

State of New Hampshire Office of Professional Licensure and Certification

# REQUEST FOR APPLICATION RFA-2023-FDEMB-01-FUNER FOR

**Funeral Inspector Services** 

December 19, 2022



## New Hampshire Office of Professional Licensure and Certification Funeral Inspector Services

## **Table of Contents**

1.	Ree	quest for Services	3
	1.1.	Purpose and Overview	3
	1.2.	Scope of Services	3
	1.3.	Compensation & Contract Value	5
	1.4.	Contract Period	5
	1.5.	Mandatory Responses to RFA Questions	5
	1.6.	Application Evaluation	6
	1.7.	Applicant Selection	6
2.	Not	tices	6
	2.1.	Exceptions	6
	2.2.	RFA Amendment	7
	2.3.	Application Submission	7
	2.4.	Compliance	7
	2.5.	Non-Collusion	8
	2.6.	Applicant Withdrawal	8
	2.7.	Public Disclosure	8
	2.8.	Non-Commitment	9
	2.9.	Request for Additional Information or Materials	9
	2.10.	Liability	9
	2.11.	Oral Presentations and Discussions	9
	2.12.	Successful Applicant Notice and Contract Negotiations1	0
	2.13.	Scope of Award and Contract Award Notice1	0
	2.14.	Site Visits1	0
	2.15.	Protest of Intended Award1	0
	2.16.	Contingency1	0
	2.17.	Ethical Requirements1	2
3.	Арр	olication Process1	2
	3.1.	Overview1	2
	3.2.	Application Content1	3
	3.3.	Procurement Timetable and Contact Information1	4
	3.4.	Applicant's Questions and Answers1	4
	3.5.	Validity of Application1	5
4.	Арр	pendices1	5
	4.1.	Appendix A – P-37 General Provisions and Standard Exhibits (for reference only-do no	ot
	returr	η)1	5



## **REQUEST FOR APPLICATIONS**

#### 1. Request for Services

#### **1.1.** Purpose and Overview

#### 1.1.1. **Purpose**

This Request for Applications (RFA) is published to solicit applications for the provision of Funeral Inspector Services to conduct inspections and reinspections of Crematories, Funeral Homes, and Chapels.

Qualified vendors include funeral directors and embalmers who are licensed, or previously licensed, by State of New Hampshire with no restrictions to practice and medical professionals who are licensed, or previously licensed, by the Board of Medicine with no restrictions to practice in the State of New Hampshire.

Qualified vendors who are members of the Board of Registration of Funeral Directors or Board of Medicine may apply to provide Funeral Inspector Services. If selected to enter into a contract with the Office of Professional Licensure and Certification (OPLC), the vendor must resign their position of board member for the duration of the resulting contract.

The OPLC anticipates awarding two (2) or more contracts for the services in this RFA to conduct inspections, statewide.

#### 1.1.2. **Overview**

The Board of Registration of Funeral Directors and Embalmers issues licenses to qualified Embalmers and Funeral Directors. The Board regulates the minimum standards for professional conduct and continued competency and takes disciplinary action against licensees who fail to meet these standards. The Board inspects funeral homes and chapels and issues certificates of inspections to crematory authorities.

The mission of the New Hampshire Office of Professional Licensure and Certification (OPLC) is to create a regulatory environment favorable to workforce opportunities while protecting the public through efficient and economic support to New Hampshire's professional licensing boards.

#### **1.2. Scope of Services**

- 1.2.1. The selected vendor(s) will provide Funeral Inspector Services by conducting crematory, funeral home, and chapel inspections and reinspections on behalf of OPLC, in accordance with New Hampshire Revised Statutes Annotated (RSA) 325 and Administrative Rules Frl 100-900, which includes 16 C.F.R. § 453.
- 1.2.2. The selected vendor(s) must assist and work with OPLC staff to inspect Crematories, Funeral Homes and Chapels, as well as conduct reinspections for license renewals; and/or when deficiencies are identified in the original inspections; and/or when complaints are received. The selected vendor(s) must:



- 1.2.2.1. Sign an attestation that confirms no conflict of interest with the parties involved in the inspection, as assigned by OPLC.
- 1.2.2.2. Utilize the appropriate current report format for the type of inspection requested.
- 1.2.2.3. Ensure reports are completed accurately and according to the requirements of the specific licensure, certification and/or permit sought.
- 1.2.2.4. Ensure completed reports are legible and any comments are clear, concise, and objective.
- 1.2.2.5. Provide completed reports and supporting documentation, as applicable to the OPLC no later than two (2) business days after completing the inspections. Provide dates of availability for inspections to the OPLC.
- 1.2.2.6. Respond to requests for inspections within two (2) business days of receiving the request with either an acceptance or denial of requested services.
- 1.2.3. The selected vendor(s) must be available to provide inspections, statewide, commensurate with the current valid and unrestricted license, as applicable, described in Paragraph 1.2.4., below.
- 1.2.4. The selected vendor(s) must have, or have previously had, a valid and unrestricted license as a New Hampshire:
  - 1.2.4.1. Funeral Director; or
  - 1.2.4.2. Embalmer; or
  - 1.2.4.3. Medical Professional.
- 1.2.5. The selected vendor(s) must respond to all requests from the OPLC for inspections no later than two (2) business days from receiving the request, by:
  - 1.2.5.1. Sending an e-mail to the OPLC either confirming the opportunity to conduct an inspection or refusing if a conflict exists; and
  - 1.2.5.2. Including an attestation indicating no conflict of interest exist between the selected vendor(s) and the provider and/or facility, as appropriate; or
  - 1.2.5.3. Including a statement indicating a conflict of interest exists between the selected vendor(s) and the provider or facility, as appropriate.
- 1.2.6. Applicants must demonstrate the capacity and performance experience to meet the Scope of Services outlined in this RFA.



