



RESPONSE

Information Technology Modernization Consulting Services

Due Date & Time: March 1, 2024, at 03:00 PM EST



Proposed to:

City of Port St. Lucie



Submitted By:

Cogent Infotech Corporation
Justin Acord, Executive Vice President
HQ: 1035 Boyce Road, Suite 108, Pittsburgh, PA 15241
Email: justin.acord@cogentinfo.com
Phone: (412) 889-7700
Website: <https://www.cogentinfo.com>

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1 FIRMS QUALIFICATION

1.1 COVER PAGE

Cover page to include the Consultant’s business name, address, and telephone number; name and all contact information for individuals that will serve as “Project Manager”, a primary liaison between the Consultant and the City.

February 27, 2024

City of Port St. Lucie, Florida

Subject: Response to **20240019: IT Modernization Consulting Services**

Cogent is pleased to submit its response to the *City of Port St. Lucie. RFP# 20240019: IT Modernization Consulting Services*. For ease of evaluation, we have structured the proposal as requested in the RFP.

Cogent has been one of the most sought “**IT Modernization Consulting**” service providers for over two decades helping organizations in applying industry best practices to improve their IT performance.

Our proficiency spans ideation, discovery, analysis, and strategic optimization of Information Technology (IT), all geared towards propelling the City of Port St. Lucie forward and crafting a strategic roadmap for future technological decisions.

- We have the vision of digital transformation and citizen services, forging a flexible strategy primed for future planning and budgeting of technological investments.
- Through our proven track record, we've showcased our ability in network analysis and security assessment, modifying comprehensive approaches to support clients' networks while prioritizing user experience.

As an industry leader in Information Technology and allied domains, we are passionate about delivering value and seek to learn from every opportunity so that we can improve the services we offer to the City of Port St. Lucie and ensure we meet your future expectations.

The following is the Consultant’s details and contact details of the executive who has the authority to contract with the organization and who will serve as “Project Manager”, a primary liaison between the Consultant and the City.

RFP number and project title	Information Technology Modernization Consulting Services RFP 20240019
Legal Name of the Company	Cogent Infotech Corporation
State of Incorporation	Pennsylvania
Corporate Address	1035 Boyce Road, Suite 108, Pittsburgh, PA 15241
Type of Entity	Subchapter S Corporation
Phone	(412) 889-7700
Fax	(412) 774-1515
Contact Person Details	Name: Justin Acord, Executive Vice President Address: 1035 Boyce Road, Suite 108, Pittsburgh, PA 15241 Email: justin.acord@cogentinfo.com Telephone: (412) 889-7700
Website	https://www.cogentinfo.com/

With our dynamic leadership, supervision, and more than capable personnel, with the utmost confidence we acknowledge that we are ideally suited to accomplish the needs of the City of Port St. Lucie. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact **Mr. Justin Acord** at (412-889-7700) or email at justin.acord@cogentinfo.com

Sincerely,



Justin Acord

Executive Vice President, Cogent Infotech Corporation.

1.2 BRIEF HISTORY

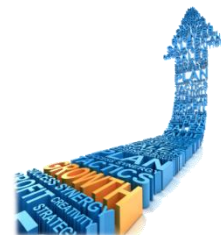
Include a brief history of the Proposer (years in business, annual volume of work over past five (5) years, company ownership, officers, etc.)

The **Cogent** story begins in 2003 at Pittsburgh Pennsylvania. An IT consulting firm that grows extensive experience providing IT Consulting, staffing, developing services and many more to the public sector.



In 2007, Cogent was nominated to the prestigious TECH 50 Awards (Hosted by The Pittsburgh Technology Council (PTC), honors technology companies that excel in various categories) as one of the Finalists in the Service Provider category.

In 2009, Pittsburgh Business Times voted **Cogent** as one of the TOP 100 Fastest Growing Companies. Recently, **Cogent** was selected as one of the Top 100 Privately held businesses in The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by DiversityBusiness.com.



In 2013, To expand reach, **Cogent** opened an office in Austin, Texas and have a team focused on meeting with customers consistently to understand their needs and deliver the absolute best solutions for their IT staffing and consulting needs.

In 2016, Cogent opened another office in the Dallas/Fort Worth area. This office allows us to reach an even larger audience in the northern part. We pride ourselves on providing services at the highest level possible. We have proven ourselves thus far working with multiple public-sector entities since establishment.



In 2018, Cogent was awarded the “IT Consulting Company of The Year” and our CEO and Founder, Manu Mehta, was awarded the “BEST CEO” award by “The CEO Magazine”.

By Today, *Cogent* is a national, award winning IT consulting firm with extensive experience providing Staff Augmentation operates as a *Subchapter S corporation*. Cogent is a certified MBE as recognized by the National Minority Supplier Development Council (NMSDC). The company is among the fastest-growing MBE firms in the United States. The company thrives on long-term ethical relationships with its clients, employees, and stakeholders.

Over the past *five years, Cogent* has undergone a transformative and prosperous period, marked by significant advancements in various key areas. Cogent has consistently demonstrated a commitment to excellence in consulting services, fostering innovation and efficiency. The implementation of robust methodologies and best practices has allowed the company to achieve and maintain a notable milestone: *CMMI Level 3 certification*. This recognition not only signifies a high level of process maturity but also underscores Cogent's dedication to delivering quality solutions and services.

Revenue has seen a substantial increase over the past three years, driven by a combination of strategic partnerships, expanded service offerings, and a relentless pursuit of operational excellence.

Attaining CMMI Level 3 certification is a testament to Cogent's commitment to continuous improvement and adherence to industry-recognized best practices. This achievement demonstrates the company's ability to consistently deliver high-quality products and services, showcasing a mature and well-structured approach to project management and software development. As a CMMI Level 3 organization, Cogent is well-positioned to meet and exceed client expectations with a focus on efficiency, quality, and customer satisfaction.

One of the most notable aspects of Cogent's growth is the substantial expansion of its client portfolio. Over the past five years, the company has successfully increased its client base from 100 to 150. This expansion is indicative of the trust and satisfaction clients place in Cogent's capabilities. The diversification of the client portfolio also highlights Cogent's adaptability to various industries and its ability to tailor solutions to meet the unique needs of a diverse range of clients.

Cogent has now over 20+ years of experience successfully providing similar Information Technology Services to several State Government Clients including but not limited to the States of Texas, Florida, Georgia, New York, New Jersey, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Oregon, and Washington. Cogent thrives on long-term ethical relationships with its clients, employees and

stakeholders. We have a strong emphasis on the delivery of optimum services and solutions to our clients.

