anticipated award date of 07/28/2025. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Lillanea Bouknight at <a href="mailto:lbouknight@mmo.sc.gov">lbouknight@mmo.sc.gov</a>.

**Household Appliances (5400028157)** – Portia Davis (**pdavis@mmo.sc.gov**) published the solicitation on June 3, 2025. The pre-bid was conducted June 16, 2025, and no amendment was necessary afterwards. The bid opening date remains July 23, 2025.

Interpreting and Translation Service (5400028282) – Portia Davis (pdavis@mmo.sc.gov) is evaluating offers received. Unfortunately, (fortunately?) we received more offers than anticipated so the offer evaluation will take longer than expected. So, you might expect to see an award extension published in the near future.

Athletic Uniforms, Equipment & Accessories (5400028454) – Ginger Hardee (gghardee@mmo.sc.gov) published this solicitation on July 7, 2025. The pre-bid meeting was held on July 21, 2025, and the bid opening date is slated for August 21, 2025.

Emergency Clean Up and Restoration (5400028478) – Ginger Hardee (gghardee@mmo.sc.gov) published this solicitation on July 11, 2025. The pre-bid meeting was held on 7/23/2025 and the bid opening date remains August 28, 2025. Working with the Insurance Reserve Fund, we restructured this contract so that it assumes the costs for all repairs/restoration needed are included in the Xactimate software. The use of this software is the industry standard in South Carolina and is the reasonable cost calculator for the repairs. This will make using the contract significantly easier and resolves some issues we've had in the past with using the contract.

## **Newly Awarded State Term Contracts (STCs)**

**Disaster Recovery Planning Software (5400027138)** – The Intent to Award was posted July 2, 2025. No protest was received, and the award became final July 15, 2025. The contract effective dates are 07/15/2025 - 07/14/2030. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Clifton Sanders at <a href="mailto:cdsanders@mmo.sc.gov">cdsanders@mmo.sc.gov</a>.

#### NIGP AWARDS

#### DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS

Stacy Adams, NIGP-CPP, CPPO, CPPB

Deputy Chief Procurement Officer & Director of Statewide Sourcing State of SC, Division of Procurement Services

Stacy's passion for public procurement has illuminated the profession in ways few ever could. She may in fact be the most enthusiastic

champion we've ever known. A vivacious, outgoing force of nature who has taken every stage - whether a conference podium, a classroom, or a simple conversation and turned it into an opportunity to inspire. She doesn't just speak about procurement; she brings it to life with an energy that's infectious and with wisdom that's invaluable.

She's a mentor, a teacher, a cheerleader for all who seek to grow in this profession. Stacy has shaped careers, transformed perspectives and encouraged excellence at every turn.

She is the Deputy Chief Procurement Officer and Director of Statewide Sourcing for the State of South Carolina, Division of Procurement Services managing the State Term Contracting Teams. With 20+ years of experience, her skills represent governmental purchasing at the county, state agency and state-wide levels.

Stacy's desire to "give back" to the profession she so dearly loves is exemplified by her service to NIGP and its local Chapter, the South Carolina Association of Governmental Purchasing Officials (SCAGPO). As an active member of both, she has served in many capacities including SCAGPO President. She was awarded SCAGPO's Buyer of the Year for 2014, was honored as the recipient of the B.D. Bland Distinguished Service Award in 2018 and SCAGPO's highest honor of the James H. Barnes Award in 2023 for her contributions to the Procurement Profession and the entity she serves. Stacy currently serves on the NIGP Governing Board and is the Southern Region Chair for NASPO and on SCAGPO's Past President's Council and as Co-Chair of the Task Force.

She is a procurement content developer and instructor for NIGP, South Carolina Division of Procurement Services Statewide, the State Fiscal Accountability Authority, and in 2022 was an instructor at Ohio State University for their Contract Management, Master of Public Administration program.

Stacy Adams is a true trailblazer and the well-deserved recipient of the 2025 NIGP Distinguished Service Award.

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