#### **1.3.** Compensation & Contract Value

- 1.3.1. The OPLC anticipates using Agency Funds for the resulting contract(s). The OPLC may choose to modify the source of funding contingent upon the availability of funds at the time of award.
- 1.3.2. Payment for services will be based on a per inspection basis, as indicated in Table 1.3., below.

Type of Inspection	Per Inspection Reimbursement
Initial Funeral Home or Chapel Inspection	\$250
Funeral Home Reinspection (Every 3 Years)	\$200
Funeral Home Reinspection for Deficiencies	\$100
Chapel Reinspection (Every 3 Years)	\$100
Crematory Inspection Services	TBD

- 1.3.3. No minimum or maximum number of inspections are guaranteed.
- 1.3.4. The OPLC cannot determine how many or what type of inspections will be requested throughout the term of the resulting contract(s).

#### **1.4. Contract Period**

- 1.4.1. The Contract(s) resulting from this RFA are anticipated to be effective February 1, 2023 or upon Governor and Executive Council approval, whichever is later, through December 31, 2024.
- 1.4.2. The OPLC may extend contracted services for up to four (4) additional years, contingent upon satisfactory Contractor performance, continued funding, and Governor and Executive Council approval.

#### 1.5. Mandatory Responses to RFA Questions

Vendors must identify the specialty in which they are licensed, or previously licensed.

1.5.1. **Scoring Applicant Experience** – Maximum score of <u>15 points</u>.

**Question 1 of 4** — Describe, in narrative form, your experience in providing services under the license you currently hold, or previously held. Include any specialty services you provided in your area of specialty that qualifies you to conduct inspections at Crematories, Funeral Homes and/or Chapels, statewide.



## 1.5.2. **Scoring Applicant Capability** – Maximum score of <u>30 points</u>.

**Question 2 of 4** – Demonstrate, in narrative form, your capability to inspect Crematories, Funeral Homes, and/or Chapels. Include knowledge of laws, rules, federal regulations, and ethics codes that qualifies you to conduct inspections of crematories, funeral homes, and chapels. Include any specialty classes taken relative to cremation, funeral and/or embalming services.

1.5.3. Scoring Applicant Capacity – Maximum score of 20 Points.

**Question 3 of 4** – What is your capacity to provide services described in this RFA? Include your written plan to ensure availability for statewide services.

1.5.4. **Scoring Applicant Ability** – Maximum score of <u>25 Points.</u>

**Question 4 of 4** – Demonstrate, in narrative form, your ability to conduct reviews of other professional colleagues in your field without bias.

## **1.6.** Application Evaluation

- 1.6.1. Experience Q1 15 Points
- 1.6.2. Capability Q2 30 Points
- 1.6.3. Capacity Q3 20 Points
- 1.6.4. Ability Q4 25 Points

## Total Possible Points – 90 Points

## **1.7.** Applicant Selection

- 1.7.1. The OPLC may select up to two (2) highest scoring applicants. If more than two (2) vendors are needed to ensure statewide coverage of inspection services, the OPLC may select the next highest scoring vendors until the need for inspectors is fulfilled in accordance with needs of the OPLC at the time of contract award.
- 1.7.2. Should there be a tie in scoring, OPLC reserves the right to decide the winning vendor(s).

## 2. Notices

## 2.1. Exceptions

2.1.1. The OPLC will require the successful Applicant to execute a contract using the Form P-37, General Provisions and Standard Exhibits, which are attached as Appendix A. To the extent that an Applicant believes that exceptions to Appendix A will be necessary for the Applicant to enter into an Agreement, the Applicant must note those issues during the RFA Question Period in Section 3. Applicants may not request exceptions to the Scope of Services or any other sections of this RFA.



- 2.1.2. The OPLC will review requested exceptions and accept, reject or note that it is open to negotiation of the proposed exception at its sole discretion.
- 2.1.3. If the OPLC accepts an Applicant's exception the OPLC will, at the conclusion of the RFA Question Period, provide notice to all potential Applicants of the exceptions that have been accepted and indicate that exception is available to all potential Applicants by publication of the OPLC's responses on or about the date indicated in Section 3.
- 2.1.4. Any exceptions to the standard form contract and exhibits that are not raised by an Applicant during the RFA Question Period will not be considered. In no event is an Applicant to submit its own standard contract terms and conditions as a replacement for the OPLC's terms in response to this solicitation.

## 2.2. RFA Amendment

The OPLC reserves the right to amend this RFA, as it deems appropriate, prior to the Application submission deadline on its own initiative or in response to issues raised through Applicant questions. In the event of an amendment to the RFA, the OPLC, at its sole discretion, may extend the Application submission deadline. The amended language will be posted on the OPLC website.

## 2.3. Application Submission

- 2.3.1. Applications must be submitted electronically to OPLC.Contracts@oplc.nh.gov and the Contract Specialist at the email address specified in Subsection 3.3.2.
- 2.3.2. The subject line must include the following information: **RFA-2023-FDEMB-01-FUNER** (email xx of xx).
- 2.3.3. The maximum size of file attachments per email is 10 MB. Applications with file attachments exceeding 10 MB must be submitted via multiple emails.

