

To: Honorable Members
Board of Acquisition and Contract

From: Millard H. Hyland, M.D.
Chief Pathologist/Medical Examiner

Date: March 15, 2010

Re: **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY OF WESTCHESTER TO AMEND AN AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$263,348.02 IN FEDERAL FUNDS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF LABORATORIES AND RESEARCH TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FORENSIC CASEWORK DNA BACKLOG REDUCTION PROGRAM BY EXTENDING THE TERM OF THE AGREEMENT TO SEPTEMBER 30, 2010.**

Authority of your Honorable Board is hereby requested for Westchester County acting through its Department of Labs and Research (the "Department") to amend an agreement with the United States Department of Justice ("the "USDOJ") to accept funds in an amount not to exceed \$263,348.02 in federal funds for the Department to participate in the Forensic Casework DNA Backlog Reduction Program by extending the termination date from the original termination date of March 31, 2010 to a new termination date of September 30, 2010 in order to fully expend the grant funds.

The contract has the public purpose of promoting public safety to 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 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 citizens of Westchester County a higher degree of public safety. Elements of this program provide for automation of tests traditionally conducted manually. The automated analysis of these tests will speed up the output of results and allow the laboratory to prepare reports in a more timely manner for investigating agencies. Automation will also enable the lab to better utilize personnel in others areas of analysis to reduce case backlogs. Funding will also provide the laboratory with additional

biological safety hoods to examine evidence. This will also aid in reducing backlogs by making more areas available to examine evidence while preventing contamination of specimens. Money for training will allow analysts to examine smaller quantities of DNA related evidence thus increasing our efficiency in working with minimal or degraded samples. Funding will also address an upgrade to our CODIS server which links DNA analysis conducted in Westchester County to the FBI DNA database. The laboratory has had great success in assisting law enforcement in solving a wide variety of cases using the CODIS system. The upgrade will allow for better communication with this important DNA database. 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 and computer equipment as well as training and travel expenses. No county funds are required for the operation of this program.

MHH/mlg

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 4-1-2010 - JOMARY VIEIRA, SECRETARY

RESOLUTION

Upon a communication from the Chief 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 extend its agreement with the United States Department of Justice in an amount not to exceed \$263,348.02 in federal funds for the Department of Laboratories and Research to participate in the Forensic Casework DNA Backlog Reduction Program (the "Agreement") from the original termination date of March 31, 2010 to a new termination date of September 30, 2010; and be it further;

RESOLVED, that all other terms and conditions of the Agreement shall remain in full force and effect, and be it further;

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	8601	9852	T860	\$263,348.02

Budget Funding Year(s) 2008-2010 Start Date 10/1/08 End Date 9/30/10
 (must match resolution)

Funding Source Tax Dollars _____
 State Aid _____
 \$ 263,348.02 Federal Aid _____
 (must match resolution) Other Revenue – Federal Grant

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