

**Columbus Consolidated Government  
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

<b>TO:</b>	Mayor and Councilors
<b>AGENDA SUBJECT:</b>	Soft Body Armor – The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS) Cooperative Purchase
<b>INITIATED BY:</b>	Finance Department

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It is requested that Council approve purchase of soft body armor from Federal Eastern International, LLC (Jacksonville, FL) for the estimated annual contract value of \$183,340.00, based on previous purchase history. The purchases will be made on an “as needed” basis by cooperative purchase via The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS), Contract #250101.

The vendor will provide soft body armor which will be utilized by Public Safety Officers in the Columbus Police Department, Muscogee County Sheriff’s Office and the Muscogee County Prison.

The purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Request for Proposal (RFP) #250101, initiated by The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS), whereby Federal Eastern International, LLC, was one of the successful vendors contracted to provide Safety Equipment, Supplies and Services. The contract is good through March 31, 2028. The contract available under TIPS has been awarded by virtue of a public competitive procurement process compliant with State and Federal statutes. TIPS is an acronym for The Interlocal Purchasing System. TIPS is a national purchasing cooperative that offers access to competitively procured purchasing contracts to its membership. For governmental agencies such as public education organizations, higher education entities, and city or county governments, membership in a purchasing cooperative offers the following benefits: 1) Access to competitively procured contracts with quality vendors, 2) Savings of time and financial resources necessary to fulfill bid requirements, 3) Assistance with purchasing process by qualified TIPS staff and 4) Access to pricing based on a “national” high-profile contract. The RFP process utilized by TIPS meets the requirements of the City’s Procurement Ordinance; additionally, cooperative purchasing is authorized per Article 9-101 of the Procurement Ordinance.

Funds are budgeted each fiscal year for this ongoing expense: General Fund – Police – Field Operations – Operating Materials, 0101-400-2300-FILD-6728; General Fund – Sheriff – Detention – Uniforms, 0101-550-2600-JAIL-6781; General Fund – MCP – Warden – Uniforms, 0101-420-1000-MCCI-6781.

**A RESOLUTION**

**NO.\_\_\_\_\_**

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF SOFT BODY ARMOR FROM FEDERAL EASTERN INTERNATIONAL, LLC (JACKSONVILLE, FL) FOR THE ESTIMATED ANNUAL CONTRACT VALUE OF \$183,340.00, BASED ON PREVIOUS PURCHASE HISTORY. THE PURCHASES WILL BE MADE ON AN “AS NEEDED” BASIS BY COOPERATIVE PURCHASE VIA THE INTERLOCAL PURCHASING SYSTEM (TIPS), CONTRACT #250101.**

**WHEREAS**, the vendor will provide soft body armor which will be utilized by Public Safety Officers in the Columbus Police Department, Muscogee County Sheriff’s Office and the Muscogee County Prison; and,

**WHEREAS**, the purchase will be accomplished by Cooperative Purchase via Request for Proposal (RFP) #250101, initiated by The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS), whereby Federal Eastern International, LLC, was one of the successful vendors contracted to provide Safety Equipment, Supplies and Services. The contract is good through March 31, 2028. The contract available under TIPS has been awarded by virtue of a public competitive procurement process compliant with State and Federal statutes. TIPS is an acronym for The Interlocal Purchasing System. TIPS is a national purchasing cooperative that offers access to competitively procured purchasing contracts to its membership. For governmental agencies such as public education organizations, higher education entities, and city or county governments, membership in a purchasing cooperative offers the following benefits: 1) Access to competitively procured contracts with quality vendors, 2) Savings of time and financial resources necessary to fulfill bid requirements, 3) Assistance with purchasing process by qualified TIPS staff and 4) Access to pricing based on a “national” high-profile contract. The RFP process utilized by TIPS meets the requirements of the City’s Procurement Ordinance; additionally, cooperative purchasing is authorized per Article 9-101 of the Procurement Ordinance.

**NOW, THEREFORE, THE COUNCIL OF COLUMBUS, GEORGIA, HEREBY RESOLVES AS FOLLOWS:**

That the Mayor and/or his designee is hereby authorized to purchase soft body armor from Federal Eastern International, LLC (Jacksonville, FL) for the estimated annual contract value of \$183,340.00, based on previous purchase history. The purchases will be made on an “as needed” basis by cooperative purchase via The Interlocal Purchasing System (TIPS), Contract #250101. Funds are budgeted each fiscal year for this ongoing expense: General Fund – Police – Field Operations – Operating Materials, 0101-400-2300-FILD-6728; General Fund – Sheriff – Detention – Uniforms, 0101-550-2600-JAIL-6781; General Fund – MCP – Warden – Uniforms, 0101-420-1000-MCCI-6781.

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Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2026 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of \_\_\_\_\_ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen	voting _____
Councilor Anker	voting _____
Councilor Chambers	voting _____
Councilor Cogle	voting _____
Councilor Crabb	voting _____
Councilor Davis	voting _____
Councilor Garrett	voting _____
Councilor Hickey	voting _____
Councilor Huff	voting _____
Councilor Tucker	voting _____

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Lindsey G. McLemore, Clerk of Council

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B.H. "Skip" Henderson III, Mayor