

42142

To: Honorable Members
Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: Kunjlata Ashar, M.D., Pathologist/Medical Examiner
Department of Labs and Research

Date: August 25, 2014

Re: **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER TO ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE TO RECEIVE AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$312,865 IN FEDERAL FUNDS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF LABORATORIES AND RESEARCH TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FORENSIC CASEWORK DNA BACKLOG REDUCTION PROGRAM OCTOBER 1, 2014 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2016.**

Authority of your Honorable Board is hereby requested for the County of Westchester (the "County") acting by and 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 Federal funds in an amount not to exceed \$312,865 pursuant to which the Department will participate in the Forensic Casework DNA Backlog Reduction Program October 1, 2014 through March 31, 2016 (the "Agreement").

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

The goals and objectives of this program are to provide the County's law enforcement community with increased output and faster turnaround of the 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 County's citizens with a higher degree of public safety.

Funded items include supplies to conduct DNA analysis, the purchase of equipment used in the processing of DNA samples collected at crime scenes, service contracts for the maintenance and repair of existing DNA equipment and an upgrade to the DNA section's temperature monitoring system. In addition, funding will pay for three (3) temporary laboratory technicians to assist in technician level responsibilities in the DNA laboratory as well as costs associated with continuing education training of the DNA staff. This training is required by the FBI for the laboratory to maintain its Combined DNA Indexing System (CODIS) status.

Success in fulfilling the goals and objectives of this grant is spelled out in semi-annual reports provided by the granting authority.

I certify that my department, a) has copies of, or access to, all applicable laws, rules, regulations, grant applications, and grant agreements (including any master grant agreement), as well as any guidance or instructions received from the agency making the grant (the "Grant Terms"), b) has reviewed the Grant Terms, c) is aware of and understands all of the Grant Terms, and d) can and will comply with all of the Grant Terms.

An appropriate resolution is herewith attached for your Honorable Board's consideration.

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 10/02/2014 - JOMAR Y. VERA, SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the 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 to accept an amount not to exceed \$312,865 in Federal funds for the Department of Laboratories and Research to participate in the Forensic Casework DNA Backlog Reduction Program October 1, 2014 through March 31, 2016.

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	860P	9852	T860	\$312,865

Budget Funding Year(s) 2014-2016 Start Date 10/1/14 End Date 3/31/16
 (must match resolution)

Funding Source Tax Dollars _____
 State Aid _____
\$ 312,865 Federal Aid _____
 (must match resolution) Other Revenue – Federal Grant

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 10/02/2014 - JOSEPH M. VEIRA, SECRETARY