



# City Council Report

**Date:** October 1, 2018  
**To:** City Council  
**Through:** Michael Kennington, Chief Financial Officer  
**From:** Edward Quedens, Business Services Director  
Matt Bauer, Procurement Administrator  
**Subject:** Purchase of a Body Armor (172 sets) for the Fire and Medical Department  
(Citywide)

## Recommendation

Council is requested to approve the award as recommended.

Mesa Fire and Medical Department (MFMD) and Purchasing recommend authorizing the purchase using the Pima County cooperative contract and the lowest quoted vendor, Diamondback Police Supply Co., Inc. dba Diamondback Police Supply at \$262,000.

## Background / Discussion

Violent Mass Casualty Incident procedural changes with associated Ballistic Personal Protective Equipment (Ballistic PPE) and training have been adopted by all East Valley Fire and Law Enforcement agencies. Fire and Medical is requesting City Council approval for the purchase of 172 sets of ballistic personal protective equipment (body armor) to adapt to the changing risk environment.

In response to the increase in both the regularity and severity of shooting incidents in the United States, North American Fire Service and Law Enforcement agencies have adopted new operating procedures to extricate and treat mass casualty shooting patients. The procedural changes associated with mass casualty shootings require changes to Fire / Medical equipment including ballistic personal protective equipment.

Medical assistance for shooting victims has been significantly delayed during numerous mass casualty shooting incidents while law enforcement clears all hazards, converting a Hot Zone to a Cold Zone. It has historically been quite time consuming for law enforcement to declare an area safe (Cold Zone) resulting in patient's condition deteriorating while waiting for medical help. To expedite Mesa Fire and Medical's ability to reach patients after the initial threat has been neutralized but before the patient area has been cleared of all hazards, Fire and Medical is requesting the tools and training to enter a Warm Zone with Police resources providing security to Fire and Medical personnel.

An ad hoc ballistic PPE committee consisting of members from the MFMD Equipment Committee, MFMD Tactical Medic Team, UMFF Local 2260, and Mesa Police SWAT, reviewed nine styles of ballistic vests for use by the MFMD. The committee recommends the Point Blank FRK 360 ballistic carrier with side wing (cummerbund) ballistic coverage and the Paraclete steel plate for torso and back protection. The Point Blank FRK 360

ballistic carrier provides the most intuitive design and the most adaptable platform to fit the diverse frame sizes of the MFMD members in an assortment of color options. The Paraclete steel plate will be the most conducive to storage on MFMD apparatus (most rugged when stored and lies flat/thinnest). The Paraclete steel plate has a 10-year warranty from the date of issue in contrast to the other ballistic plates with 5-year warranties typically from the date of manufacture. The Paraclete steel plate meets NIJ level III+ protection level.

The committee also reviewed four styles of ballistic helmets for use by the MFMD and recommends the Paraclete Tactical Helmet in full cut. It has a retention system (ratchet) and suspension/liner system (padding) to fit the diverse head sizes of MFMD members in an assortment of color options. It provides superior comfort and a low center of gravity and meets NIJ IIIA protection level.

Body Armor is purchased by law enforcement agencies on a regular basis and there are multiple contracts to compare that meets the City's requirements. Fire and Medical, and Purchasing verified the Pima County contract offers the most competitive pricing while meeting the Department's overall requirements.

### **Purchase Information**

Action: Award

Procurement Type: Cooperative Contract Use

Contract Number: 2018211

Contracting Agency/Contract Number: Pima County/Master Agreement 16\*198

Local Consideration: Policy did not apply to this procurement method

Protests Received: None

Funding Source: Fire and Medical Department operating budget

<b>AWARD RECOMMENDATION</b>	
Ballistic PPE per Contract No. 2019211, Pima County/Master Agreement 16*198 and Quote dated 6/5/2018	
Base	\$148,891.80
8.7% Sales Tax	<u>\$12,953.59</u>
Base Total	<u>\$161,845.39</u>
Ballistic PPE Training	<u>\$90,000.00</u>
<b>Total Amount Requested</b>	<b><u>\$262,000.00</u></b>