

1. Has this item(s) already been purchased? **No**
2. Has the vendor ever been an employee of the State of Iowa? **No**
3. What is the item, and what function does it serve? **Recommendations and planning support for the research partner to the grant to develop and validate a PREA Screening Instrument for women inmates.**
4. Explain why the recommended vendor is the only one qualified to provide the requested item(s) at the exclusion of all others, i.e. what makes this vendor uniquely qualified? **The Moss Group, Inc., is the recognized expert at the national level on PREA as it pertains to women inmates.**
5. Describe the research that has been completed to insure that no other competition exists. Provide names of vendors contacted who are unable to provide the item(s) or perform the service. **The U.S. Bureau of Justice Assistance has indicated they know of no other potential vendor with the required expertise in this area. We are therefore unable to provide any other names of potential parties who are qualified to advise us.**
6. Have you requested a contract with the vendor at any time during the past twelve months? **No**
7. How did you determine that the vendor's price was reasonable? **We negotiated activities and resources required necessary for them to carry out planning support and recommendations. Specifically, we prioritized potential activities, and elected to forgo certain planning activities in order to preserve an adequate budget for the researcher.**
8. Which of the following best describes this sole source procurement? You may select more than one.
  - One vendor is the only one qualified or eligible or is quite obviously the most qualified or eligible to provide the good. (Must state how determined.) **Yes. The US Bureau of Justice Assistance recognizes The Moss Group, Inc. as a national expert on PREA as it pertains to women inmates.**
  - The procurement is of such a specialized nature or related to a specific geographic location that only a single source, by virtue of experience, expertise, proximity, or ownership of intellectual property rights, could most satisfactorily provide the good. (Must state how.)
  - Applicable law requires, provides for, or permits use of a sole source procurement. (Must state restriction.)
  - The federal government or other provider of funds for the goods being purchased (other than the state of Iowa) has imposed clear and specific restrictions on the use of the funds in a way that restricts the procurement to only one vendor. (Must state restriction.)
  - The procurement is an information technology device that is systems software or an upgrade, or compatibility is the overriding consideration, or the procurement would prevent voidance or termination of a warranty, or the procurement would prevent default under a contract or other obligation. (Must state how.)
9. Explain how this procurement fits the sole source situation(s) selected above. **The Moss Group, Inc., is a nationally recognized expert in PREA as it pertains to women offenders. The U.S. Bureau of Justice Assistance knows of no other qualified consultant with the level of expertise in this area.**
10. Please define financial impact of Approval: **Approval will allow the State of Iowa to implement PREA grant funds in a responsible manner. Women inmates are an under-studied population nationally; therefore it is critical that we move forward with a consultant who is able to provide guidance and expertise in this area.**
11. Please define financial impact of Denial: **The State of Iowa risks having to either give back the grant funds because we would not be able to responsibly spend that money; OR limit activities under the grant in a way that would enable us to stay within the budgetary scope, but would not result in a quality product.**



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*Experienced Practitioners Committed to Excellence in Correctional Practice*

April 1, 2015

To: Iowa Department of Corrections

Based on our track record, unmatched experience, and a long history working on classification and gender responsive issues, The Moss Group (TMG) is uniquely qualified to provide services in a sole source contract for the Iowa Department of Corrections to support the development of a gender responsive sexual violence propensity assessment for female offenders.

TMG has been the primary firm in the United States for providing training and technical assistance to the corrections field on sexual safety and PREA over the last 13 years, to include working with special populations. TMG has worked in every state in the country and is a partner in the National PREA Resource Center (PRC), providing ongoing work across the country. This partnership provides access to key decision makers in the Department of Justice who are on the forefront of further interpretation and guidance on including all components of PREA training. This unique positioning allows TMG to access resources and provide sound and accurate work products.

Specific to the Iowa Department of Corrections scope of work, TMG has successfully performed related strategies with positive outcomes with a wide range of agencies and clients. Several examples include: 1) Work with Gadsden Correctional Facility in Florida. TMG (including Dr. Pat Van Voorhis) aided in the development and refinement of an assessment protocol to evaluate the assessment, classification and screening process, case and transitional planning for women offenders. Over a two year period, TMG performed extensive assessment, including focus groups and interviews with staff and inmates to evaluate existing classification processes. The outcome included the development of a thorough, enhanced classification and screening process, to include training and processes for case management planning; 2) In 2011, TMG convened a BJA (Bureau of Justice Assistance) two day meeting of national experts to review findings from emerging research regarding sexual safety of women and girls in custody settings. The group, led by TMG, identified the critical challenges to improving sexual safety of women and girls in correctional facilities; identified and proposed gender-responsive approaches to the implementation of selected PREA standards related to sexual safety of women and girls, and made/developed recommendations to the Attorney General and Justice Department that would support and address more effective implementation of sexual safety for women and girls; and 3) With the Georgia Department of Juvenile Justice and DC Department of Corrections (Washington, DC), TMG along with Dr. Pat Van Voorhis and other subject matter experts performed technical assistance to review all classification and assessment processes for women. Comprehensive evaluations and reports were developed providing recommended enhancements to support improved gender responsive practice and processes for the respective agencies. TMG led multiple gender responsive trainings for all levels of staff, and ongoing coaching and assistance to ensure sustainability of these efforts.



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Through partnership with the National PREA Resource Center, TMG performed a series of regional PREA trainings and training for trainers that served more than 200 agencies across the country. Through work with the National Institute of Corrections, TMG has developed quick guide publications for prison and jail administrators on working with LGBTI inmates, as well as curriculum and toolkits to support PREA related training.

One of the critical aspects that contribute to our qualifications is that TMG utilizes a cadre of practitioner consultants to deliver the work, ensuring practical, current and relevant information. TMG Consultant experience ranges from line staff to executive leadership, providing experience unparalleled in the corrections field. We have a certified PREA Auditor on staff, and several TMG staff have been faculty for every PREA Auditor certification training to date.

Should you require additional information, please contact me at 202.546.4747. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Anadora "Andie" Moss  
President