

November 6, 2013

Key West Police Department 1604 Roosevelt Blvd. Key West, FL 33040

Attn: Lt. Benkoczy

Dear Lt. Benkoczy,

Pursuant to your request, we are pleased to provide the following information concerning our company and the sole source nature of the Evidence Collection Vehicles that we manufacture.

Evidence Collection Vehicles
 Surveillance Vehicles
 Prisoner Transport Vehicles
 Mobile Command Centers

Bomb Response Vehicle
Raid / Rapid Deployment
DUI Enforcement Vehicles
Cyber Crimes Vehicles

SWAT Vehicles

## **Single and Sole Source Supplier:**

The Vehicle Division of Sirchie Finger Print Laboratories Incorporated is the only Single Source manufacturer that provides the following three (3) essential requirements needed in Evidence Collection Vehicles.

Vehicle Conversion: The vehicles are produced in our 22,000 square foot production and training facility located in Medford, New Jersey. The facility houses full sheet metal, welding, upholstery, woodworking (formica), electronics, and fabrication shops that produce 90-95% of all items installed in the vehicles. It is this in-house concept of production that allows us to tailor the vehicles to the individual equipment and operational needs of Law Enforcement Agencies. Pursuant to our discussions with your department, we have developed a tailored vehicle proposal which includes the features and Sirchie equipment that is compatible with your offices current training and in-field operation.

We do not utilize outside suppliers for the manufacture of our cabinetry nor do we utilize construction materials or methods developed for other markets such as ambulances, conversion vans, or work type trades trucks. The vehicles are manufactured with materials that are designed to withstand the caustic reagents and chemicals found in the forensic kits as well as materials that are easily cleaned and maintained. Key areas are:

 Aluminum cabinets with an industrial finish, baked on polyurethane paint, are used in lieu of wooden cabinets. The aluminum cabinets are more durable and are resistive to the chemical reagents found in the evidence kits. These metal cabinets are easily cleaned and are not subject to rust since they are manufactured from aluminum.
 Each cabinet shelf is supplied with a removable corrugated rubber mat to further assist in maintaining the cleanliness of the unit.

## SIRCHIE ACQUISITION COMPANY, LLC dba SIRCHIE FINGER PRINT LABORATORIES



- Evidence Collection Vehicles
- Surveillance Vehicles
- Prisoner Transport Vehicles
- Mobile Command Centers
- SWAT Vehicles
- Bomb Response Vehicle
- Raid / Rapid Deployment
- DUI Enforcement Vehicles
- Cyber Crimes Vehicles
- Formica finished counters and doors are used as they do not absorb moisture as do
  wooden doors or tops. In a mobile application where moisture is very often present,
  It is very important to utilize plastic laminates that are resistant to mold, mildew and
  rot.
- FRP finished walls and industrial tiled flooring are utilized in lieu of fabric finishes.
  These durable and non-porous type surfaces are not subject to contamination by
  fiber or hair particles. As microscopic evidence becomes a more and more important
  part of crime scene processing, it is imperative to minimize any chance of cross
  contamination from outside sources.
- Overall the Evidence Collection Vehicles that we manufacture are designed around concepts found in a "Lab". Decorative finishes that are not conducive to this concept are avoided and more emphasis is placed on practical application.

Forensic Equipment: The Vehicle Division of Sirchie is supported by the 100,000 square foot North Carolina production facility which manufactures a full line of Forensic Evidence Collection Equipment. This combination of forensic equipment manufacturer and vehicle manufacturer provides an unmatched knowledge of the equipment and what is required to properly store and transport the items. Since the equipment and vehicle are both produced by Sirchie, the customizing of the storage cabinets with individual compartments can easily be accomplished. This method of construction maximizes space within the vehicles and ensures that the vehicle can be maintained in an orderly manner. This is a very important feature when there are multiple users of the vehicle.

Certified Factory Training: Sirchie provides certified factory training on both the vehicle and all supplied forensic equipment. The vehicle training program covers the operation and maintenance of all installed vehicle equipment. This portion of the training program is provided by the actual factory technicians who construct the vehicle so all technical questions can be accurately and thoroughly answered.

The forensic equipment training is a 40 hour college level course (college credits are optionally available at the successful completion of the course), that stresses the hands-on use and theory concerning the Evidence Collection Kits supplied on the vehicle. Full information on the program and the instructors is provided on the attachment accompanying this letter, the "Sirchie Evidence Collection Program". Training for two (2) officers is included with the purchase of each Sirchie vehicle, which includes the vehicle proposed for your department.

It is our understanding that your Department currently utilizes Sirchie Forensic Equipment to collect and process evidence. The Sirchie Forensic Training Program will ensure continuity In the evidence collection process and knowledge of the equipment utilized in the field.



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This certified factory training by the manufacturer of both the forensic equipment and the vehicle itself cannot be obtained from any other source.

The founding of Sirchie Finger Print Laboratories in 1927 and the addition of the Sirchie Vehicle Division in 1967 was a market driven decision. Law Enforcement Agencies throughout the country wanted a professionally manufactured vehicle that was <u>designed</u> for the very unique application of Crime Scene Processing. Converted ambulances, work trucks, or conversion vans equipped with bulk storage cabinets were not meeting the infield needs of modern law enforcement.

As technology has improved and scrutiny of crime scene processing has increased, it has become unacceptable to utilize anything but equipment that is manufactured for the sole purpose of evidence collection. Sirchie is the only vehicle manufacturer that has the forensic background to ensure that their Evidence Collection Vehicles are designed and constructed to meet this criteria.

I hope this letter provides the information you require concerning the unique nature of the Sirchie Vehicle Division. We are the only vehicle manufacturer that produces the Vehicle, the Forensic Equipment and provides certified training on the vehicle and forensic processes.

Thank you for this opportunity to be of service.

Sincerely yours,

Sean McCausland Sales Coordinator Sirchie Vehicle Division