



Minneapolis

City of Lakes

Police Department

William P. McManus

Chief of Police

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Mr. Gary Warnberg, Purchasing Director
City of Minneapolis
330 South 2nd Avenue, Suite 552
Minneapolis, MN 55401
March 23, 2005

Dear Mr. Warnberg:

My name is Lt. Tami Aker and I am the Commander of the Minneapolis Police Department's Crime Lab Unit. The Crime Lab has secured a grant to purchase a comparison macroscope for use by our firearms/toolmark examiners. The item that we need is a Leica FS C Comparison Macroscope. The item went out to bid per City of Minneapolis protocol and only one bid was received. I would like to submit this letter as justification for purchasing the macroscope from North Central Instruments, the only company that submitted a bid.

The new macroscope must be compatible with the equipment that we already have and use.

No other manufacturer has all of these features that we need. Fischer Scientific submitted a "no bid" claiming that they could not offer a bid to their competitive advantage at this point in time.

The pricing for this unit is competitive based on research showing that this price has held constant for the past two years. The following three agencies have purchased the same item between the dates of October 23, 2004 and December 15, 2005 and have paid the exact same price as we have been quoted: The Kansas Bureau of Investigations, Missouri State University and the City of St. Louis, Missouri Police Department.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Lt. Tami A. Wampach Aker, Commander
Minneapolis Police Department Crime Lab Unit
350 South Fifth Street, Room 316
Minneapolis, MN 55415-1314
612-673-3456

cc: Nancy Przymus