Our conviction expresses our upbeat view and represents our boundless potential to build better futures: Cogent, together with our clients, pools all of our knowledge to provide imaginative futures that are more inclusive and sustainable for everyone.



20+ years

of industry experience. Cogent specializes in driving innovative solutions to propel organizations forward in the digital era.



Successfully supporting 65+ **Fortune 500 clients** and 110+ **Public Sector Clients**



Nationally recognized **MBE** certified firm by the **NMSDC**



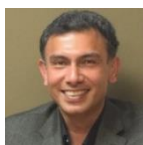
National footprint across all **50 states** serving diverse client base

Principal Owners



MANU MEHTA
- **PRESIDENT**

Mr. Manu Mehta (Founder and President) brings twenty-five (25+) years of progressive techno-commercial experience in the Information Technology industry. He is committed to transitioning Cogent into a leading Information Technology firm. Manu has held various leadership positions in technology, sales, strategy, and general management throughout his career. He holds a bachelor’s degree in Mathematics and a master’s degree in Computers. In the year 2018, Manu was awarded the “BEST CEO” award by “The CEO Magazine”.



NANDAN BANERJEE -
CEO

Mr. Nandan Banerjee is the CEO & co-founder and holds over twenty (20+) years of experience in the Information Technology industry in both advisory and operational roles. His visionary leadership and can-do attitude are propelling Cogent into a fast-growing, premier IT services provider. In his role as CEO, Nandan has full responsibility for Cogent’s global delivery, client servicing, process initiatives, and general management. Nandan has held various management and operational positions throughout his career. He has worked in various roles managing global resourcing and strategic supply chain relationships with diverse companies. He holds a master’s degree in Electronics from the University of Bombay and a degree in Business Management.

1.3 FORM 330

Form 330 (Prime Consultant only).

N/A

Identify whether these key individuals gained experience within the company or outside the company and with whom, years worked. (Please include with Form 330).

N/A

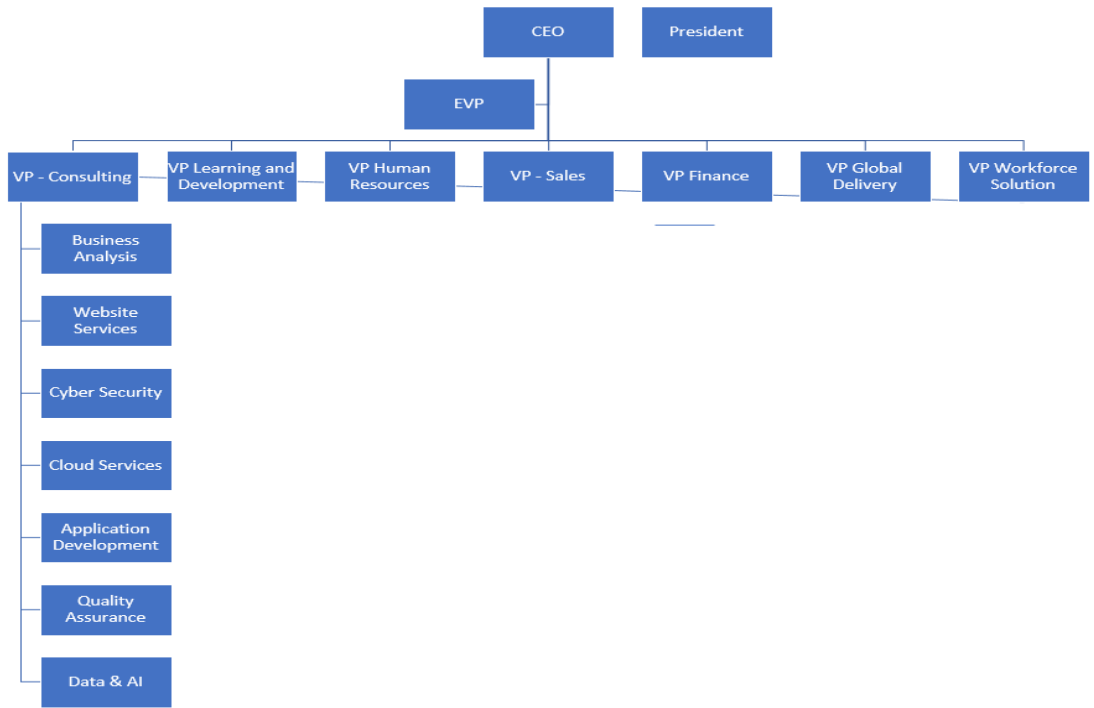
1.4 QUALIFICATIONS/REFERENCES FOR SUB-CONSULTANTS OR SUBCONTRACTORS, IF ANY

Include associated qualifications/references for sub-consultants or subcontractors, if any, proposed.

Cogent hereby states that we are not using any subcontractor or sub-consultant for this solicitation.

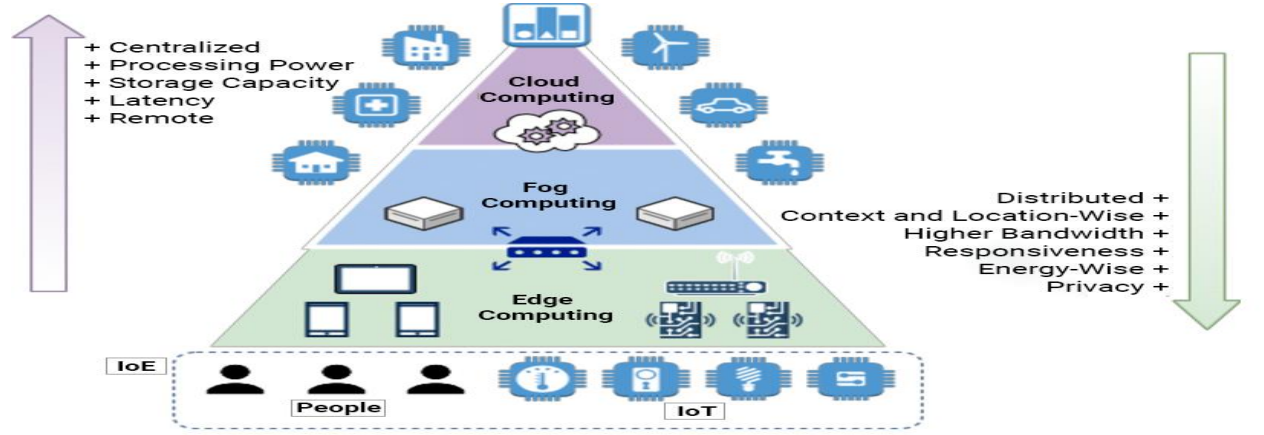
1.5 ORGANIZATIONAL CHART AND/OR WORKFLOW CHART TO IDENTIFY EACH KEY ROLE

Include an organizational chart and/or workflow chart to identify each key role.