## 2.4. Compliance

- 2.4.1. Applicants must be in compliance with applicable federal and state laws, rules and regulations, and applicable policies and procedures adopted by the OPLC currently in effect, and as they may be adopted or amended during the contract period.
- 2.4.2. The selected Contractor must meet all information security and privacy requirements as set by the OPLC.
- 2.4.3. The selected Contractor must maintain the following records during the resulting contract term where appropriate and as prescribed by the OPLC:
  - 2.4.3.1. Books, records, documents and other electronic or physical data evidencing and reflecting all costs and other expenses incurred by the Contractor in the performance of the



Contract, and all income received or collected by the Contractor.

- 2.4.3.2. All records must be maintained in accordance with accounting procedures and practices, which sufficiently and properly reflect all such costs and expenses, and which are acceptable to the OPLC, and to include, without limitation, all ledgers, books, records, and original evidence of costs such as purchase requisitions and orders, vouchers, requisitions for materials, inventories, valuations of in-kind contributions, labor time cards, payrolls, and other records requested or required by the OPLC.
- 2.4.3.3. Statistical, enrollment, attendance or visit records for each recipient of services, which records shall include all records of application and eligibility (including all forms required to determine eligibility for each such recipient), records regarding the provision of services and all invoices submitted to the OPLC to obtain payment for such services.

#### 2.5. Non-Collusion

The Applicant's required signature on the Transmittal Cover Letter for an Application submitted in response to this RFA guarantees that the prices, terms and conditions, and services have been established without collusion with other Applicants and without effort to preclude OPLC from obtaining the best possible Application.

#### 2.6. Applicant Withdrawal

Prior to the Closing Date for receipt of Applications, an Application may be withdrawn by submitting a written request for its withdrawal to Contract Specialist identified in Paragraph 3.3.2.

## 2.7. Public Disclosure

- 2.7.1. Pursuant to RSA 21-G:37, the content of responses to this RFA must remain confidential until the Governor and Executive Council have awarded a contract. At the time of receipt of Applications, the OPLC will publish the number of responses received with no further information. No later than five (5) business days prior to submission of a contract to the OPLC of Administrative Services pursuant to this RFA, the OPLC will post the name, rank or score of each Applicant. Applicant's disclosure or distribution of the contents of its Application, other than to the State, will be grounds for disqualification at the State's sole discretion.
- 2.7.2. The content of each Application and addenda thereto will become public information once the Governor and Executive Council have approved a contract. Any information submitted as part of an Application in response to this RFA may be subject to public disclosure under RSA 91-A. In addition, in accordance with RSA 9-F:1, any contract entered into as a result of this RFA will be made accessible to the public online via the



website Transparent NH (www.nh.gov/transparentnh/). Accordingly, business financial information and proprietary information such as trade secrets, business and financials models and forecasts, and proprietary formulas may be exempt from public disclosure under RSA 91-A:5, IV.

- 2.7.3. Insofar as an Applicant seeks to maintain the confidentiality of its confidential commercial, financial or personnel information, the Applicant must clearly identify in writing the information it claims to be confidential and explain the reasons such information should be considered confidential. This must be done by separate letter identifying by page number and Application section the specific information the Applicant claims to be exempt from public disclosure pursuant to RSA 91-A:5. The Applicant is strongly encouraged to provide a redacted copy of their application.
- 2.7.4. Each Applicant acknowledges that the OPLC is subject to the Right-to-Know Law New Hampshire RSA Chapter 91-A. The OPLC shall maintain the confidentiality of the identified confidential information insofar as it is consistent with applicable laws or regulations, including but not limited to New Hampshire RSA Chapter 91-A. In the event the OPLC receives a request for the information identified by an Applicant as confidential, the OPLC shall notify the Applicant and specify the date the OPLC intends to release the requested information. Any effort to prohibit or enjoin the release of the information shall be the Applicant's responsibility and at the Applicant's sole expense. If the Applicant fails to obtain a court order enjoining the disclosure, the OPLC may release the information on the date the OPLC specified in its notice to the Applicant without incurring any liability to the Applicant.

#### 2.8. Non-Commitment

Notwithstanding any other provision of this RFA, this RFA does not commit the OPLC to award a Contract. The OPLC reserves the right to reject any and all Applications or any portions thereof, at any time and to cancel this RFA and to solicit new Applications under a new Application process.

#### 2.9. Request for Additional Information or Materials

The OPLC may ask any Applicant to provide additional information or materials needed to clarify information presented in the Application. Such a request will be issued in writing and will not provide an Applicant with an opportunity to change, extend, or otherwise amend its Application in intent or substance.

#### 2.10. Liability

By submitting an Application in response to this RFA, an Applicant agrees that in no event shall the State be either responsible for or held liable for any costs incurred by an Applicant in the preparation or submittal of or otherwise in connection with an Application, or for work performed prior to the Effective Date of a resulting contract.

#### 2.11. Oral Presentations and Discussions

#### New Hampshire Office of Professional Licensure and Certification Funeral Inspector Services



The OPLC reserves the right to require some or all Applicants to make oral presentations of their application. The purpose of the oral presentation is to clarify and expound upon information provided in the written application. Applicants are prohibited from altering the original substance of their Applications during the oral presentations. The OPLC will use the information gained from oral presentations to refine the technical review scores. Any and all costs associated with an oral presentation shall be borne entirely by the Applicant.

