

**Columbus Consolidated Government
Council Meeting Agenda Item**

TO:	Mayor and Councilors
AGENDA SUBJECT:	Integrated Ballistic Identification System (IBIS) for the Police Department
INITIATED BY:	Finance Department

It is requested that Council approve the purchase of an integrated ballistic identification system from Forensic Technology/Ultra Group, (Largo, FL) in the amount of \$357,297.00. This amount includes the purchase of the system in the amount of \$235,251.00 with a five-year warranty in the amount of \$122,046.00.

The Integrated Ballistic Identification System is needed to work in conjunction with the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) which is overseen by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). The system will allow the Police Department to correlate gun violence cases across the country, not just in our local jurisdiction. It will also help make connections between multiple cases that may bring quicker and more affective prosecution of violent crimes.

When a gun is made, the manufacturing equipment etches microscopic markings — somewhat like fingerprints — onto the gun’s metal parts. These markings, called tool marks, are transferred to a bullet or cartridge case when the gun is fired. When law enforcement investigates crimes in which firearms are used, ballistic imaging of such bullets and cartridge cases can be important in solving crime. NIBIN is a national database of digital images of spent bullets and cartridge cases that were found at crime scenes or test-fired from confiscated weapons. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) manages the system and provides the equipment to crime labs around the country.

ATF has contracted with Forensic Technology/Ultra Group; therefore the Police Department must utilize the same vendor for their system in order to integrate with the NIBIN. Consequently, the vendor is deemed an only known source in accordance with the City’s Procurement Ordinance, Article 3-114 and Federal CFR 200.320 (c)(2)(4)

Funds are budgeted in the FY24 Budget for the purchase as follows: American Rescue Plan Fiscal Recovery Fund – Federal ARP – Public Health & Safety – Public Safety – Integrated Ballistics ID System; 0218-691-1100-ARPS-6319-40315-20230.

Funding for the payment of the annual maintenance/warranty will be budgeted in the appropriate fiscal years.

A RESOLUTION

NO. _____

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF AN INTEGRATED BALLISTIC IDENTIFICATION SYSTEM FROM FORENSIC TECHNOLOGY/ULTRA GROUP, (LARGO, FL) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$357,297.00. THIS AMOUNT INCLUDES THE PURCHASE OF THE SYSTEM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$235,251.00 WITH A FIVE-YEAR WARRANTY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$122,046.00.

WHEREAS, the Integrated Ballistic Identification System is needed to work in conjunction with the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) which is overseen by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF). The system will allow the Police Department to correlate gun violence cases across the country, not just in our local jurisdiction. It will also help make connections between multiple cases that may bring quicker and more affective prosecution of violent crimes; and,

WHEREAS, when a gun is made, the manufacturing equipment etches microscopic markings — somewhat like fingerprints — onto the gun’s metal parts. These markings, called tool marks, are transferred to a bullet or cartridge case when the gun is fired. When law enforcement investigates crimes in which firearms are used, ballistic imaging of such bullets and cartridge cases can be important in solving crime. NIBIN is a national database of digital images of spent bullets and cartridge cases that were found at crime scenes or test-fired from confiscated weapons. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF) manages the system and provides the equipment to crime labs around the country; and,

WHEREAS, ATF has contracted with Forensic Technology/Ultra Group; therefore the Police Department must utilize the same vendor for their system in order to integrate with the NIBIN. Consequently, the vendor is deemed an only known source in accordance with the City’s Procurement Ordinance, Article 3-114 and Federal CFR 200.320 (c)(2)(4).

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

That the City Manager is hereby authorized to purchase an integrated ballistic identification system from Forensic Technology/Ultra Group, (Largo, FL) in the amount of \$357,297.00. This amount includes the purchase of the system in the amount of \$235,251.00, and a five-year warranty in the amount of \$122,046.00.

Funds are budgeted in the FY24 Budget for the purchase as follows: American Rescue Plan Fiscal Recovery Fund – Federal ARP – Public Health & Safety – Public Safety – Integrated Ballistics ID System; 0218-691-1100-ARPS-6319-40315-20230.

Funding for the payment of the annual maintenance/warranty will be budgeted in the appropriate fiscal years.

Introduced at a regular meeting of the Council of Columbus, Georgia, held the _____ day of _____, 2023 and adopted at said meeting by the affirmative vote of _____ members of said Council.

Councilor Allen voting _____.
Councilor Barnes voting _____.
Councilor Begly voting _____.
Councilor Cogle voting _____.
Councilor Crabb voting _____.
Councilor Davis voting _____.
Councilor Garrett voting _____.
Councilor Huff voting _____.
Councilor Thomas voting _____.
Councilor Tucker voting _____.

Sandra T. Davis, Clerk of Council

B.H. "Skip" Henderson III, Mayor