2 METHODOLOGY/APPROACH

In today’s world, data is the critical factor that drives the whole development life-cycle in most Smart City use-cases. We believe that an integrated ICT solution in Smart Cities is key to achieve the highest levels of scalability, data integrity, and secrecy within and across Smart Cities. Cogent’s aim will be to apply modern technologies for City of Port St. Lucie and will propose integrated architecture, which will connect *Block chain technologies* with *modern data analytic techniques* and *Edge/Fog computing* to address the current data privacy issues in Smart Cities.



Big Data Analytics

In our approach, big data will play a significant role in the implementation of smart city solutions. We will focus on processing the data gathered through IoT devices to enable additional analysis, allowing for the identification of trends and requirements within the city. By deploying sensors across the city, we will generate massive quantities of data. However, through efficient utilization, these data sets hold the potential to drive numerous improvements throughout City of Port St. Lucie.



Figure 1: Big Data Analytics

To address the City of Port St. Lucie's requirements for research and design-focused efforts, Cogent proposes a comprehensive approach and methodology that aligns with the city's objectives for digital transformation and citizen services. Leveraging recent advancements in cloud and edge computing, networking, and big data processing, our approach focuses on integrating modern technologies to create *scalable, secure, and privacy-preserving solutions* for Smart Cities.

Integrated ICT Solution for Smart Cities:

1. *Understanding Smart City Dynamics:*
 - Cogent will conduct thorough research and analysis to understand the unique requirements and challenges of Smart Cities, emphasizing data privacy, scalability, and integration.
2. *Integrated Architecture Design:*
 - We will develop an integrated architecture that combines Block chain technologies, modern data analytics techniques, and edge/fog computing to address data privacy concerns within and across Smart Cities.



Figure 2: Data Analytics Flow

3. *Privacy-Preserving Framework:*

- Cogent will implement privacy-preserving processing techniques, such as Trusted Execution Environments (TEE) and Federated Learning, to ensure data confidentiality and integrity throughout the data lifecycle.

Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS) Deployment:

1. *Marketplace Development:*

- Cogent will create a computing and data marketplace to facilitate seamless interactions between consumers and providers, promoting transparency and fair resource allocation.

2. *Block chain Integration:*

- We will integrate Block chain technology to establish trust, traceability, and auditability in data transactions, enhancing the security and reliability of Smart City applications.

3. *Automated Resource Provisioning:*

- We will develop automated resource provisioning mechanisms to dynamically allocate computing resources based on application requirements and workload demands.

4. *Adaptive Monitoring and Management:*

- Cogent will implement monitoring and management tools to adaptively monitor resources and applications, optimizing performance and responsiveness to infrastructure changes.

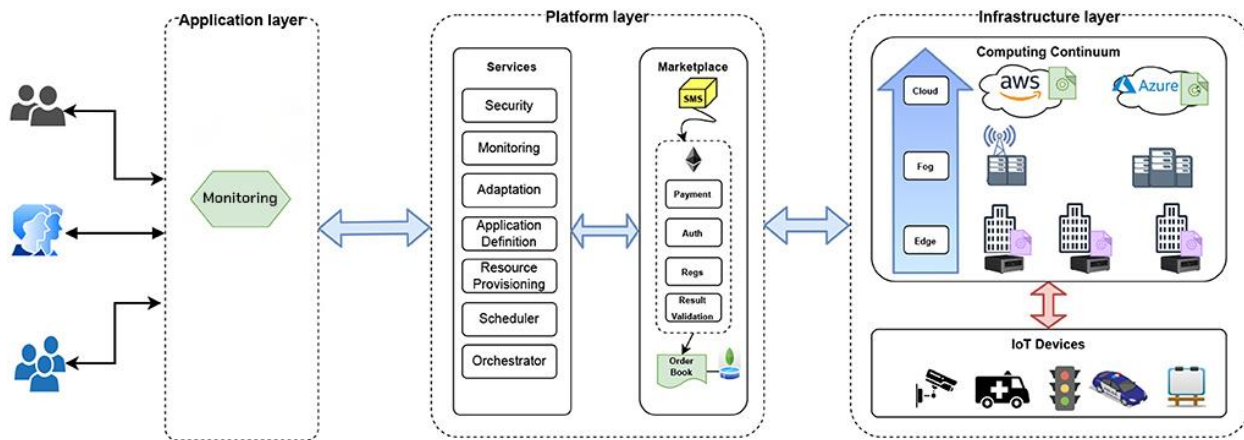


Figure 3: Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS) Deployment

Use-Case Driven Development:

1. *Real-World Use Cases:*

- Cogent will drive the design and evaluation process through real-world industrial use cases, demonstrating the feasibility and effectiveness of the proposed approach in solving practical Smart City challenges.

2. *Iterative Refinement:*

- Cogent will iterate on the design and implementation based on feedback from stakeholders and continuous evaluation of use case performance, ensuring alignment with Port Saint Lucie's goals and requirements.

Artificial Intelligence (AI):

Cogent will deploy AI-enabled intelligent machines powered by Machine Learning. These machines will create a cyber-physical space integrating traffic sensors, industrial control systems, video cameras, environment sensors, smart meters, and more. The data collected from these intelligent machines will be analyzed to facilitate predictive analysis and decision-making for smart city planning.

Cogent envisions implementing five AI applications that will be supremely beneficial to Port as it transitions into a Smart City:

1. Addressing city-wide parking issues through AI and IoT-based technologies.
2. Implementing efficient transport management systems utilizing AI-based applications.
3. Streamlining waste disposal and management processes.
4. Enhancing city and community safety through AI-based applications.
5. Providing AI-based utilities and metering solutions for optimized resource usage.