#### 2.12. Successful Applicant Notice and Contract Negotiations

If an Applicant(s) is selected, the OPLC will notify the successful Applicant(s) in writing of their selection and the State's desire to enter into contract negotiations. Until the OPLC successfully completes negotiations with the selected Applicant(s), all submitted Applications remain eligible for selection by the OPLC. In the event contract negotiations are unsuccessful with the selected Applicant(s), the evaluation team may recommend another Applicant(s). The OPLC will not contact Applicant(s) that are not initially selected to enter into contract negotiations.

#### 2.13. Scope of Award and Contract Award Notice

- 2.13.1. The OPLC reserves the right to award a service, part of a service, group of services, or total services and to reject any and all Applications in whole or in part. A contract award is contingent on approval by the Governor and Executive Council.
- 2.13.2. If a contract is awarded, the Applicant must obtain written consent from the OPLC before any public announcement or news release is issued pertaining to any contract award.

#### 2.14. Site Visits

The OPLC may, at its sole discretion, at any time prior to contract award, conduct a site visit at the Applicant's location or at any other location deemed appropriate by the OPLC, to determine the Applicant's capacity to satisfy the terms of this RFA. The OPLC may also require the applicant to produce additional documents, records, or materials relevant to determining the Applicant's capacity to satisfy the terms of this RFA. Any and all costs associated with any site visit or requests for documents shall be borne entirely by the Applicant.

#### 2.15. Protest of Intended Award

Any challenge of an award made or otherwise related to this RFA shall be governed by RSA 21-G:37, and the procedures and terms of this RFA. The procedure set forth in RSA 21-G:37, IV, shall be the sole remedy available to challenge any award resulting from this RFA. In the event that any legal action is brought challenging this RFA and selection process, outside of the review process identified in RSA 21-G:37, IV, and in the event that the State of New Hampshire prevails, the challenger agrees to pay all expenses of such action, including attorney's fees and costs at all stages of litigation.

## 2.16. Contingency





Aspects of the award may be contingent upon changes to state or federal laws and regulations.



#### **2.17. Ethical Requirements**

From the time this RFA is published until a contract is awarded, no Applicant shall offer or give, directly or indirectly, any gift, expense reimbursement, or honorarium, as defined by RSA 15-B, to any elected official, public official, public employee, constitutional official, or family member of any such official or employee who will or has selected, evaluated, or awarded an RFP, or similar submission. Any Applicant that violates RSA 21-G:38 shall be subject to prosecution for an offense under RSA 640:2. Any Applicant who has been convicted of an offense based on conduct in violation of this section, which has not been annulled, or who is subject to a pending criminal charge for such an offense, shall be disgualified from submitting an Application to this RFA, or similar request for submission and every such Applicant shall be disgualified from submitting any Applicant or similar request for submission issued by any state agency. An Applicant that was disgualified under this section because of a pending criminal charge which is subsequently dismissed, results in an acquittal, or is annulled, may notify the Department of Administrative Services, which shall note that information on the list maintained on the state's internal intranet system, except in the case of annulment, the information, shall be deleted from the list.

#### 3. Application Process

#### 3.1. Overview

- 3.1.1. Application documents must be presented in the order indicated below.
- 3.1.2. Applications must conform to all instructions, requirements and contents indicated below.
- 3.1.3. The OPLC must receive the Application by the time and date specified in the Procurement Timetable in Section 3 and in the manner specified or it will be rejected as non-compliant, unless waived by the OPLC as a non-material deviation.
- 3.1.4. The OPLC will conduct an initial screening step to verify Applicant compliance with the submission requirements of this RFA. The OPLC may waive or offer a limited opportunity for an Applicant to cure immaterial deviations from the RFA requirements if it is determined to be in the best interest of the OPLC.
- 3.1.5. Late submissions that are not accepted will remain unopened and will be discarded. Submission of the Application shall be at the Applicant's expense.



## **3.2.** Application Content

- 3.2.1. A **Transmittal Cover Letter** on the Applicant's letterhead that must:
  - 3.2.1.1. Reference, "RFA-2023-FDEMB-01-FUNER;"
  - 3.2.1.2. Identify the name, title, mailing address, telephone number and email address of the person authorized by the Applicant to contractually obligate the agency or individual;
  - 3.2.1.3. Acknowledge that the Applicant has read this Request for Application, understands it, and agrees to be bound by its requirements;
  - 3.2.1.4. Contain the date that the Application was submitted; and
  - 3.2.1.5. Be signed by an individual who is authorized to bind the Applicant to all statements, including services and prices contained in this Request for Application.
- 3.2.2. **Mandatory Responses** to RFA Questions in Subsection 1.5.
- 3.2.3. **Resume** of key personnel who would be primarily responsible for meeting the terms and conditions of any agreement resulting from this RFA.
- 3.2.4. Licenses, Certificates and Permits as required by this Request for Application.
- 3.2.5. Current Certificate of Insurance
- 3.2.6. **Three (3) references for the Applicant.** The Applicant must submit three (3) written references from individuals or organizations who have knowledge of the Applicant's capability to deliver services applicable to this solicitation. A current OPLC employee will not be considered a valid reference:
  - 3.2.6.1. Each written reference must include current contact information, a description of work performed, quality of work, and dates of performance.
  - 3.2.6.2. The OPLC may contact a reference to clarify any information.

#### 3.2.7. New Hampshire Certificate of Good Standing

The OPLC requires, as applicable, every Contractor to acquire a Certificate of Good Standing or assurance of obtaining registration with the New Hampshire Office of the Secretary of State in accordance with RSA 5:18-a.

