

MEMORANDUM
COUNTY OF PLACER
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DEPARTMENT
PROCUREMENT SERVICES DIVISION

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors
FROM: Brett Wood, Purchasing Manager *BW*
DATE: October 7, 2014
SUBJECT: Information Technology Support Services – Renewal of Firewall Licensing and Support

ACTION REQUESTED

Approve the renewal of annual Firewall licensing and support with Fishnet Security of Overland Park KS, for the amount not to exceed \$79,000 funded by the Administrative Services FY2014-15 budget with no new net County cost, and authorize the Purchasing Manager to sign the resulting purchase order.

BACKGROUND

The Information Technology Division of the Administrative Services Department utilizes Check Point Firewalls to protect the Placer County Information System assets from unauthorized access both internally within the County Network and externally from the Internet outside the Network. The Firewalls are a critical part of the County's Network infrastructure, and the functions associated with the Firewalls are highly complex to configure and maintain. There are three clusters of enterprise-level firewalls that segment the Network from the Internet, internally between General Government, Health and Human Services, and Criminal Justice functional groups, and between Placer's Criminal Justice Groups and their regional Criminal Justice partners. There are five additional "small office" firewalls that protect the Network in areas that have wireless access directly into the Network.

The Administrative Services Department originally contracted with Fishnet Security for Firewall licensing and support in FY 2009-10. Since then, Fishnet has assisted the Administrative Services with two major Firewall replacement projects as well as providing day-to-day support of the Firewalls on an as-needed basis. This established relationship has allowed Fishnet to gain unique knowledge of our complex Firewall configuration. Because of this, the Administrative Services Department has determined that the continued relationship with Fishnet Security for licensing and support is more efficient and reduces risk to the County's information assets.

During the most recent Firewall replacement project, the Administrative Services Department consolidated two additional functions with the Firewalls to reduce overall operating costs. This resulted in an increase for the licensing and support of these products which exceeds the authority of the Purchasing Manager and PPM 2.1(g) requires Board approval for the purchase. Therefore, your Board's approval is required to process a purchase order in the amount not to exceed \$79,000.

FISCAL IMPACT

Upon you Board's approval, a purchase order in the amount not to exceed \$79,000 will be issued to Fishnet Security. The Administrative Services Department has advised that funding is budgeted in the FY2014-15 budget.

cc: Kathy Buchanan, Deputy Director of Information Technology
Rick Branicki, Information Technology Manager