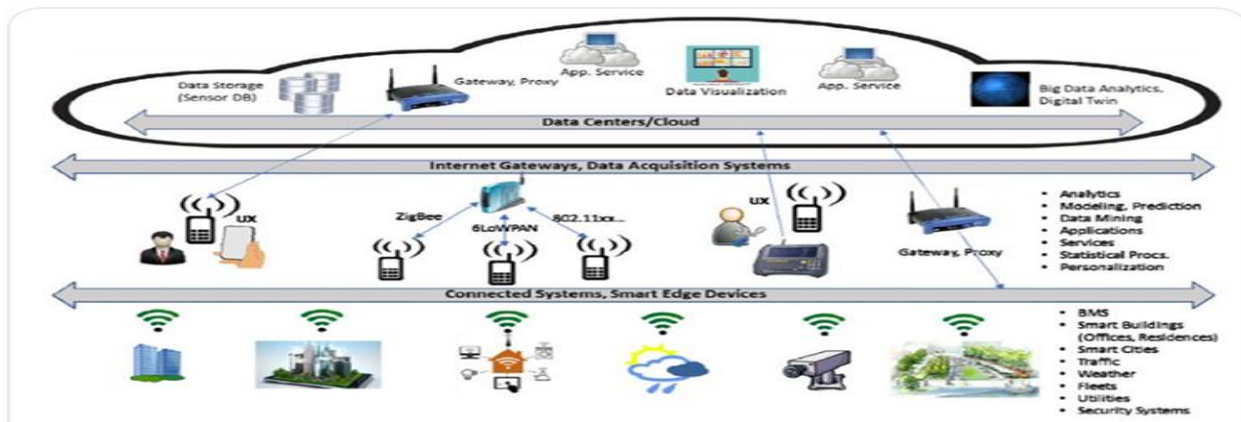


Figure 4: City IoT Architecture

Strategic Advantages:

1. Data-Driven Decision Making:

This will enable data-driven decision-making processes by providing insights into population interests, preferences, and behavior patterns, empowering businesses and city officials to optimize services and resources.

2. Real-Time Monitoring and Optimization:

It will facilitate real-time monitoring and optimization of marketing campaigns, infrastructure, and public services, enhancing operational efficiency and effectiveness.

3. Privacy and Security Assurance:

This will ensure the highest levels of data privacy and security through advanced encryption techniques, secure multiparty computation, and decentralized data management protocols, fostering trust and confidence among citizens and stakeholders.

4. Scalability and Flexibility:

This will offer a scalable and flexible computing framework that can adapt to evolving Smart City requirements and technological advancements, enabling future-proof solutions and investments.

By adopting Cogent's approach and methodology, the City of Port Saint Lucie can accelerate its digital transformation journey, improve citizen services, and establish a strategic roadmap for future technological investments. Our commitment to innovation, privacy, and collaboration ensures that the proposed solutions meet the city's needs and deliver tangible benefits to its residents and stakeholders.

5. Storage: Cogent will upgrade the smart city IT infrastructure, relying on extensive archived and real-time data crucial for optimal smart city functionality.

6. Smart Cars Data: Cogent will leverage the integration of autonomous and smart cars with mobile systems. This integration will enable communication channels that will significantly reduce congestion, prevent road incidents, and enhance navigation throughout the city.

7. Camera Systems Data: Camera surveillance will play a pivotal role, aiding in traffic enforcement, enhancing public safety, facilitating the development of intelligent lighting systems, and serving as a reliable crime detector.

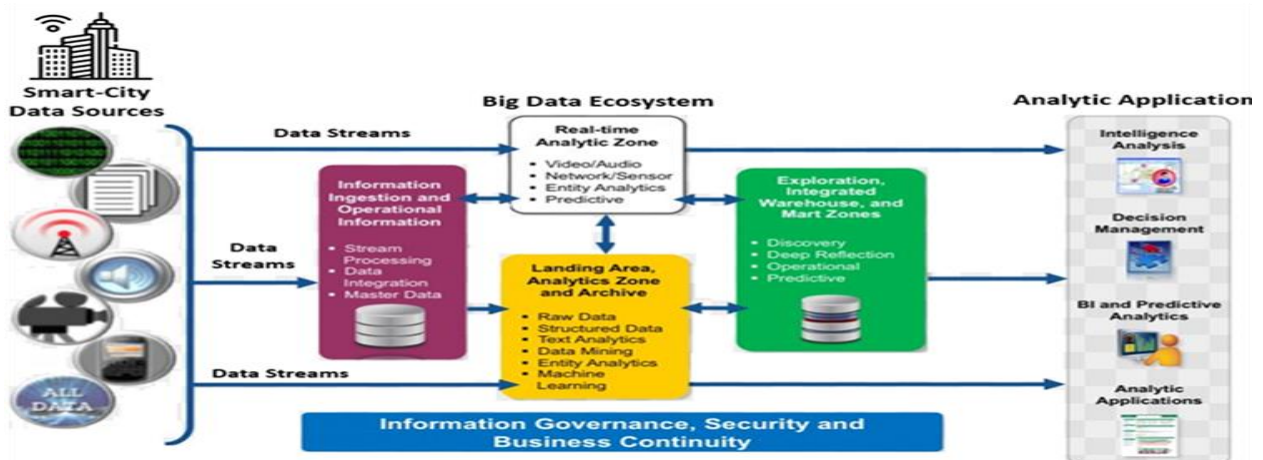
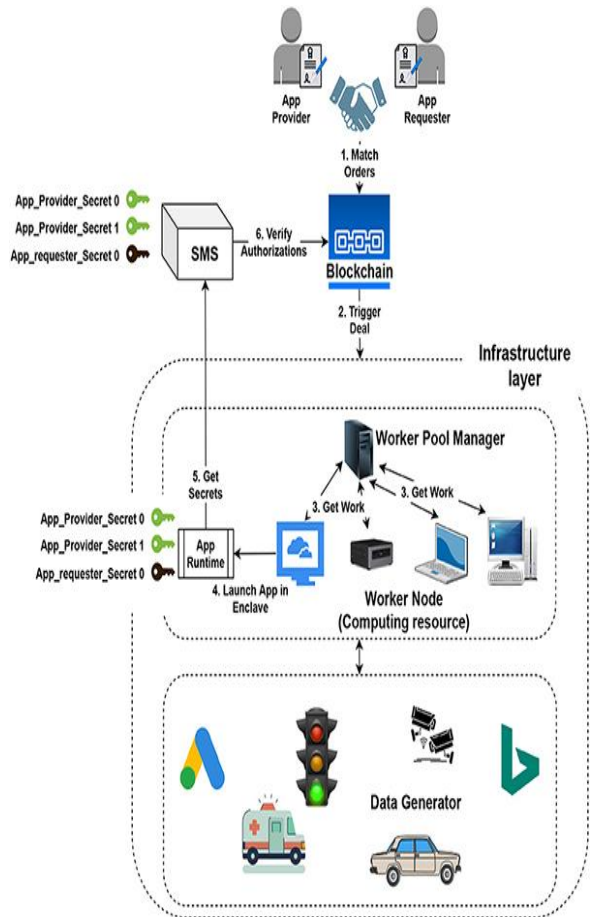


Figure 5: Solution Diagram

8. Environmental Sensor Data: Cogent will propose the implementation of advanced air quality sensors. These sensors will empower the city to detect and address pollutants swiftly and effectively.

