

From: **Sheets (Purchasing), Mike** <william.m.sheets@wv.gov>
Date: Thu, Aug 11, 2022 at 3:49 PM
Subject: Emergency Request
To: <kevin.j.foreman@cappd.wvsp.gov>
Cc: Totten, Mark L <mark.l.totten@wv.gov>

Kevin,

Your emergency request (attached) is approved. Please follow emergency purchasing procedures as found in the Handbook and follow up with documentation for award within 30 days.

Regards,
Mike

W. Michael Sheets
Director
WV Purchasing Division
2019 Washington Street, East
Charleston, WV 25305

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DEPARTMENT OF HOMELANI
**DIVISION OF PROTECT
CAPITOL POI**

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08/11/22 11:17:36
WV Purchasing Division

KEVIN FOREMAN
DIRECTOR

JACK C. CHAMBERS
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

MEMORANDUM

To: Mike Sheets, Director
Purchasing Division

From: Director Kevin J. Foreman *KJF*

Date: August 10, 2022

Reference: Emergency Purchase

The Division of Protective Services requests approval of an Emergency Purchase pursuant to West Virginia Code § 5A-3-13 to acquire services necessary to more effectively provide for the safety and security of children that attend public schools throughout West Virginia. The respective code section states:

§ 5A-3-15. Emergency purchases in open market.

The director may authorize, in writing, a state spending unit to purchase in the open market, without filing requisition or estimate, specific commodities for immediate delivery to meet bona fide emergencies arising from unforeseen causes, including delays by contractors, delays in transportation and unanticipated volume of work. A report of any such purchase, together with a record of the competitive bids upon which it was based, shall be submitted at once to the director by the head of the state spending unit concerned, together with a full account of the circumstances of the emergency: Provided, that the director may waive the need for the record of competitive bids. Such report shall be entered on a record and shall be open to public inspection.”

Recent attacks on school children throughout the country have caused the Department of Homeland Security to work toward developing a comprehensive plan for providing the best possible protection for children attending schools in West Virginia. Fortunately, to date, we have

not experienced significant incidents, but based on what has occurred nationally we cannot stand by and wait until something happens to act. It is our desire along with the Department of Education to be proactive and keep West Virginia students as safe as possible by immediately implementing the initial part of the plan. The first step will be to establish a digital application platform "See something send something Program" that will be available to anyone that obtains knowledge or information related to the security of a school or safety of student(s). This platform will allow individuals the opportunity to forward information and the application will ensure it is shared with the appropriation agency or entity responsible for the area of concern. The application will be available statewide and will be able to easily disseminate information in a timely and efficient manner. The information from the application will be received at the West Virginia Intelligence and Fusion Center (WVIFC) and disseminated 24/7/365.

The "See something send something Program" has an existing platform from another state that can be cloned and deployed to minimize the rollout period allowing for a timely rollout while still providing for future modifications, evolution, and integration with existing systems. The application for the program already exists in both the iOS and Android marketplaces. It is available for public and law enforcement users to download. The platform allows for targeted and mass notifications to the public, law enforcement, and dedicated audiences. The application allows for integrated communications with bordering state Fusion Centers using the application. The platform also allows for state-specific routing for threats to life and suspicious activity with a West Virginia nexus regardless of the users' location. An additional feature of the program is routing users to selected state resources such as suicide prevention and addiction services.

The Division of Protective Services is making the request for this emergency purchase to acquire the application and associated software due to the proximity of the start of the 2022-2023 school year. This application has the potential to make schools and students safer and could potentially provide information that could prevent an incident.

For these reasons, I believe this purchase qualifies as an Emergency Purchase pursuant to the above referenced code as the need has "arisen from unforeseen causes". Acquiring this application as expeditiously as possible considering the impending start of the school year is critical and necessary. Therefore, your approval of an Emergency Purchase is respectfully requested. Should you have any questions or require additional information, please contact me at 558-9911.

Cc: Jeff S. Sandy, Cabinet Secretary
Cc: G. R. Cunningham, Deputy Secretary