3.2.8. Affiliations – Conflict of Interest Statement regarding any and all affiliations that might result in a conflict of interest. Explain the relationship and how the affiliation would not represent a conflict of interest.



## **3.3.** Procurement Timetable and Contact Information

#### 3.3.1. Schedule of Events

ltem	Action (All times are according to Eastern Standard Time. The OPLC reserves the right to modify these dates at its sole discretion.)	Date
1.	RFA Release Date	December 19, 2022
2.	RFA Applicant Questions Submission Deadline	January 6, 2023 11:59 PM
3.	OPLC Responses to Questions Published	January 11, 2023
4.	Application Submission Deadline	January 20, 2023 11:59 PM

3.3.2. All questions and applications must be submitted electronically to:

State of New Hampshire Office of Professional Licensure and Certification Denise Sherburne, Contract Specialist 7 Eagle Square Concord NH 03301 Email: <u>Denise.M.Sherburne@oplc.nh.gov</u> Phone: (603) 271-3052

3.3.3. From the date of release of this RFA until an award is made and announced regarding the selection of an Applicant, all communication with personnel employed by or under contract with the OPLC regarding this RFA is prohibited unless first approved by the RFA Point of Contact listed in Paragraph 3.3.2, herein. OPLC employees have been directed not to hold conferences and/or discussions concerning this RFA with any potential contractor during the selection process, unless otherwise authorized by the RFA Point of Contact. Applicants may be disqualified for violating this restriction on communications.

## 3.4. Applicant's Questions and Answers

- 3.4.1. All questions about this RFA, including but not limited to requests for clarification, additional information or any changes to the RFA must be made in writing, citing the RFA page number and part or subpart, and submitted by email to the Contract Specialist identified in Paragraph 3.3.2.
- 3.4.2. The OPLC may consolidate or paraphrase questions for efficiency and clarity. Questions that are not understood will not be answered. Statements that are not questions will not receive a response.
- 3.4.3. Questions must be submitted by email; however, the OPLC assumes no liability for ensuring accurate and complete email transmissions.



- 3.4.4. Questions must be received by the deadline provided in Paragraph 3.3.1, Procurement Timetable.
- 3.4.5. Written answers to questions received will be published on the OPLC's website on or about the date indicated in Paragraph 3.3.1, Procurement Timetable.

#### 3.5. Validity of Application

Applications must be valid for one hundred eighty (180) days following the deadline for submission in the Procurement Timetable above, or until the Effective Date of any resulting Contract, whichever is later.

#### 4. Appendices

# 4.1. Appendix A – P-37 General Provisions and Standard Exhibits (for reference only-do not return)

## Subject:

Notice: This agreement and all of its attachments shall become public upon submission to Governor and Executive Council for approval. Any information that is private, confidential or proprietary must be clearly identified to the agency and agreed to in writing prior to signing the contract.

#### AGREEMENT

The State of New Hampshire and the Contractor hereby mutually agree as follows:

#### GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.	1. IDENTIFICATION.						
1.1 \$	State Agency Name		1.2 State Agency Address				
Offic	e of Professional Licensure	e and Certification	7 Eagle Square				
			Concord, NH 03301				
1.3	Contractor Name		1.4 Contractor Address				
	Contractor Telephone	1.6 Account Number	1.7 Completion Date	1.8 Price Limitation			
]	Number	[Type here]					
1.9	Contracting Officer for Star	te Agency	1.10 State Agency Telephone Number				
Heath	ner A. Kelley, Finance Dire	ector	(603) 271-0142				
1.11	Contractor Signature		1.12 Name and Title of Contractor Signatory				
		Date:					
		2					
1.13	State Agency Signature		1.14 Name and Title of State Agency Signatory				
			Lindsey B. Courtney, Executive Director				
		Date:					
1.15	Approval by the N.H. Dep	partment of Administration, Division	ion of Personnel (if applicable)				
	_						
	By:		Director, On:				
1.16	Approval by the Attorney	General (Form, Substance and Ez	xecution) ( <i>if applicable</i> )				
	11 5 5						
	By:		On:				
1.17	17 Approval by the Governor and Executive Council ( <i>if applicable</i> )						
1.1/	Approval by the Governor and Executive Council ( <i>g applicable</i> )						
	G&C Item number:		G&C Meeting Date:				
1							

**2. SERVICES TO BE PERFORMED.** The State of New Hampshire, acting through the agency identified in block 1.1 ("State"), engages contractor identified in block 1.3 ("Contractor") to perform, and the Contractor shall perform, the work or sale of goods, or both, identified and more particularly described in the attached EXHIBIT B which is incorporated herein by reference ("Services").

#### 3. EFFECTIVE DATE/COMPLETION OF SERVICES.

3.1 Notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement to the contrary, and subject to the approval of the Governor and Executive Council of the State of New Hampshire, if applicable, this Agreement, and all obligations of the parties hereunder, shall become effective on the date the Governor and Executive Council approve this Agreement as indicated in block 1.17, unless no such approval is required, in which case the Agreement shall become effective on the date the Agreement is signed by the State Agency as shown in block 1.13 ("Effective Date").

3.2 If the Contractor commences the Services prior to the Effective Date, all Services performed by the Contractor prior to the Effective Date shall be performed at the sole risk of the Contractor, and in the event that this Agreement does not become effective, the State shall have no liability to the Contractor, including without limitation, any obligation to pay the Contractor for any costs incurred or Services performed. Contractor must complete all Services by the Completion Date specified in block 1.7.

