

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action (Purchasing)

Austin City Council	Item ID:	69114	Agenda Number	45.
Meeting Date:	March 23, 2017			
Department:	Purchasing			
Subject				
Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract with BODE CELLMARK FORENSICS, INC., for forensic serological and DNA analysis of biological evidence, in an amount not to exceed \$1,300,000. Related to Item(s): 15, 16, 17				
Amount and Source of Funding				
Funding in the amount of \$809,318 is available in the Austin Police Department’s Sexual Assault Kit Backlog Elimination Program Grant. Funding in the amount of \$150,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2016-2017 Operating Budget of the Austin Police Department. Funding for the remaining contract period is contingent upon available funding in future budgets.				
Fiscal Note				
A fiscal note is not required.				
Purchasing Language:	Exempt - Public Health and Safety			
Prior Council Action:	█			
For More Information:	Erin D’Vincent, Senior Buyer Specialist, 512-974-3070			
Boards and Commission Action:	█			
Related Items:	█			
MBE / WBE:	This contract is exempt from the City Code Chapter 2-9C Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established.			

Additional Backup Information

The contract will provide services to conduct forensic serological and deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) analysis of biological evidence for the Austin Police Department (APD). APD anticipates Bode Cellmark to test approximately 1,300 cases during the contract.

Bode Cellmark has an established relationship with the Department of Public Safety (DPS) and has successfully worked over 400 sexual assault kits on behalf of APD through DPS. No other private lab that APD has contacted has been able to identify available resources to meet the volume of casework and Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) demands that APD requires. Bode Cellmark has been granted full Texas Forensic Science Commission accreditation and is capable of accepting and processing the volume of casework APD is prepared to send.

A delay in approving or failure to approve this contract will result in an increased number of untested DNA samples adding to the existing backlog of DNA cases. Performing these services is essential in assisting law enforcement in identifying unknown suspects, linking DNA profiles between crime scenes, and eliminating suspects in sexual assault cases.