



Recommendation for Action

File #: 19-2126, **Agenda Item #:** 63.

6/20/2019

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of three contracts with Forensic Science Solution; Riley, Welch, and LaPorte & Associates Forensic Laboratories; and Marshall University Research Corporation D/B/A Marshall University Research, to provide technical review of deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) analysis, for a term of 27-months in an amount not to exceed \$305,050, divided among the contractors.

(Note: This procurement was reviewed for subcontracting opportunities in accordance with City Code Chapter 2-9C Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program. For the services required for this procurement, there were no subcontracting opportunities; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established).

Lead Department

Purchasing Office.

Client Department(s)

Austin Police Department.

Fiscal Note

Funding is available from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) Grant Program.

Purchasing Language:

Professional Service.

For More Information:

Inquiries should be directed to the City Manager's Agenda Office, at 512-974-2991 or AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov <<mailto:AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov>> or to Bridney Stewart, at 512-974-3127 or Bridney.Stewart@austintexas.gov <<mailto:Bridney.Stewart@austintexas.gov>>.

Additional Backup Information:

These contracts will allow for the expedited technical review of the positive DNA results for potential entry into the Combined DNA Index System (CODIS). The Austin Police Department (APD) has outsourced the DNA analysis of backlogged sexual assault kits (SAK) to multiple laboratories in collaboration with the District Attorney of New York SAK Backlog Elimination Program and the Sexual Assault Kit Initiative. The analysis of SAK is complete, with approximately 1,300 reports yielding positive DNA results.

The Capital Area Laboratory (CAP Lab) operated by the Texas Department of Public Safety (TXDPS) is a national DNA indexing system participating laboratory qualified to perform these technical reviews and take ownership of the DNA data for CODIS entry for APD cases. The current capacity for technical review by the TXDPS CAP Lab is approximately 30 reports per month. Adding these three contractors will increase review capacity by approximately 300 technical reviews per month.

If these contracts are not approved, the timeline to process the 1,300 reports yielding positive DNA data will remain at the current pace, with a completion date in 2023. Additionally, APD may lose available U.S. Department of Justice grant funding which requires the City demonstrate its ability to complete CODIS entries in a timely manner.