

Last Updated: 10/12/2006

**CITY OF RIALTO  
SOLE SOURCE VENDOR REQUEST**

**VENDOR: Aardvark**

**ADDRESS: 1935 Puddingstone Drive, La Verne, CA 91750**

**REQUISITION NUMBER:**

Check reasons for sole source request:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ *Proprietary:* The item is held under exclusive title, trademark or copyright by a private person or company; or a proprietary distributorship.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **X** \_\_\_\_\_ *Standardization:* The City requires the item(s) to standardize parts, design quality, etc. (explain in more detail below).
- \_\_\_\_\_ *Sole Source:* No other items are known to exist which perform the same function.

2. Describe the product/service:

**Project 7 Tactical Entry Vests for Inland Valley SWAT (IVS) Team members.**

3. Describe how the product or service is unique and one of a kind:

**The item is the uniform of choice for IVS Team members. The Project 7 Tactical Entry Vests are made specifically for Aardvark are uniform in appearance for IVS Team members as IVS is made up of three separate police agencies (Fontana, Colton, Rialto).**

4. Is the product or service available from other sources? \_\_\_\_\_ **No** \_\_\_\_\_

5. Can your requirements be modified so that competitive products or services may be used? \_\_\_\_\_ **No** \_\_\_\_\_ Please explain: **We are part of the IVS Team (a regional SWAT Team) that includes two other agencies (Fontana, Colton). This specific vest is needed for uniformity purposes.**

6. Submit a detailed memo explaining the steps taken to determine this is a sole source vendor and justify the need.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: 7/8/2019

**Approvals:**

Department Head: Wendy . COP 7/9/19

City Administrator: [Signature]

Chief Financial Officer: [Signature] 7/24/19

Purchasing Manager: \_\_\_\_\_

**RIALTO POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
**MEMORANDUM**



**TO:** Paul Stella, Lieutenant, via C.o.C.

**FROM:** Steven Wright, Corporal

**SUBJECT:** New Entry Vest for SWAT

**DATE:** June 22, 2019

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Sir,

The following memorandum is in regards to purchasing new entry vests for our Tactical SWAT team members.

In May of 2014, Rialto officers assigned to Inland Valley SWAT – Tactical were issued new entry vests. At the time we had a total of 10 officers assigned to the team. Officers were custom fitted for their new entry vests per manufacturer specification and once completed issued their new equipment.

This month marks the five (5) year warranty expiration for those vests. Since we received the entry vests in 2014, there are only three current officers on the team who were properly fitted for their vest. The other seven officers were given these vests not properly fitted to their body resulting in vests that were too big or too small and potentially causing a safety issue. With a little juggling between officers some were able to accommodate these vests to fit their needs, while other members had to go out and purchase their own vests.

We as a team have been doing research and product testing for several months. With the input from all the Rialto SWAT officers and after testing and evaluating several manufacturers' vests, we came to the unanimous decision in favor of Aardvark's Project 7 entry vest. Aardvark is one of the leading manufacturers in regards to entry vests and have outfitted several local law enforcement agencies. Recently Fontana PD purchased this entry vest and matching battle belt to outfit all of their IVS SWAT officers. We as a regional SWAT team have a uniform/equipment standard. By purchasing the Aardvark's Project 7 entry vest, we will continue this uniformity and professional cohesion.

After speaking to a representative from Aardvark, I received two quotes. The first quote was to see what it would cost to replace our current ballistic panel inserts and accessories in our Protech FAV vests. The ballistic accessories includes new upper arms, groin, throat and collar attachments. The estimated total for this is \$18,558.70. The issue with this is not everyone wears these vests due to improper fitting. Essentially this would not be beneficial to our officers or budget. A portion of the second second quote I received from Aardvark includes their Project 7

entry vest, upper arms, groin, throat, collar attachments. With just these mentioned items the estimated total is around \$23,000 which is a difference of approximately \$4,441 before taxes and fees. The remainder of the second quote is what we as a team are hoping for.

With this said, I am respectfully requesting the approval to purchase all new Project 7 entry vests and accessories for our tactical officers assigned to Inland Valley SWAT. The second quote lists everything our officers would be getting if approved. This will be the most beneficial to our officers and budget. After speaking to Aardvark, our officers will be able to get properly fitted for their entry vests resulting in better coverage and protection while wearing this gear. Each new vest would also come with a new police patch set and six new pouches of the officer's choosing. I would also like authorization to purchase each officer a ballistic battle belt. Working in conjunction with the vest, this adds additional ballistic coverage to the officer's lower back, waist and hips. This battle belt system also acts as a back support system for our officers similar to a work out belt. The battle belt will potentially help prevent injury and ease with stress in the lower back caused by the weight of the officers gear during extended SWAT operations.

Aardvark also mentioned that if we choose not to order various accessories, this would drop the quotes final cost. An example of this would be the throat/collar accessories or upper arm attachments. These attachments are not currently being worn because realistically they are outdated, bulky and cumbersome. Designed to protect against blast or explosive shrapnel (IED's etc), officers who choose not to add these to their order will help save a lot of money.

Thank you in advance for your consideration in this matter. Please contact me if you have any questions.

This memorandum is being submitted for your review,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Wright', is written over a horizontal line.

Steven Wright, Corporal