

**83831**

March 23, 2021

TO: Honorable Members  
Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Thomas A. Gleason  
Acting Commissioner-Sheriff  
Department of Public Safety

RE: Resolution authorizing the County of Westchester ("County") to enter into an agreement with the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services ("NYSDCJS") to accept Federal funds in an amount of \$51,490.00 for the Department of Public Safety (the "Department") to participate in the Coverdell National Forensic Sciences Improvement Act for the period from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021 pursuant to an approved budget.

Attached for your consideration is a Resolution which, if approved by your Honorable Board, would authorize the County, acting by and through the Department, to enter into an agreement with NYSDCJS pursuant to which the County would accept Federal funds in an amount of \$51,490.00 for the Department to participate in the Coverdell National Forensic Sciences Improvement Act for the period from October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021.

The Coverdell National Forensic Sciences Improvement Act provides assistance to laboratories to elevate the quality, timeliness and credibility of the forensic services provided to Westchester's law enforcement agencies. The \$51,490.00 will enable the Department to support overtime within our Forensic Investigations Unit. No County funds are required for this program.

The public purpose of this grant addresses public safety issues specifically regarding law enforcement forensic science and medical examiner services. The goals are to maintain both American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors/Laboratory Accreditation Board ("ASCLD/LAB") and New York State Forensic Science Commission ("NYS FSC") accreditations, which are required by New York State Executive Law 995. The objectives are to assist the Laboratory Director with maintaining ASCLD/LAB and NYS FSC accreditations which are required by New York State Executive Law 995. The performance measures and monitoring of this grant will be comprised of a summary narrative outlining the outcome of the review and prioritization of the backlog will be included in a quarterly report to the Department of Criminal Justice Services.

I certify that my department, a) has copies of, or access to, 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.

Based upon the foregoing, I most respectfully recommend approval of the attached Resolution.

TAG/LKC/mg  
Attachment