9. Locations: Cloud Storage, Edge Computing and Hybrid Data Storage

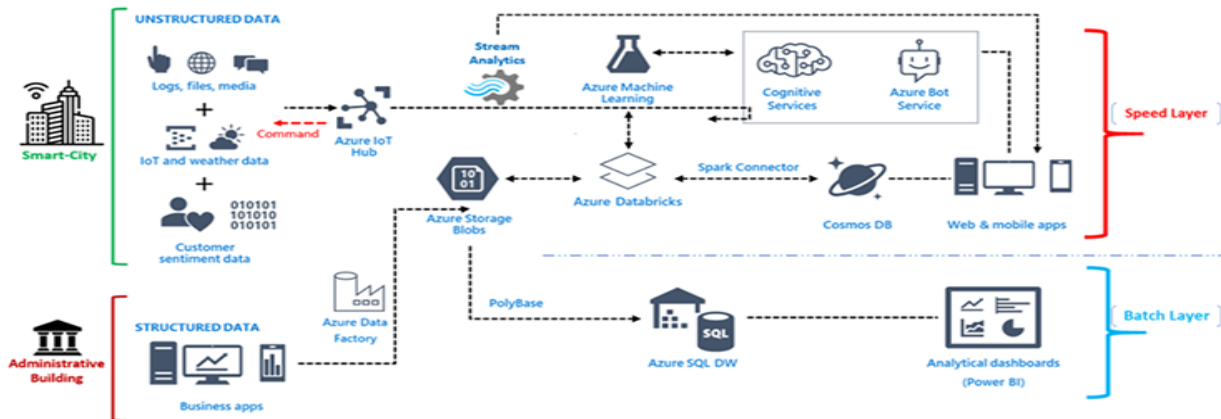


Figure 6: With Cloud Storage

10. Transport and Logistics: Cogent will streamline transport and logistics operations by connecting data analytics and real-time monitoring, optimizing routes, managing vehicle efficiently, and ensuring timely delivery of goods and services, thereby reducing costs and enhancing overall productivity.

11. Utilities: Cogent will revolutionize utility management by implementing advanced metering infrastructure, enabling remote monitoring and control of water, electricity, and gas systems. This approach will enhance resource efficiency, minimize wastage, and improve reliability, contributing to smart city development.

12. Consumers: Cogent is committed to empowering consumers with personalized services and insights through smart meters, IoT devices, and interactive platforms. By providing real-time consumption data, personalized recommendations, and energy-saving tips, Cogent will enhance consumer awareness, satisfaction, and overall well-being.

13. Industrial: Cogent will optimize industrial processes through the integration of IoT sensors, predictive maintenance, and data-driven analytics. This approach will improve operational efficiency, reduce downtime, ensure product quality, and foster innovation, driving economic growth and competitiveness in industrial sectors.

14. Environment: Cogent will implement comprehensive environmental monitoring and management systems to safeguard natural resources, mitigate pollution, and combat climate change. By leveraging sensor networks, predictive modeling, and real-time data analysis, Cogent aims to promote sustainable practices and preserve ecological balance.

15. Agriculture: Cogent will revolutionize agriculture through precision farming techniques, leveraging IoT sensors, drones, and satellite imagery to monitor soil health, optimize irrigation, and maximize crop yields. By providing farmers with actionable insights and decision support tools, Cogent will enhance agricultural productivity, food security, and rural livelihoods.

16. Smart Buildings: Cogent will transform buildings into intelligent, interconnected ecosystems by integrating IoT devices, energy management systems, and smart controls. This approach will optimize energy consumption, improve occupant comfort, and enhance operational efficiency, creating sustainable and resilient urban environments for inhabitants.







<p>Transport & Logistics</p>  <p>Fleet management, Goods tracking</p>	<p>Utilities</p>  <p>Smart metering, Smart grid management</p>	<p>Smart cities</p>  <p>Parking sensors, Waste management, etc.</p>	<p>Smart building</p>  <p>Smoke detector, Home automation</p>
<p>Consumers</p>  <p>Wearables Kids/senior tracker</p>	<p>Industrial</p>  <p>Process monitoring & control, Maintenance monitoring</p>	<p>Environment</p>  <p>Food monitoring/alerts, Environmental monitoring</p>	<p>Agriculture</p>  <p>Climate/agriculture monitoring, Livestock tracking</p>

Figure 7: Strategic Advantages

3 REFERENCES

References from 3 agencies the applicant has contracted with for Information Technology Modernization Services in the last 10 years.

Client: Austin Energy	
Reference Details:	Name: Debbie Gonzalez Address: 2500 Montopolis Dr, Austin, TX 78741 Phone: 512-322-6321 Email: Debbie.Gonzalez@AustinEnergy.com
Description of services provided: Cogent provided comprehensive IT modernization support to Austin Energy, including facilitating requirements gathering sessions, creating models, use cases, and process flows, converting requirements into business cases and statements of work, evaluating system compatibility, analyzing system effectiveness, performing cost-benefit analyses, researching technology products, delivering reports, coordinating tests and training, aiding in project planning, conducting meetings, and defining system goals with stakeholders.	

Client: New York Power Authority	
Reference Details:	Name: Christine Prendergast Address: 123 Main Street, White Plains, NY 10601 Phone: (914) 681-6612 Email: Christine.Prendergast@nypa.gov
Description of services provided: Cogent supported the users of the infrastructure. They worked with developers and the IT staff to oversee the code releases. Managed source code in a centralized configuration management system. Triaged networking issues to determine if and when the Networking group needs to be involved. Implemented best practices and tools, related to DevOps. Developed software documentation to verify compliance with software CM plans and procedures. Implemented deployment processes that entail packaging releases, pushing releases, and executing installs. Developed and maintained Continuous Integration processes, tools, and execution; including test frameworks, code quality analysis, etc.	

