

78952

To: Honorable Members
Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: Aleksandar Milovanovic, M.D., Pathologist/Deputy Medical Examiner
Department of Labs and Research

Date: August 26, 2020

Re: **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER TO ENTER INTO A GRANT AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IN ORDER TO RECEIVE THE AMOUNT OF \$303,493 IN FEDERAL FUNDS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF LABORATORIES AND RESEARCH TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FORENSIC CASEWORK DNA BACKLOG REDUCTION PROGRAM FROM OCTOBER 1, 2020 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2022**

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 a grant agreement with the United States Department of Justice ("the "USDOJ") to accept federal funds in an amount of \$303,493 pursuant to which the Department will participate in the Forensic Casework DNA Backlog Reduction Program from October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2022 (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 DNA Kits. 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 attached for your Honorable Board's consideration.

AM/mg
attachment

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 09/03/2020 - USA MILITARY SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

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

RESOLVED, that the County of Westchester is hereby authorized to enter into a grant agreement with the United States Department of Justice to accept the amount of \$303,493 in federal funds for the Department of Laboratories and Research to participate in the Forensic Casework DNA Backlog Reduction Program from October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2022.

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	T860-860W	9852	T860	\$303,493

Budget Funding Year(s) 2020-2022 Start Date 10/1/2020 End Date 9/30/2022
 (must match resolution)

Funding Source Tax Dollars _____
 State Aid _____
\$ 303,493.00 Federal Aid 100%
 (must match resolution) Other _____

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