#### 4. CONDITIONAL NATURE OF AGREEMENT.

Notwithstanding any provision of this Agreement to the contrary, all obligations of the State hereunder, including, without limitation, the continuance of payments hereunder, are contingent upon the availability and continued appropriation of funds affected by any state or federal legislative or executive action that reduces, eliminates or otherwise modifies the appropriation or availability of funding for this Agreement and the Scope for Services provided in EXHIBIT B, in whole or in part. In no event shall the State be liable for any payments hereunder in excess of such available appropriated funds. In the event of a reduction or termination of appropriated funds, the State shall have the right to withhold payment until such funds become available, if ever, and shall have the right to reduce or terminate the Services under this Agreement immediately upon giving the Contractor notice of such reduction or termination. The State shall not be required to transfer funds from any other account or source to the Account identified in block 1.6 in the event funds in that Account are reduced or unavailable.

#### 5. CONTRACT PRICE/PRICE LIMITATION/ PAYMENT.

5.1 The contract price, method of payment, and terms of payment are identified and more particularly described in EXHIBIT C which is incorporated herein by reference.

5.2 The payment by the State of the contract price shall be the only and the complete reimbursement to the Contractor for all expenses, of whatever nature incurred by the Contractor in the performance hereof, and shall be the only and the complete compensation to the Contractor for the Services. The State shall have no liability to the Contractor other than the contract price. 5.3 The State reserves the right to offset from any amounts otherwise payable to the Contractor under this Agreement those liquidated amounts required or permitted by N.H. RSA 80:7 through RSA 80:7-c or any other provision of law.

5.4 Notwithstanding any provision in this Agreement to the contrary, and notwithstanding unexpected circumstances, in no event shall the total of all payments authorized, or actually made hereunder, exceed the Price Limitation set forth in block 1.8.

#### 6. COMPLIANCE BY CONTRACTOR WITH LAWS AND REGULATIONS/ EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY.

6.1 In connection with the performance of the Services, the Contractor shall comply with all applicable statutes, laws, regulations, and orders of federal, state, county or municipal authorities which impose any obligation or duty upon the Contractor, including, but not limited to, civil rights and equal employment opportunity laws. In addition, if this Agreement is funded in any part by monies of the United States, the Contractor shall comply with all federal executive orders, rules, regulations and statutes, and with any rules, regulations and guidelines as the State or the United States issue to implement these regulations. The Contractor shall also comply with all applicable intellectual property laws.

6.2 During the term of this Agreement, the Contractor shall not discriminate against employees or applicants for employment because of race, color, religion, creed, age, sex, handicap, sexual orientation, or national origin and will take affirmative action to prevent such discrimination.

6.3. The Contractor agrees to permit the State or United States access to any of the Contractor's books, records and accounts for the purpose of ascertaining compliance with all rules, regulations and orders, and the covenants, terms and conditions of this Agreement.

#### 7. PERSONNEL.

7.1 The Contractor shall at its own expense provide all personnel necessary to perform the Services. The Contractor warrants that all personnel engaged in the Services shall be qualified to perform the Services, and shall be properly licensed and otherwise authorized to do so under all applicable laws.

7.2 Unless otherwise authorized in writing, during the term of this Agreement, and for a period of six (6) months after the Completion Date in block 1.7, the Contractor shall not hire, and shall not permit any subcontractor or other person, firm or corporation with whom it is engaged in a combined effort to perform the Services to hire, any person who is a State employee or official, who is materially involved in the procurement, administration or performance of this Agreement. This provision shall survive termination of this Agreement.

7.3 The Contracting Officer specified in block 1.9, or his or her successor, shall be the State's representative. In the event of any dispute concerning the interpretation of this Agreement, the Contracting Officer's decision shall be final for the State.

#### 8. EVENT OF DEFAULT/REMEDIES.

8.1 Any one or more of the following acts or omissions of the Contractor shall constitute an event of default hereunder ("Event of Default"):

8.1.1 failure to perform the Services satisfactorily or on schedule;

8.1.2 failure to submit any report required hereunder; and/or

8.1.3 failure to perform any other covenant, term or condition of this Agreement.

8.2 Upon the occurrence of any Event of Default, the State may take any one, or more, or all, of the following actions:

8.2.1 give the Contractor a written notice specifying the Event of Default and requiring it to be remedied within, in the absence of a greater or lesser specification of time, thirty (30) days from the date of the notice; and if the Event of Default is not timely cured, terminate this Agreement, effective two (2) days after giving the Contractor notice of termination;

8.2.2 give the Contractor a written notice specifying the Event of Default and suspending all payments to be made under this Agreement and ordering that the portion of the contract price which would otherwise accrue to the Contractor during the period from the date of such notice until such time as the State determines that the Contractor has cured the Event of Default shall never be paid to the Contractor;

8.2.3 give the Contractor a written notice specifying the Event of Default and set off against any other obligations the State may owe to the Contractor any damages the State suffers by reason of any Event of Default; and/or

8.2.4 give the Contractor a written notice specifying the Event of Default, treat the Agreement as breached, terminate the Agreement and pursue any of its remedies at law or in equity, or both.

8.3. No failure by the State to enforce any provisions hereof after any Event of Default shall be deemed a waiver of its rights with regard to that Event of Default, or any subsequent Event of Default. No express failure to enforce any Event of Default shall be deemed a waiver of the right of the State to enforce each and all of the provisions hereof upon any further or other Event of Default on the part of the Contractor.