Client: State of Florida	
Reference Details:	Name: Alan Busenbark Address: 801 N Broadway Ave, Bartow, FL 33830 Phone: (850) 414-4790 Email: Alan.Busenbark@dot.state.fl.us
Description of services provided: Cogent evaluated and recommended tools and technologies that addressed complicated enterprise applications ecosystem problems. Interacted with business unit and IT leaders to define infrastructure support initiatives and solutions for improving service efficiency and effectiveness. Translated these business requirements into functional requirements for solutioning. Created and implemented of short-term and long-term data strategy roadmap to support TDC's strategic goals. Evaluated and enhanced TDC's applications to work seamlessly in a single tenant on-premises and cloud architecture as well as multi-tenant SaaS architecture in compliance with State of Florida Privacy Laws, PCI-DSS standards, and NIST Cybersecurity Framework. Ensured all infrastructure and architecture production, Disaster Recovery, and other environments (Test/QA) were documented, properly vetted, and followed NIST Cybersecurity, ITIL Framework, and PCI-DSS Compliance Standards. Worked with functional teams to design/architect TDC's applications underlying Windows, Unix/Linux, VMWare, Storage, Backup, and environment to increase availability and performance. Analyzed and enhanced monitoring tools and technologies to benchmark and solve complex enterprise	


application performance and problem resolution. Developed and maintained playbooks to support and restore production, disaster recovery including cloud and hybrid environments.

4 COST

Completed Cost Work Sheet.

Cogent appreciates the opportunity to participate in this solicitation. We attempt to keep staff compensation in the higher percentiles, minimizing retention/attrition; we have kept our margins low and passed those savings to the City of Port St. Lucie.

Deliverable	Roles	Hourly Cost	GM	Rate
1	Project Manager	\$70.00	38%	\$89.70
2	Azure Solution Architect	\$72.00	38%	\$99.36
3	AWS Solution Architect	\$71.00	38%	\$97.98
4	Cloud Security Engineer	\$70.00	38%	\$96.60
5	Data Security Engineer	\$70.00	38%	\$99.36
6	Data Architect	\$75.00	38%	\$100.74
7	BI Developer	\$68.00	38%	\$81.42
8	Data Analyst	\$60.00	38%	\$78.66
9	Database Administrator	\$60.00	38%	\$75.90
10	Data Engineer	\$60.00	38%	\$82.80
11	Data Governance Specialist	\$60.00	38%	\$82.80
12	IoT Architect	\$75.00	38%	\$97.98
13	IoT Developer	\$60.00	38%	\$77.28
14	IoT Solutions Engineer	\$62.00	38%	\$88.32

Contractor Signature: 

Contractor Name: Cogent Infotech Corporation

Contractor Phone Number: 412-889-7700

5 ADDITIONAL REQUIRED PROPOSAL SUBMITTAL FORMS

Additional forms required to be completed with the submitted proposal can be found in Attachment B. Please attach additional sheets if necessary to provide all of the required information.

5.1 CONSULTANT'S GENERAL INFORMATION WORK SHEET

CONTRACTOR'S GENERAL INFORMATION WORK SHEET
E-RFP #20240019

It is understood and agreed that the following information is to be used by the City to determine the qualifications of prospective Contractor to perform the work required. The Contractor waives any claim against the City that might arise with respect to any decision concerning the qualifications of the Contractor.

The undersigned attests to the truth and accuracy of all statements made on this questionnaire. Also, the undersigned hereby authorizes any public official, Engineer, Surety, bank, material or equipment manufacturer, or distributor, or any person, firm or corporation to furnish the City any pertinent information requested by the City deemed necessary to verify the information on this questionnaire.

Dated at 1800 NW Corporate Boulevard, Suite 130, Boca Raton, FL 33431, this 23 day of February, 2024
 (Location)

Name of Organization/Contractor: Cogent Infotech Corporation

By: Justin Acord, Executive Vice President
 Name and Title

1. Corporation, Partnership, Joint Venture, Individual or other? Subchapter S Corporation

2. Firm's name and main office address, telephone, and fax numbers

Name: Cogent Infotech Corporation

Address: 1035 Boyce Road, Suite 108, Pittsburgh, PA 15241

Telephone Number: (412) 889-7700

Fax Number: (412) 774-1515

3. Contact person: Justin Acord Email: Justin.acord@cogentinfo.com

4. Firm's previous names (if any). N/A

5. How many years has your organization been in business? 20+

6. Is the firm claiming Local Preference under City Ordinance 35.14 ? YES / NO

7. **ADDENDUM ACKNOWLEDGMENT** - Bidder acknowledges that the following addenda have been received and are included in its proposal/bid:

Addendum Number	Date Issued	Addendum Number	Date Issued
1	01-25-2024		
2	02-20-2024		
3	02-21-2024		

8. Has the Contractor or any of its principals ever been declared bankrupt or reorganized under Chapter 11 or put into receivership?

Yes () No (✓)

If yes, please explain:

9. List any lawsuits pending or completed within the past five (5) years involving the corporation, partnership or individuals with more than ten percent (10 %) interest:

N/A

(N/A is not an acceptable answer - insert lines if needed)

10. List any judgments from lawsuits in the last five (5) years:

N/A

(N/A is not an acceptable answer - insert lines if needed)

11. List any criminal violations and/or convictions of the Proposer and/or any of its principals:

N/A

(N/A is not an acceptable answer - insert lines if needed)

Signature 

Executive Vice President
Title

5.2 CONE OF SILENCE FORM



NOTICE TO ALL PROPOSERS:

To ensure fair consideration is given for all Proposers, it must be clearly understood that upon release of the proposal and during the proposal process, firms, and their employees of related companies as well as paid or unpaid personnel acting on their behalf shall not contact or participate in any type of contact with City employees, department heads or elected officials, up to and including the Mayor and City Council. The "Cone of Silence" is in effect for this solicitation from the date the solicitation is advertised on DemandStar, until the time an award decision has been approved by City Council and fully executed by all parties. Information about the Cone of Silence can be found under the City of Port St. Lucie Ordinance 20-15, Section 35.13. Contact with anyone other than the Issuing Officer may result in the vendor being disqualified. All contact must be coordinated through India Barr, Issuing Officer, for the procurement of these services.

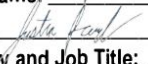
All questions regarding this Solicitation are to be submitted in writing to Nadia Tourjee, Procurement Agent I with the Procurement Management Department via e-mail ibarr@cityofpsl.com, or by phone 772-344-4055 Please reference the Solicitation number on all correspondence to the City.

