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Craig P. Orgeron, CPM, Ph.D., Executive Director

Notice of Intent to Certify Sole Source

To: Interested Parties

From: Craig P. Orgeron, CPM, Ph.D.

CC: ITS Project Numbers 49543 and 49544 Initial
CPD

Date: June 2, 2026

Re: Sole Source Certification Number 4757 to provide Electronic Verification of Vital Event (EVVE) System Renewal for the Mississippi Division of Medicaid (DOM)

Contact Name: Matthew Livingston

Contact Phone Number: 601-432-8244

Contact E-mail Address: Matthew.Livingston@its.ms.gov

Sole Source Certification Award Details

Regarding Information Technology Services (ITS) Sole Source Certification Number 4757 for the Mississippi Division of Medicaid (DOM), please be advised that ITS intends to award National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems (NAPHSIS), as the sole source provider of Electronic Verification of Vital Events (EVVE) System Renewal through August 7, 2029 in an amount not to exceed \$450,000.00. Please be advised that ITS will determine if additional products or services are within scope during the certification period and may increase the spending authority accordingly. Should National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems change their name during this certification period, then ITS will determine if a recertification is necessary. For an explanation regarding Mississippi state law, policy and procedures for sole source procurements, refer to Attachment B: Sole Source Procurement Overview.

Sole Source Criteria

1. The product or services being purchased must perform a function for which no other product or source of services exists:

NAPHSIS is a not-for-profit national association representing the 57 vital records jurisdictions responsible for the collection, registration, and issuance of vital records in the United States and its Territories. NAPHSIS provides access to certified birth and death verification services, and Electronic Verification of Vital Events Fact-of-Death (EVVE FOD) software, which verifies the fact of an individual's death from the EVVE FOD system. No other provider offers this software or has access to the EVVE hub for processing queries. EVVE verifies identity by matching against United States jurisdiction birth certificate databases. No other private or

federal database contains this data. Authorized EVVE users send an electronic query to any participating vital records jurisdiction to either confirm the details of a paper birth certificate in hand or to request an electronic certification in lieu of a physical paper birth certificate. A real-time, electronic response from the participating vital records jurisdiction either confirms or denies the match with the official vital records. The EVVE system also flags matching responses that indicate the individual is deceased, an important safeguard that prevents fraud. No other system provides access to a more comprehensive set of vital records than EVVE.

In order to deliver quality health coverage for vulnerable Mississippians, DOM relies on immediate electronic access to vital birth and death records during its eligibility determination process. DOM requires access to such records across numerous states and jurisdictions. The NAPHSIS EVVE system is a secure national clearinghouse that electronically routes queries to the appropriate jurisdiction's vital records office, where a search is made against the database for a match. Numerous other state Medicaid agencies also use the EVVE system for the same purpose.

Since the Social Security Administration's (SSA) Death Master File removed state protected records from its database in 2011, there has been a significant need for a system capable of delivering accurate death information. The EVVE FOD (Fact of Death) System provides immediate confirmation of queries for death records. NAPHSIS is uniquely qualified to provide FOD record checks and verifications due to the immediate responsiveness of the EVVE FOD system. With the system, authorized users can submit an electronic query to any participating vital records jurisdiction nationwide to verify death records.

2. The purchaser must be able to show specific business objectives that can be met only through the unique product or services:

The EVVE system was requested by, and developed for, jurisdictions that struggled to keep up with the demand for birth and death records. As an association, NAPHSIS maintains direct agreements with the jurisdictions and retrieves information directly from the vital records offices' databases. NAPHSIS has agreements with 55 of the 57 jurisdictions for the EVVE system. Currently, 45 states and jurisdictions are fully participating in the EVVE FOD system, with many others nearing full participation.

NAPHSIS provides accurate death information through an innovative and unique matching system that checks queries against the most reliable death data in the nation. As a credentialed customer of the NAPHSIS EVVE FOD System, DOM can meet beneficiary compliance requirements mandated by the Patent Protection and Affordable Care Act (P.L 111-148), as amended by the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010 (P.L. 111-152). The NAPHSIS EVVE FOD system serves a secure national clearinghouse that electronically routes queries to the appropriate jurisdiction's vital records office where the database is searched for a match. Through this system, users can transmit records to jurisdictions across the nation and receive matches within seconds, identifying which individuals are deceased, and when and where the deaths occurred. Numerous other state Medicaid agencies also use the EVVE FOD system for the same purpose.

