



**CITY OF FORT WORTH
CHAPTER 252 EXEMPTION FORM**

Instructions: Fill out the entire form with detailed information. Once you have completed this form, provide it to the Purchasing attorneys for review. The attorneys will review the information you have provided to determine whether an exemption to Chapter 252's bidding requirements is defensible. Failure to provide sufficient information may result in follow up questions and cause a delay in the attorney's determination.

Section 1: General Information

Requesting Department: Police Department

Name of Contract Manager: Kathryn Agee

Departmental Attorney: Jerris Mapes, Keanan Matthews Hall

Item or Service sought: Qiagen EZ2

Goods:

Service:

Anticipated Amount: \$83,106.15

Vendor: Qiagen LLC

Current/Prior Agreement for item/service: Yes No

CSC or Purchase Order #: CSC 59569 and CSC 60286

Amount: Each contract listed above is \$50,000.00 annually

Projected M&C Date: January 27, 2026

How will this item or service be used? The Qiagen EZ2 is an extraction robot used for DNA analysis. The Qiagen EZ2 will replace an obsolete extraction robot, AutoMate Express originally purchased in 2011.

Has your department started a requisition or otherwise contacted the Purchasing Division related to obtaining this good/service? Yes No

If yes, please provide requisition number or brief explanation of contact with Purchasing Division: N/A

Section 2: Claimed Exemption and Justification (Other than sole source)

NOTE: For sole-source exemption requests, complete Section 3.

Please indicate the non-sole-source exemption you believe applies to the purchase and provide information to support its applicability. Please refer to the Exemption Primer (starting on page 5) for detailed information about common exemptions:

- A procurement necessary to preserve or protect the public health or safety of the City of Fort Worth's residents;
- A procurement necessary because of unforeseen damage to public machinery, equipment, or other property;
- A procurement for personal, professional, or planning services;
- A procurement for work that is performed and paid for by the day as the work progresses;
- A purchase of land or a right-of-way;
- Paving drainage, street widening, and other public improvements, or related matters, if at least one-third of the cost is to be paid by or through special assessments levied on property that will benefit from the improvements;
- A public improvement project, already in progress, authorized by the voters of the municipality, for which there is a deficiency of funds for completing the project in accordance with the plans and purposes authorized by the voters;
- A payment under a contract by which a developer participates in the construction of a public improvement as provided by Subchapter C, Chapter 212;
- Personal property sold:
 - at an auction by a state licensed auctioneer;
 - at a going out of business sale held in compliance with Subchapter F, Chapter 17, Business & Commerce Code;
 - by a political subdivision of this state, a state agency of this state, or an entity of the federal government; or
 - under an interlocal contract for cooperative purchasing administered by a regional planning commission established under Chapter 391;
- Services performed by blind or severely disabled persons;
- Goods purchased by a municipality for subsequent retail sale by the municipality;

Electricity; or

Advertising, other than legal notices.

Please provide details and facts to explain why you believe the exemption applies to the purchase. You may also attach documentation to this form. [Click or tap here to enter text.](#)

Section 3: Claimed Sole-Source Exemption and Justification

NOTE: For all non-sole-source exemption requests, complete Section 2.

Please indicate the sole-source exemption you believe applies to the purchase and provide information to support its applicability. Please refer to the Exemption Primer (starting on page 5) for detailed information about common exemptions:

- items that are available from only one source because of patents, copyrights, secret processes, or natural monopolies;
- films, manuscripts, or books;
- gas, water, and other utility services;
- captive replacement parts or components for equipment;
- books, papers, and other library materials for a public library that are available only from the persons holding exclusive distribution rights to the materials; and
- management services provided by a nonprofit organization to a municipal museum, park, zoo, or other facility to which the organization has provided significant financial or other benefits;

How did you determine that the item or service is only available from one source?

Internet search results – Qiagen is the only source for the Qiagen EZ2 Connect Fx DNA extraction instrument. Sole Source documentation provided by Qiagen.

Attach screenshots and provide an explanation of any independent research you conducted, through internet searches, searching cooperatives, or discussions with others knowledgeable on the subject matter that corroborate that the item is available only from a single source.

Science Direct article at [Developmental validation of the EZ1&2™ DNA Investigator® Kit on the EZ2® Connect Fx - ScienceDirect](#) shows EZ2 designated as Registered Trademark. Sole Source documentation provided by Qiagen. Unable to locate any cooperative agreements for Qiagen products/services.

Did you attach a sole source justification letter? Yes No

Describe the uniqueness of the item or service (e.g. compatibility or patent issues, etc.). Police Crime Lab currently uses Qiagen EZ1 instruments which are the predecessor to the EZ2. Qiagen EZ1 instruments are fully validated for both differential and non-differential DNA extractions. The Qiagen EZ2 will replace the ThermoFisher AutoMate Express instrument which is only validated for non-differential extractions. All Crime Lab instruments must be validated before any casework can be performed in order to comply with forensic standards. Validation requires

significant time and effort from multiple analysts and takes time away from casework. Maintaining two separate platforms – Qiagen EZ1 and ThermoFisher AutoMate – does not provide additional capability, but does increase cost due to separate consumables, service contracts, training requirements, and ongoing validation. Replacing the AutoMate Express (which was purchased in 2011) with the Qiagen EZ2 Connect Fx allows the Crime Lab to remain in the Qiagen platform, build upon existing validated EZ1 workflows, and avoid duplicating validation work.

Section 4: Attorney Determination

With the facts provided by the department, is the use of the claimed exemption defensible if the City were to be challenged on this purchase? Yes No.

Was there anything attached to this form that was relied on in making this determination? Yes No.

If yes, please explain:sole sourcer letter from vendor confirming product is exclusive

Was there anything not included on this form or attached hereto that was relied on in making this determination? Yes No.

If yes, please explain:Click or tap here to enter text.

Approved By:

Jessika Williams
Amarna Muhammad / Jessika Williams
Assistant City Attorney

Date: 12/29/25



Sole Source Confirmation EZ2 Connect / EZ2 Connect Fx

QIAGEN hereby declares that

Cat. no. 9003210 EZ2 Connect

Cat. no. 9003220 EZ2 Connect Fx

are exclusively manufactured and sold by QIAGEN.

Hilden

January 18, 2025

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "i.v. Paul Ottinger".

Paul Ottinger

Senior Director, Global Category Leader Automated Systems