All questions, comments and requests for clarification must reference the Solicitation number on all correspondence to the City. Any oral communications shall be considered unofficial and non-binding.

Only written responses to written communication shall be considered official and binding upon the City. The City reserves the right, at its sole discretion, to determine appropriate and adequate responses to the written comments, questions, and requests for clarification.

*NOTE: All addendums and/or any other correspondence before bid close date (general information, question and responses) to this solicitation will be made available exclusively through the DemandStar's Website for retrieval. All notice of intent to award documentation will be published on the City Clerk's Website. Proposers are solely responsible for frequently checking these websites for updates to this solicitation.

I understand and shall fully comply with all requirements of City of Port. St. Lucie Ordinance .

Typed Name: Justin Acord _____
Signed:  _____
Company and Job Title: Cogent Infotech Corporation, Executive Vice President _____
Date: 2/23/2024 _____

5.3 CONSULTANT'S CODE OF ETHICS



E-RFP #20240019 CONTRACTOR'S CODE OF ETHICS

The City of Port St Lucie ("City"), through its Procurement Management Department ("Procurement Management Department") is committed to a procurement process that fosters fair and open competition, is conducted under the highest ethical standards, and enjoys the complete confidence of the public. To achieve these purposes, Procurement Management Department requires each vendor who seeks to do business with the City to subscribe to this Contractor's Code of Ethics.

- ◆ A Contractor's bid or proposal will be competitive, consistent, and appropriate to the bid documents.
- ◆ A Contractor will not discuss or consult with other Vendors intending to bid on the same contract or similar City contract for the purpose of limiting competition. A Vendor will not make any attempt to induce any individual or entity to submit or not submit a bid or proposal.
- ◆ Contractor will not disclose the terms of its bids or proposal, directly or indirectly, to any other competing Vendor prior to the bid or proposal closing date.
- ◆ Contractor will completely perform any contract awarded to it at the contracted price pursuant to the terms set forth in the contract.
- ◆ Contractor will submit timely, accurate and appropriate invoices for goods and/or services actually performed under the contract.
- ◆ Contractor will not offer or give any gift, item, or service of value, directly or indirectly, to a City employee, City official, employee family member or other vendor contracted by the City.
- ◆ Contractor will not cause, influence, or attempt to cause or influence, any City employee or City Official, which might tend to impair his/her objectivity or independence of judgment; or to use, or attempt to use, his/her official position to secure any unwarranted privileges or advantages for that Vendor or for any other person.
- ◆ Contractor will disclose to the City any direct or indirect personal interests a City employee or City official holds as it relates to a Vendor contracted by the City.
- ◆ Contractor must comply with all applicable laws, codes or regulations of the countries, states and localities in which they operate. This includes, but is not limited to, laws and regulations relating to environmental, occupational health and safety, and labor practices. In addition, Contractor must require their suppliers

(including temporary labor agencies) to do the same. Contractor must conform their practices to any published standards for their industry. Compliance with laws, regulations and practices include, but are not limited to the following:

- Obtaining and maintaining all required environmental permits. Further, Contractor will endeavor to minimize natural resource consumption through conservation, recycling, and substitution methods.
- Providing workers with a safe working environment, which includes identifying and evaluating workplace risks and establishing processes for which employee can report health and safety incidents, as well as providing adequate safety training.
- Providing workers with an environment free of discrimination, harassment, and abuse, which includes establishing a written antidiscrimination and anti-bullying/harassment policy, as well as clearly noticed policies pertaining to forced labor, child labor, wage and hours, and freedom of association.

Name of Organization/Proposer Cogent Infotech Corporation

Signature 

Printed Name and Title Justin Acord, Executive Vice President

Date 2/23/2024

DISCLAIMER: This Code of Ethics is intended as a reference and procedural guide to contractors. The information it contains should not be interpreted to supersede any law or regulation, nor does it supersede the applicable contractor contract. In the case of any discrepancies between it and the law, regulation(s) and/or contractor contract, the law, regulatory provision(s) and/or vendor contract shall prevail.

5.4 E-VERIFY FORM



Supplier/Consultant acknowledges and agrees to the following:

1. Shall utilize the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify system to verify the employment eligibility of all new employees hired by the Supplier/Consultant during the term of the contract; and
2. Shall expressly require any subcontractors performing work or providing services pursuant to the state contract to likewise utilize the U.S. Department of Homeland Security's E-Verify system to verify the employment eligibility of all new employees hired by the subcontractor during the contract term.
3. The Contractor hereby represents that it is in compliance with the requirements of Sections 448.09 and 448.095, Florida Statutes. The Contractor further represents that it will remain in compliance with the requirements of Sections 448.09 and 448.095 Florida Statutes, during the term of this contract and all attributed renewals.
4. The Contractor hereby warrants that it has not had a contract terminated by a public employer for violating Section 448.095, Florida Statutes, within the year preceding the effective date of this contract. If the Contractor has a contract terminated by a public employer for any such violation during the term of this contract, it must provide immediate notice thereof to the City.

E-Verify Company Identification Number 297308

Date of Authorization 01/18/2010

Name of Contractor Cogent Infotech Corporation

Name of Project Information Technology Modernization Consulting Services

Solicitation Number (If Applicable) 20240019

I hereby declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Executed on February, 28, 2024 in Irving (city), Texas (state).



Signature of Authorized Officer

Justin Acord, Executive Vice President

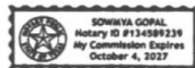
Printed Name and Title of Authorized Officer or Agent

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN BEFORE ME

ON THIS THE 28th DAY OF February, 2024.

NOTARY PUBLIC Sowmya Gopal

My Commission Expires: 10/04/2027



Attachment B

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RFP #20240019

5.5 NON-COLLUSION AFFIDAVIT



State of Texas _____ }

County of Collin _____ }

Justin Acord _____, being first duly sworn, disposes and says that:
(Name/s)

1. They are Executive Vice President of Cogent Infotech Corporation the Proposer that
(Title) (Name of Company)

has submitted the attached PROPOSAL;

2. He is fully informed respecting the preparation and contents of the attached proposal and of all pertinent circumstances respecting such PROPOSAL;

3. Such Proposal is genuine and is not a collusive or sham Proposal;

4. Neither the said Proposer nor any of its officers, partners, owners, agents, representatives, employees or parties in interest, including this affiant, has in any way colluded, conspired, connived or agreed, directly or indirectly with any other Proposer, firm or person to submit a collusive or sham Proposal in connection with the contract for which the attached proposal has been submitted or to refrain from proposing in connection with such Contract or has in any manner, directly or indirectly, sought by agreement or collusion or communication or conference with any other Proposer, firm or person to fix the price or prices in the attached Proposal or of any other Proposer, or to secure through any collusion, conspiracy, connivance or unlawful agreement any advantage against the City of Port St. Lucie or any person interested in the proposed Contract; and

5. The price or prices quoted in the attached Proposal are fair and proper and are not tainted by any collusion, conspiracy, connivance or unlawful agreement on the part of the Proposer or any of its agents, representatives, owners, employees, or parties in interest, including this affiant.

