



Recommendation for Action

File #: 23-2860, **Agenda Item #:** 48.

9/21/2023

Posting Language

Authorize negotiation and execution of a contract for a comprehensive implementation audit for the Sex Crimes Unit with End Violence Against Women International in an amount not to exceed \$237,500.

[Note: This procurement was reviewed for subcontracting opportunities in accordance with City Code Chapter 2-9D 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

Financial Services Department.

Client Department(s)

Austin Police Department.

Fiscal Note

Funding is available in the Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Operating Budget of the Austin Police Department.

Purchasing Language:

Professional Service.

For More Information:

Direct questions regarding this Recommendation for Council Action to the Financial Services Department - Central Procurement at: FSDCentralProcurementRCAs@austintexas.gov or [512-974-2500](mailto:FSDCentralProcurementRCAs@austintexas.gov).

Additional Backup Information:

The contract is to provide a comprehensive audit of the Sex Crimes Unit (SCU) regarding sexual assault cases and of the Austin Police Department's (APD) implementation of terms from the Smith v. City of Austin and Senko v. City of Austin settlement agreement signed in August 2022, and the implementation of recommendations from the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF) Reported Sexual Assault Comprehensive Evaluation released in November 2022.

In response to the PERF evaluation report and the settlement agreement, APD established a formal project team tasked with leading the implementation of recommendations and requirements from the report and the agreement. The Collective Sex Crimes Response Model (CSCRM) was formed out of recognition of the need for a multidisciplinary approach to create a comprehensive system of change for the SCU. The scope of the CSCRM project is to implement best practices brought forth from the PERF evaluation, settlement, and legislature. While the agreement states the implementation audit is to occur "over the next 10 years," the City budgeted for this expenditure in fiscal year 2023. The implementation audit is positioned to occur throughout fiscal years 2024 and 2025 in order to allow adequate time for APD to fully implement the recommendations from the PERF evaluation.

End Violence Against Women International (EVAW) has been deemed qualified to provide these services based on demonstrated experience evaluating similarly sized organizations and expertise in the investigation and prosecution of adult sexual assault in the United States. EVAW will work in concert with the CSCRM to produce a final report that includes the collection, review, and analysis of available information, stakeholder interviews, and observations, as well as findings and/or recommendations for improvement. This report is expected to be released to the public.