3. The product or services must be available only from the manufacturer and not through resellers who could submit competitive pricing for the product or services:

The EVVE software is owned and trademarked by NAPHSIS. NAPHSIS is the sole provider that can install the EVVE-SI module at each vital records jurisdiction and configure it to work with the EVVE hub that is owned and supported by NAPHSIS. No other provider has this software or has access to the EVVE hub for processing EVVE queries.

Schedule

Task	Date
First Advertisement Date	06/02/26
Second Advertisement Date	06/09/26
Response Deadline From Objectors	06/16/26 at 3:00 P.M. Central Time
Notice of Award/No Award Posted	Not before 06/17/26

Project Details

The EVVE system was developed at the request of jurisdictions that were struggling to keep up with the increasing demand for birth and death record verification. As an association, NAPHSIS maintains agreements with the jurisdictions and accesses information directly from the vital records offices’ databases. In 2022, DOM determined that ongoing professional services were needed to support electronic verification of vital events for Medicaid eligibility and fraud prevention. This included services delivered through the Electronic Verification of Vital Events (EVVE) Birth and Death system and through the Electronic Verification of Vital Events Fact of Death Nationwide System (EVVE FOD). DOM issued a Sole Source Procurement in accordance with Mississippi Public Procurement Review Board (PPRB) Office of Personal Service Contract Review (OPSCR) regulation 3-206.

On August 8, 2022, two contractual agreements between the DOM, the Office of the Governor, and the NAPHSIS were executed for a one-year term, ending August 7, 2023. In May 2023, ITS issued Notice of Intent to Certify Sole Source Number 4535 to provide Electronic Verification of Vital Events (EVVE) System Renewal through August 7, 2026, and received no objections. As a result, two separate agreements were executed. A Software as a Service Agreement was executed to enable queries that determine whether a specific individual is deceased (fact of death). A Professional Services Agreement was executed to provide certified birth and death verification queries for Medicaid eligibility determinations and fraud prevention services. DOM seeks to extend both contracts with NAPHSIS. Since 2023, DOM has spent \$450,000.00 on these products.

Submission Instructions and Format of Response from Objecting Parties

Interested parties who have reason to believe that the Electronic Verification of Vital Events (EVVE) System Renewal should not be certified as a sole source should provide information in the following format for the state to use in determining whether or not to proceed with awarding the Sole Source contract to National Association for Public Health Statistics and Information Systems.

- 1.1 Interested Party Information
 - 1.1.1 Contact Name, Phone Number and email address
 - 1.1.2 Company Website URL, if applicable

1.2 Objection to Sole Source Certification

1.2.1 Interested parties must present specific objections to the Sole Source certification using the criteria listed above.

1.2.2 A statement regarding the Interested Party's capabilities as related to this Sole Source Certification Request.

1.3 Comments will be accepted at any time prior to Tuesday, June 16, 2026, at 3:00 p.m. (Central Time) to Matthew Livingston at Matthew.Livingston@its.ms.gov or at the Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services, 3771 Eastwood Drive, Jackson, Mississippi 39211. Responses may be delivered by hand, via regular mail, overnight delivery, e-mail or by fax. Fax number is (601) 713-6380. ITS WILL NOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR DELAYS IN THE DELIVERY OF RESPONSES. It is solely the responsibility of the Interested Parties that responses reach ITS on time. Interested Parties may contact Matthew Livingston to verify the receipt of their Responses. Responses received after the deadline will be rejected.

1.4 Interested Party responses should include the following information:

<p style="text-align: center;">SUBMITTED IN RESPONSE TO Sole Source Certification No. 4757-49543/49544 Accepted until June 16, 2026 @ 3:00 p.m., ATTENTION: Matthew Livingston</p>
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If you have any questions concerning the information above or if we can be of further assistance, please contact Matthew Livingston at 601-432-8244 or via email at Matthew.Livingston@its.ms.gov.

Attachment A: Vendor Correspondence
Attachment B: Sole Source Procurement Overview

Attachment A



8705B Colesville Rd, #348
Silver Spring, MD 20910
www.naphsis.org

NAPHSIS EVVE System

March 23rd, 2026

To: Mississippi Division of Medicaid

NAPHSIS is a not-for-profit national association representing the 57 vital records jurisdictions responsible for the collection, registration, and issuance of vital records in the United States and its Territories. Membership includes the 50 states, New York City, District of Columbia and the five territories. NAPHSIS supports members with developing standards, promoting consistent policies, working with federal partners, and providing technical assistance.

