

14606

To: Honorable Members
Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: Kunjlata Ashar, M.D., Acting Pathologist/M.E.
Department of Labs & Reserarch

Date: October 13, 2010

Re: **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$220,330.00 IN FEDERAL FUNDS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF LABORATORIES AND RESEARCH TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FORENSIC CASEWORK DNA BACKLOG REDUCTION PROGRAM FROM OCTOBER 1, 2010 TO MARCH 31, 2012.**

Authority of your Honorable Board is hereby requested for Westchester County acting through its Department of Labs and Research (the "Department") to enter into an agreement with the United States Department of Justice ("the "USDOJ") to accept funds in an amount not to exceed \$220,330.00 in federal funds for the Department to participate in the Forensic Casework DNA Backlog Reduction Program from October 1, 2010 through March 31, 2012.

The contract has the public purpose of promoting public safety for the residents of Westchester by enhancing DNA analysis thereby expediting criminal case processing.

The goals and objectives of this program are to provide the law enforcement community of Westchester County with increased throughput and faster turnaround of DNA evidence submitted to the Division of Forensic Sciences. Faster turnaround and its related reduction of backlogged cases will allow user agencies to investigate crimes in a more efficient and timely manner and provide the citizens of Westchester County with a higher degree of public safety. Elements of this program provide for funding to cover the purchase of a DNA genetic analyzer which will be used to generate DNA profiles from evidence submitted to the laboratory, as well as supplies and reagents to support its use. This unit replaces two older less efficient units that will be traded in to reduce the cost of the purchase of this instrument. This instrument will double the laboratory's capacity to process samples in a single run when compared to existing instrumentation. Funds from

this grant will also pay for service and maintenance contracts for several lab instruments used to analyze DNA evidence. This grant also funds a temporary lab technician position. This technician will prepare reagents and maintain equipment in the laboratory. The grant also provides money to train analysts in more efficient and cost saving methods of DNA analysis. Our success in fulfilling the goals and objectives of this grant will be spelled out in semi-annual reports provided to the granting authority.

The federal funds will enable the Department of Laboratories and Research to purchase laboratory equipment and supplies as well as training and service contract expenses. No County funds are required for the operation of this program.

KA/mlg

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 10-28-2010 - JOMARY VIEIRA, SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Acting Pathologist/Medical Examiner of the Department of Labs and Research, be it hereby:

RESOLVED, that the Board of Acquisition and Contract hereby authorizes the County of Westchester to enter into an agreement with the United States Department of Justice in an amount not to exceed \$220,330.00 in federal funds for the Department of Laboratories and Research to participate in the Forensic Casework DNA Backlog Reduction Program from October 1, 2010 to March 31, 2012, pursuant to an approved budget.

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee is hereby empowered to execute all documents and take all necessary actions to effectuate the purpose hereof.

Account to be Charged/credited	Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub Object	Trust Account	Dollars
	263	31	860K	9852	T860	\$220,330

Budget Funding Year(s) 2010 - 2012 Start Date 10/1/10 End Date 3/31/12
 (must match resolution)

Funding Source Tax Dollars _____
 State Aid _____
 \$ 220,330 Federal Aid _____
 (must match resolution) Other Revenue – Federal Grant _____

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