

48815

October 1, 2015

TO: Honorable Members
Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: George N. Longworth
Commissioner-Sheriff
Department of Public Safety

RE: Resolution authorizing the County of Westchester (the "County") to enter into an agreement with the State of New York (the "State"), acting by and through its Division of Criminal Justice Services ("DCJS"), pursuant to which the County will accept a grant in an amount not to exceed \$302,703.00 in State funds for the Department of Public Safety (the "Department") to participate in the Aid to Crime Labs Program for the period July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, pursuant to an approved budget.

Authority is sought for the County to enter into an agreement with the State, acting by and through "DCJS," pursuant to which the County will accept a grant in an amount not to exceed \$302,703.00 in State funds for the Department to participate in the Aid to Crime Labs Program for the period July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, pursuant to an approved budget (the "Agreement").

The Aid to Crime Labs grant will be used by the Department to enhance the effectiveness, efficiency, reliability and accuracy of its criminal laboratory services. Funding will be applied towards, among other things, costs associated with personnel, fringe benefits, overtime, equipment, travel and supplies.

This contract will serve a public purpose by improving the quality and timeliness of forensic services provided to local law enforcement agencies.

The goals and objectives of this Agreement are to enhance the effectiveness, efficiency, reliability and accuracy of the County's criminal laboratory services by improving the County crime lab's ability to provide timely forensic services through increased analytical capacity and maintain laboratory accreditation.

Acceptance of these grant funds is in the best interests of the County because equipment purchased and personnel costs expended with the grant funds will enable the crime lab to maintain its accreditation, without which local law enforcement agencies would be forced to farm out their work to other crime labs which would delay criminal investigations and subsequently criminal prosecutions.

Acceptance of the proposed grant funds will increase safety and security in the County because a more efficient crime lab will be able to deliver faster, more reliable and more accurate forensic services which will aid law enforcement in apprehending criminals faster, thus making the streets safer for County residents.

The performance measures and monitoring of this grant will be reported to DCJS by the Department of Public Safety using the Grant Management System. During the period of this grant, the Department of Public Safety will maintain the assignment of a Detective serving the Department of Public Safety as a Digital Evidence Examiner. The Department of Public Safety will continue to provide DCJS with Accreditation Documentation along with narrative descriptions of how grant funds were used to support Laboratory Accreditation.

Grant funds from the prior Aid to Crime Labs grant year were utilized as follows: salary and fringe benefits for one of the detectives assigned to the Digital Evidence section of the lab; overtime reduced forensic case backlog and supported ASCLD/LAB and NYS Accreditation. Equipment purchases made during the prior grant year included: computers, crime scene diagramming software, an evidence drying cabinet, an omnivore field acquisition kit, a cellular/mobile device extraction kit, and firearms NIST traceable measuring standards and weights.

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.

Approval of your Honorable Board of an agreement with the State of New York to accept Aid to Crime Labs Program grant funds in the sum of \$302,703.00 is recommended and an appropriate resolution is attached for your consideration.

GNL/MD/cs
Attachment

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITIONS MONTEGUTHER 10/29/2015 V. PRODIGEZZI, SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Commissioner-Sheriff of Public Safety, be it hereby

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester (the "County") is authorized to enter into an agreement with the State of New York, acting by and through its Division of Criminal Justice Services, pursuant to which the County will accept a grant in an amount not to exceed \$302,703.00 in State funds for the Department of Public Safety to participate in the Aid To Crime Labs Program for the period July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016, pursuant to an approved budget; and it is further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or his duly authorized designee be and hereby is authorized and empowered to enter into this agreement for the County of Westchester

Account to be Charged/Credited

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase or Unit	Object/ Sub-Object	Trust Account	Dollars
263	38	704Q	9854	T704	\$302,703

Budget Funding Year(s) 2015-2016 Start Date: July 1, 2015 End Date: June 30, 2016
 (must match resolution) Tax Dollars -0-
 Funding Source State Aid \$302,703
 Federal Aid: _____
\$302,703
 (must match resolution) Other: _____

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION CONTRACT 10/2/2015 V. RODRIGUEZ, SECRETARY