



Eagle County Health Service District, dba Eagle County Paramedic Services
Public Safety Association Inc.
North Central EMS Corporation, dba Savvik Buying Group
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To Whom It May Concern:

The Public Safety Association Inc. a Minnesota non-profit corporation based in St. Cloud, Minnesota. PSAI's mission is to provide a mechanism to achieve cost reductions for its members, which currently includes over 12,000 EMS agencies in 50 states and several provinces. In collaboration with our lead public bidding agency, Eagle County Health Service District, PSAI creates specifications for public safety products and supplies, which Eagle County Health Service District uses to bid and write cooperative contracts. These cooperative contracts are marketed exclusively through the Savvik Buying Group nationwide. Members of PSAI and Savvik Buying Group are eligible to access these cooperative contracts.

Generally, Minnesota law allows PSAI and Savvik Buying Group municipal members to purchase products and services through PSAI cooperative contracts only if PSAI complies with competitive bidding procedures when awarding those contracts. *See* Minn. Stat. §471.345, subd. 10. It also allows PSAI to award contracts to more than one vendor, provided that the effects of competition are maintained when awarding the contracts. Accordingly, to serve both the PSAI and Savvik Buying Group municipal members, PSAI follows Minnesota competitive bidding requirements found in Minnesota Statutes, Sections 412.311 and 471.345.

Specifically, this process includes:

1. At least 10 days before a bid submission deadline, PSAI advertises the request for bids
 - a. (RFB). The notice states the basic facts regarding the RFB, including where to obtain RFB documents.
2. Sealed bids must arrive at the PSAI office on a specific date and time selected by PSAI in accordance with the 30-day period after the first publication in the local newspaper.
3. A public bid opening is conducted by PSAI executive staff and Eagle County staff.
4. A committee of Eagle County staff and PSAI executive staff reviews the bids and selects the lowest responsible and responsive bids for awards. PSAI strives to provide its members with quality products and services at the industry's best prices.
5. The bid review committee recommends one or more bids for approval and awards contract(s)
6. If you have any further questions, please contact the PSAI or Savvik Buying Group office.