#### 9. TERMINATION.

9.1 Notwithstanding paragraph 8, the State may, at its sole discretion, terminate the Agreement for any reason, in whole or in part, by thirty (30) days written notice to the Contractor that the State is exercising its option to terminate the Agreement.

9.2 In the event of an early termination of this Agreement for any reason other than the completion of the Services, the Contractor shall, at the State's discretion, deliver to the Contracting Officer, not later than fifteen (15) days after the date of termination, a report ("Termination Report") describing in detail all Services performed, and the contract price earned, to and including the date of termination. The form, subject matter, content, and number of copies of the Termination Report shall be identical to those of any Final Report described in the attached EXHIBIT B. In addition, at the State's discretion, the Contractor shall, within 15 days of notice of early termination, develop and submit to the State a Transition Plan for services under the Agreement.

#### 10. DATA/ACCESS/CONFIDENTIALITY/ PRESERVATION.

10.1 As used in this Agreement, the word "data" shall mean all information and things developed or obtained during the performance of, or acquired or developed by reason of, this Agreement, including, but not limited to, all studies, reports, files, formulae, surveys, maps, charts, sound recordings, video recordings, pictorial reproductions, drawings, analyses, graphic representations, computer programs, computer printouts, notes, letters, memoranda, papers, and documents, all whether finished or unfinished.

10.2 All data and any property which has been received from the State or purchased with funds provided for that purpose under this Agreement, shall be the property of the State, and shall be returned to the State upon demand or upon termination of this Agreement for any reason.

10.3 Confidentiality of data shall be governed by N.H. RSA chapter 91-A or other existing law. Disclosure of data requires prior written approval of the State.

#### 11. CONTRACTOR'S RELATION TO THE STATE. In the

performance of this Agreement the Contractor is in all respects an independent contractor, and is neither an agent nor an employee of the State. Neither the Contractor nor any of its officers, employees, agents or members shall have authority to bind the State or receive any benefits, workers' compensation or other emoluments provided by the State to its employees.

#### 12. ASSIGNMENT/DELEGATION/SUBCONTRACTS.

12.1 The Contractor shall not assign, or otherwise transfer any interest in this Agreement without the prior written notice, which shall be provided to the State at least fifteen (15) days prior to the assignment, and a written consent of the State. For purposes of this paragraph, a Change of Control shall constitute assignment. "Change of Control" means (a) merger, consolidation, or a transaction or series of related transactions in which a third party, together with its affiliates, becomes the direct or indirect owner of fifty percent (50%) or more of the voting shares or similar equity interests, or combined voting power of the Contractor, or (b) the sale of all or substantially all of the assets of the Contractor.

12.2 None of the Services shall be subcontracted by the Contractor without prior written notice and consent of the State. The State is entitled to copies of all subcontracts and assignment agreements and shall not be bound by any provisions contained in a subcontract or an assignment agreement to which it is not a party.

**13. INDEMNIFICATION.** Unless otherwise exempted by law, the Contractor shall indemnify and hold harmless the State, its officers and employees, from and against any and all claims, liabilities and costs for any personal injury or property damages, patent or copyright infringement, or other claims asserted against the State, its officers or employees, which arise out of (or which may be claimed to arise out of) the acts or omission of the

Contractor, or subcontractors, including but not limited to the negligence, reckless or intentional conduct. The State shall not be liable for any costs incurred by the Contractor arising under this paragraph 13. Notwithstanding the foregoing, nothing herein contained shall be deemed to constitute a waiver of the sovereign immunity of the State, which immunity is hereby reserved to the State. This covenant in paragraph 13 shall survive the termination of this Agreement.

#### **14. INSURANCE.**

14.1 The Contractor shall, at its sole expense, obtain and continuously maintain in force, and shall require any subcontractor or assignee to obtain and maintain in force, the following insurance:

14.1.1 commercial general liability insurance against all claims of bodily injury, death or property damage, in amounts of not less than \$1,000,000 per occurrence and \$2,000,000 aggregate or excess; and

14.1.2 special cause of loss coverage form covering all property subject to subparagraph 10.2 herein, in an amount not less than 80% of the whole replacement value of the property.

14.2 The policies described in subparagraph 14.1 herein shall be on policy forms and endorsements approved for use in the State of New Hampshire by the N.H. Department of Insurance, and issued by insurers licensed in the State of New Hampshire.

14.3 The Contractor shall furnish to the Contracting Officer identified in block 1.9, or his or her successor, a certificate(s) of insurance for all insurance required under this Agreement. Contractor shall also furnish to the Contracting Officer identified in block 1.9, or his or her successor, certificate(s) of insurance for all renewal(s) of insurance required under this Agreement no later than ten (10) days prior to the expiration date of each insurance policy. The certificate(s) of insurance and any renewals thereof shall be attached and are incorporated herein by reference.

#### **15. WORKERS' COMPENSATION.**

15.1 By signing this agreement, the Contractor agrees, certifies and warrants that the Contractor is in compliance with or exempt from, the requirements of N.H. RSA chapter 281-A (*"Workers' Compensation"*).

15.2 To the extent the Contractor is subject to the requirements of N.H. RSA chapter 281-A, Contractor shall maintain, and require any subcontractor or assignee to secure and maintain, payment of Workers' Compensation in connection with activities which the person proposes to undertake pursuant to this Agreement. The Contractor shall furnish the Contracting Officer identified in block 1.9, or his or her successor, proof of Workers' Compensation in the manner described in N.H. RSA chapter 281-A and any applicable renewal(s) thereof, which shall be attached and are incorporated herein by reference. The State shall not be responsible for payment of any Workers' Compensation premiums or for any other claim or benefit for Contractor, or any subcontractor or employee of Contractor, which might arise under applicable State of New Hampshire Workers' Compensation laws in connection with the performance of the Services under this Agreement.

