

# **Comprehensive Evaluation of Sexual Assault Investigations and Processes**

Council Resolution 20190131-077

Commission for Women

March 13, 2019

# Purpose of presentation

Review components of the scope of work in response to the Council resolution and timeline

Get input from the Public Safety Commission and Commission for Women

# Council Resolution 20190131-077

City Manager is directed to undertake a **comprehensive evaluation of how reported sexual assaults are investigated and processed**, including why a number of reported cases do not proceed to prosecution within the criminal justice system.

# Resolution Scope of Work

Vendor Requirements

Components of evaluation

Components of written report

# Vendor Requirements

**Nationally recognized, non-governmental** entity or multidisciplinary team

Knowledge and expertise in the **investigation and prosecution of adult sexual assault** in the United States

Demonstrated knowledge and expertise to provide a **comprehensive and multidisciplinary evaluation** of and comprehensive report;

Previous successful experience **evaluating similarly sized organizations and/or communities** on their handling of report sexual assaults; and

**Commitment to engage with the public**, governmental and non-governmental stakeholders.

# Components of evaluation

- At least **200 APD cases** (>50% of cases) for each of the last seven years. Only include cases that involve adult victims.
- Cases examined should be **diverse** as to:
  - **Cross section of investigators** investigating cases
  - **Type of victim**
- Include cases that did and did not **move forward to prosecution**
- The vendor **may add to above criteria**

# Components of evaluation (con't)

1. **Interviews** with survivors of a sexual assault, sworn officers and civilian staff, staff from other agencies, local subject matter experts, entities that work directly with survivors, and stakeholders
2. The degree to which APD is **adhering to state and federal law with regards to investigation and reporting**
3. Review policies and practices to ensure that these **do not promote bias** and but **do include the use of victim-centered practices**
4. Whether and **how APD is adhering to national best practices in investigations**

# Components of evaluation (con't)

5. Whether the **record-keeping** in the APD Sex Crimes Unit consistent with national best practices.
6. A review of treatment given to victims in **cases involving drug and alcohol** in order to ascertain whether these cases and victims receive inappropriate differential treatment.
7. Policies and practices with respect to **stranger and non-stranger sexual assault**



# Components of evaluation (con't)

8. The **accuracy of case clearance decisions** and long-term data regarding the ways in which cases are cleared
9. The **appropriateness of current staffing, resources, and training** provided and budgets regarding adult sexual assault cases in relation to caseload, staffing formulas and other units with the department
10. Documentation of policies regarding issuing **warrants and filing cases.**

# Components of evaluation (con't)

- 11) Issues regarding current policies, including but not limited to:
  - a. Communication by the APD to the prosecutor's office and how the case was staffed by APD
  - b. Follow-up investigation/interviews to address any concerns or need for further evidence prosecutors may have about a case
  - c. Specialized training for investigators and their chain of command on sexual assault, victim interviewing techniques, interpersonal violence and trauma
  - d. Documentation of written and verbal communication with the District Attorney's Office

# Components of written report

A written report shall:

**Not be redacted** except for redactions to maintain anonymity and privacy of individuals otherwise identified in the report.

Delivered and **presented by the vendor** to the Public Safety Commission and the Commission for Women.

Include findings of the information reviewed accompanied by corresponding data sets.

# Components of written report (con't)

- Entire life-cycle of sexual assault cases to improve the process for survivors of sexual assaults
- The process of reporting and cooperating with a case more accessible and responsive to public needs.
- Opportunities to address issues or shortcomings and test ideas
- Internal policies, practices, training or the implementation of new training, and an implementation action plan
- Organizational staffing practices and policy

# Components of written report (con't)

- Opportunities for better working conditions, facilities, tools and resources for staff
- The necessary frequency of case reviews and audits and the sharing of data and findings to the Council and the public
- The establishment of a collaborative community process to include the Commission for Women and Public Safety Commission and local subject matter experts and entities to provide policy recommendations

# Timeline

## Request for Information (RFI)

Released RFI	February 20, 2019
Closed RFI	February 27, 2019

## Request for Qualifications (RFQS)

Release RFQ	April 2019
Close RFQ	May 2019
Complete Evaluation	Mid June 2019
Memo to Council	July 31, 2019
Council approval	August 8, 2019

**Report completed**      Dependent upon negotiated contract

# Comments /Questions