The NAPHSIS Electronic Verification of Vital Events (EVVE) system acts as a secure national clearinghouse that electronically routes the query to the appropriate jurisdiction vital records office where a search is made against the database for a match. The EVVE and EVVE Fact of Death (FOD) systems have been developed by NAPHSIS to provide authorized and credentialed government agencies, as well as authorized and credentialed non-government entities, a way to submit a single query or batch of queries for matching against vital records birth and death databases.

The EVVE software is owned and trademarked by NAPHSIS. NAPHSIS is the sole provider that can install the EVVE-SI module at each vital records jurisdiction and configure it to work with the EVVE hub that is owned and supported by NAPHSIS. No other provider has this software or has access to the EVVE hub for processing EVVE queries.

If there are any questions, please contact Caprice Edwards, Systems Director, by email at cedwards@naphsis.org or by telephone at 301-563-6009.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Edwards".

Caprice Edwards
Director of Strategy
NAPHSIS
cedwards@naphsis.org
301.563.6009

Attachment B

The acquisition of information technology for all state agencies and institutions of higher learning (IHLs) is within the scope of the ITS law, found in Mississippi Code Section 25-53-1, et seq., and the policies and procedures established in accordance with this statute, found in the ITS Procurement Handbook posted on the ITS website (www.its.ms.gov).

ITS enabling legislation requires that information technology hardware, software and services be acquired in a manner that insures the maximum of competition among all manufacturers and suppliers of such equipment and services. Accordingly, ITS promotes full and open competition through the issuance of open specifications and the objective evaluation of Interested Party proposals to determine the lowest and best offering to meet an agency's or public university's business requirements. True competition protects the integrity and credibility of purchasing in the public sector and is essential in providing best value and adequate contractual protection for the purchasing entity. In certain limited situations, information technology acquisitions may be sole-sourced.

ITS utilizes the provisions of Public Purchasing Law for Sole Source and Emergency procurements of information technology. Mississippi Public Purchasing Law (Mississippi Code Section 31-7-13) specifies that noncompetitive items available from one source only be exempted from bid requirements (sole-sourced). ITS statute, in Section 25-53-5 (p), permits ITS to utilize provisions in Public Purchasing Law or regulations, when applicable.

Per Public Purchasing law, acquisitions must meet the following criteria to be authorized as sole source:

1. The product or services being purchased must perform a function for which no other product or source of services exists,
2. The purchaser must be able to show specific business objectives that can be met only through the unique product or services, AND
3. The product or services must be available only from the manufacturer and NOT through resellers who could submit competitive pricing for the product or services. The vendor's correspondence regarding this criterion for this project is included as Attachment A.

By policy as documented in the ITS Procurement Handbook, acquisitions of IT services must include the following information to be authorized as sole source:

1. An explanation about why the amount to be expended is reasonable, and
2. An explanation regarding the efforts by the purchaser to obtain the best possible price.

For state agencies, approval of all technology purchases with a lifecycle cost of \$5,000 or less, including sole source purchases, has been delegated to the agency. The ITS Procurement Limits Policies for Agencies (a section in the ITS Procurement Handbook) require a minimum of two competitive written bids or proposals for technology purchases with a lifecycle cost over \$5,000 but not over \$75,000 (not over \$25,000 for projects funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act). Since, for single source items, the procuring agency will be unable to obtain two written bids, ITS must certify all sole source acquisitions of information technology with a lifecycle cost greater than \$5,000.

Institutions of Higher Learning (IHLs) or public universities have been delegated the authority to certify sole source procurements up to \$250,000 lifecycle cost under the ITS Procurement Limits Policies for IHLs (a section in the ITS Procurement Handbook). For the certification of sole source procurements delegated to the CIOs at public universities, the public university must follow ITS' Sole Source Procedure, including advertisement of the intent to award as sole source. Institutions certifying a sole source purchase must ensure the criteria listed above are met and documented in writing by the institution and the Interested Party prior to certifying a product or service as sole source. Sole source documentation must be reviewed and approved by the IHL's CIO for any sole-source certification above \$5,000. All sole source documentation should be retained in the public university's procurement file. Sole source requests above \$250,000 lifecycle cost require ITS approval.

Other than the delegations outlined above, all sole source technology procurements must be certified by ITS.

ITS thoroughly reviews Sole Source Certification Requests, determining if competing products and/or services exist. If so, ITS conducts a competitive procurement. If ITS' review confirms the sole source, then a Sole Source advertisement is issued, giving other Interested Parties an opportunity to identify competing products and/or services. Based upon the results of the Sole Source advertisement, ITS will either certify the request as a sole source or conduct a competitive procurement.