

**AGENDA**



**Recommendation for Council Action**

**AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL**

**Regular Meeting: November 1, 2018**

Item Number: **015**

**Police**

Authorize negotiation and execution of an interlocal agreement with the Houston Forensic Science Center to provide technical services to the Austin Police Department Forensic Science Bureau Firearms Unit, for a two-year term, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.

<b>Lead Department</b>	Austin Police Department.
<b>Fiscal Note</b>	Funding in the amount of \$50,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2018-2019 State Contraband fund of the Austin Police Department. Funding for the remaining 12 months of the contract period is contingent upon funding in future budgets.
<b>For More Information</b>	Troy Gay, Chief of Staff, Austin Police Department (512) 974-5030.

**Additional Backup Information:**

This interlocal agreement defines responsibilities and obligations of the City of Austin and the Houston Forensic Science Center (HFSC) for the purpose of providing technical services to the Austin Police Department (APD) Forensic Science Bureau Firearms Unit.

These technical services are necessary for the Forensic Science Bureau to maintain compliance with ANSI-ASQ National Accreditation Board (ANAB) standards for reporting casework. The standards require two qualified forensic analysts in order to issue a forensic case report. Due to a recent resignation, the Forensic Science Bureau Firearms Unit has one fully trained and qualified Firearms Examiner, one Firearm Examiner in-training, and one Firearms Examiner

vacancy (position is approved and being posted). Until a second Firearms Examiner can be qualified for casework in accordance with ANAB standards, APD requires additional technical services to review and report existing firearms cases, and to process and report incoming firearms cases.

The primary goal of this agreement is to continue to provide firearms casework services to our Community in accordance with forensic accrediting body requirements. This agreement will temporarily fill the existing gap until a second Firearms Examiner with the required qualifications and training is signed off to perform casework.

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