(Signed)  _____

(Title) Executive Vice President _____



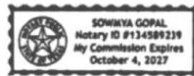
~~STATE OF FLORIDA~~ } State of Texas
~~COUNTY OF ST. LUCIE~~ } County of Collier SS:

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this (Date) 02/29/2023

by: Justin Acord who is personally known to me or who has produced
Driver's License as identification and who did (did not) take an oath.
Commission No. 134589239

Notary Print: Sowmya Gopal

Notary Signature: Sowmya Gopal



5.6 DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE FORM




**DRUG-FREE WORKPLACE FORM
E-RFP #20240019**

The undersigned vendor in accordance with Florida Statute 287.087 hereby certifies that

Cogent Infotech Corporation does:
(Name of Business)

1. Publish a statement notifying employees that the unlawful manufacture, distribution, dispensing, possession, or use of a controlled substance is prohibited in the workplace and specifying the actions that will be taken against employees for violations of such prohibition.
2. Inform employees about the dangers of drug abuse in the workplace, the business's policy of maintaining a drug-free workplace, any available drug counseling, rehabilitation, and employee assistance programs, and the penalties that may be imposed upon employees for drug abuse violations.
3. Give each employee engaged in providing the commodities or contractual services that are under proposal a copy of the statement specified in subsection (1).
4. In the statement specified in subsection (1), notify the employees that, as a condition of working on the commodities or contractual services that are under proposal, the employee will abide by the terms of the statement and will notify the employer of any conviction of, or plea of guilty or nolo contendere to, any violation of Chapter 893 Florida Statutes or of any controlled substance law of the United States or any state, for a violation occurring in the workplace no later than five (5) days after such conviction.
5. Impose a sanction on or require the satisfactory participation in a drug abuse assistance or rehabilitation program if such is available in the employee's community, by any employee who is so convicted.
6. Make a good faith effort to continue to maintain a drug-free workplace through implementation of this section.

As the person authorized to sign the statement, I certify that this firm complies fully with the above requirements.



Contractor's Signature
2/23/2024

Date

5.7 VENDOR CERTIFICATION REGARDING SCRUTINIZED COMPANIES FORM

VENDOR CERTIFICATION REGARDING SCRUTINIZED COMPANIES' LISTS

Vendor Name: Cogent Infotech Corporation
Vendor FEIN: 32-0083904
Authorized Representative's Name: Justin Acord
Authorized Representative's Title: Executive Vice President
Address: 1800 NW Corporate Boulevard, Suite 130
City, State and Zip Code: Boca Raton, FL 33431
Phone Number: (412) 889-7700
Email Address: Justin.acord@coagentinfo.com

Sections 287.135 and 215.473, Florida Statutes, prohibit Florida municipalities from contracting with companies, for goods or services over \$1,000,000 that are on either the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, or to engage in any Business operations with Cuba or Syria. Sections 287.135 and 215.4725 also prohibit Florida municipalities from contracting with companies, for goods or services in any amount that are on the list of Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel.

The list of "Scrutinized Companies" is created pursuant to Section 215.473, Florida Statutes. A copy of the current list of "Scrutinized Companies" can be found at the following link:
<https://www.sbafla.com/fsb/FundsWeManage/FRSPensionPlan/GlobalGovernanceMandates/QuarterlyReports.aspx>

As the person authorized to sign on behalf of the Respondent Vendor, I hereby certify that the company identified above in the section entitled "Respondent Vendor Name" is not listed on either the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List; or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List; is not participating in a boycott of Israel; and does not have any business operations with Cuba or Syria. I understand that pursuant to Sections 287.135 and 215.473, Florida Statutes, the submission of a false certification may subject the Respondent Vendor to civil penalties, attorney's fees, and/or costs.

I understand and agree that the City may immediately terminate any contract resulting from this solicitation upon written notice if the company referenced above are found to have submitted a false certification or any of the following occur with respect to the company or a related entity: (i) for any contract for goods or services in any amount of monies, it has been placed on the Scrutinized Companies that Boycott Israel List, or is engaged in a boycott of Israel, or (ii) for any contract for goods or services of one million dollars (\$1,000,000) or more, it has been placed on the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in Sudan List or the Scrutinized Companies with Activities in the Iran Petroleum Energy Sector List, or it is found to have been engaged in business operations in Cuba or Syria.

Authorized Signature

Justin Acord

Print Name

Signature

5.8 TRUTH IN NEGOTIATION FORM



TRUTH-IN-NEGOTIATION CERTIFICATE

RFP- # 20240019

Pursuant to Section 287.055(5)(a), Florida Statutes, for any lump-sum or cost-plus-a-fixed fee professional services contract over the threshold amount provided in Section 287.017, Florida Statutes for CATEGORY FOUR, the City of Port St. Lucie, Florida requires the Consultant to execute this certificate and include it with the submittal of the Technical Proposal, or as prescribed in the contract advertisement.

The Consultant hereby certifies, covenants, and warrants that wage rates and other factual unit costs supporting the compensation for this project's agreement are accurate, complete, and current at the time of contracting.

The Consultant further agrees that the original agreement price and any additions thereto shall be adjusted to exclude any significant sums by which the City determines the agreement price was increased due to inaccurate, incomplete, or non-current wage rates and other factual unit costs. All such agreement adjustments shall be made within (1) year following the end of the contract. For purposes of this certificate, the end of the agreement shall be deemed to be the date of final billing or acceptance of the work by the City, whichever is later.

Cogent Infotech Corporation

Name of Firm _____

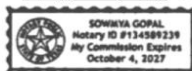
Justin Acord

President or Designee (Printed) _____

Justin Acord

President or Designee (Signed) _____

The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me by Justin Acord who is personally known to me. WITNESS my hand and official seal in the Collin Texas last aforesaid this 28th day of February, 2024.



(SEAL)

Signature _____

Sowmya Gopal

Notary Name (typed or printed) _____

Sowmya Gopal

Notary Name (signed) _____