**16. NOTICE.** Any notice by a party hereto to the other party shall be deemed to have been duly delivered or given at the time of mailing by certified mail, postage prepaid, in a United States Post Office addressed to the parties at the addresses given in blocks 1.2 and 1.4, herein.

**17. AMENDMENT.** This Agreement may be amended, waived or discharged only by an instrument in writing signed by the parties hereto and only after approval of such amendment, waiver or discharge by the Governor and Executive Council of the State of New Hampshire unless no such approval is required under the circumstances pursuant to State law, rule or policy.

**18. CHOICE OF LAW AND FORUM.** This Agreement shall be governed, interpreted and construed in accordance with the laws of the State of New Hampshire, and is binding upon and inures to the benefit of the parties and their respective successors and assigns. The wording used in this Agreement is the wording chosen by the parties to express their mutual intent, and no rule of construction shall be applied against or in favor of any party. Any actions arising out of this Agreement shall be brought and maintained in New Hampshire Superior Court which shall have exclusive jurisdiction thereof.

**19. CONFLICTING TERMS.** In the event of a conflict between the terms of this P-37 form (as modified in EXHIBIT A) and/or attachments and amendment thereof, the terms of the P-37 (as modified in EXHIBIT A) shall control.

**20. THIRD PARTIES.** The parties hereto do not intend to benefit any third parties and this Agreement shall not be construed to confer any such benefit.

**21. HEADINGS**. The headings throughout the Agreement are for reference purposes only, and the words contained therein shall in no way be held to explain, modify, amplify or aid in the interpretation, construction or meaning of the provisions of this Agreement.

**22. SPECIAL PROVISIONS.** Additional or modifying provisions set forth in the attached EXHIBIT A are incorporated herein by reference.

**23. SEVERABILITY.** In the event any of the provisions of this Agreement are held by a court of competent jurisdiction to be contrary to any state or federal law, the remaining provisions of this Agreement will remain in full force and effect.

**24. ENTIRE AGREEMENT.** This Agreement, which may be executed in a number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, constitutes the entire agreement and understanding between the parties, and supersedes all prior agreements and understandings with respect to the subject matter hereof.

## **EXHIBIT A**

#### **Revisions to General Provisions**

- 1. Revisions to Form P-37, General Provisions
  - 1.1. Paragraph 3, Effective Date: Completion of Project, is amended by adding Subparagraph 3.3 as follows:
    - 3.3. The parties may extend the Agreement for up to four (4) additional years from the Completion Date, contingent upon satisfactory delivery of services, available funding, agreement of the parties, and approval of the Governor and Executive Council.
  - 1.2. Paragraph 8, Event of Default: Remedies, subparagraph 8.2.3, is amended as follows:
    - 8.2.3 Give the Contractor a written notice specifying the Event of Default and suspending payments, in whole or in part, to be made under this Agreement, until the Event of Default is cured.

#### Exhibit B

# **Scope of Services**

Drafted as Specified in RFA-2023-FDEMB-01-FUNER, Subsection 1.2., Scope of Services

Contractor Initials

Date \_\_\_\_\_

#### Exhibit C

#### **Payment Terms**

- 1. This Agreement is one of multiple agreements for services described in Exhibit B, Scope of Services. *No minimum client and service volume is guaranteed.* The price limitation shall not exceed the amount identified in Form P-37, Block 1.8, Price Limitation for the duration of the agreement.
- 2. This Agreement is funded with Agency Funds.
- 3. The Contractor agrees to provide the services in Exhibit B, Scope of Service in compliance with funding requirements. Failure to meet the scope of services may jeopardize the Contractor's current and/or future funding.
- 4. Payment for services shall be made as follows:
  - 4.1. Payment shall be on an all-inclusive per deliverable reimbursement rate as specified in the table below.

Type of Inspection	Per Reimbursement	Inspection
Initial Funeral Home or Chapel Inspection	\$250	
Funeral Home Reinspection (Every 3 Years)	\$200	
Funeral Home Reinspection for Deficiencies	\$100	
Chapel Reinspection (Every 3 Years)	\$100	

- 4.2. The Contractor shall submit an invoice in a form satisfactory to the State by the twentieth (20th) working day of each month, which identifies and requests reimbursement for evaluations completed in the prior month.
- 4.3. The State shall make payment to the Contractor within thirty (30) days of receipt of each invoice, subsequent to approval of the submitted invoice and if sufficient funds are available.
- 4.4. The final invoice shall be due to the State no later than forty (40) days after the contract Form P-37, Block 1.7 Completion Date.
- 5. In lieu of hard copies, all invoices may be e-mailed to <u>oplc.accountspayable@oplc.nh.gov</u>. Hard copy invoices may be mailed to:

Financial Director Office of Professional Licensure and Certification 7 Eagle Square Concord, NH 03301

- 6. Payments may be withheld pending receipt of required reports and/or documentation as identified in Exhibit B, Scope of Services and in this Exhibit C.
- 7. Notwithstanding paragraph 18 of the General Provisions P-37, changes limited to adjusting encumbrances between State Fiscal Years, may be made by written agreement of both parties and may be made without obtaining approval of the Governor and Executive Council.

**Contractor Name** 

Contractor Initials

Date