

Dominic Strezo
Community Development Administrator



500 West Winchester Road, Unit 101
Libertyville, IL 60048-1371
Phone 847.377.2331
dstrezo@lakecountyil.gov

MEMORANDUM

Date: March 10, 2025
To: Yvette M. Albarran, Purchasing
From: Dominic Strezo
Subject: Request for a Bid Exemption for the Contract with NICASA
Attachment: *NICASA Proposal*

Summary:

County Administration requests a “bid” exemption for a new contract with NICASA to Gambling Outreach, Education, and Assessment

Background:

- On September 12, 2023, the Video Gaming Revenue Policy was amended to focus on funding timing, amount limits, and remove operating procedures.
- The revised Policy annually dedicated \$800,000 to the Video Gaming Fund beginning in FY24, with any excess revenue to be allocated to the General Fund. Funding was also set aside for the following specific activities: \$125,000 for 211 information and referral services, \$100,000 for community awareness and education of problem gambling; and \$100,000 for treatment services of gambling disorders. Award amounts do not receive annual increases.
- Community Development provides grant administration services to the Video Gaming Fund and monitors annual contracts that begin May 1st and end the April 30th of the following year.
- Community Development Administration is requesting a “bid” exemption for Gambling Outreach, Education, and Assessment.
- There are no other entities in Lake County that have state-certification and expertise to conduct assessment, education, and outreach services to increase awareness of problem gambling.
- Nicasa and Lake County have partnered since 2017 to utilize VGR funds for the provision of gambling outreach, education, and assessment services.
- A sole source procurement request, as described under §33.066 of the Lake County Purchasing Ordinance, is a prudent choice for a new contract with NICASA.

Request:

Consideration of a “bid” exemption authorizing a new sole source contract with NICASA to Gambling Outreach, Education, and Assessment in the amount of one hundred thousand dollars and no cents (\$100,000) based on: (1) adherence to County policy, (2) identified need for problem gambling outreach and assessment services, (3) longstanding history of providing quality assessment, education, and outreach services, and (4) a lack of competitors.