

REPORT FROM

OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Date: May 14, 2015

CAO File No. 0130-01862-0018
Council File No. 14-1373
Council District: --

To: The Council

From: Miguel A. Santana, City Administrative Officer 

Reference: Board of Police Commissioners Transmittal dated April 8, 2015

Subject: **2014 PAUL COVERDELL FORENSIC SCIENCE IMPROVEMENT GRANT**

SUMMARY

The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) is seeking retroactive authority to apply for and accept a 2014 Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program (Program) award of \$84,326 for the period October 1, 2014 through August 31, 2015 from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES). The grant funding will fund overtime and training within the Scientific Investigation Division (SID).

BACKGROUND

The Program awards grants to states and units of local government to improve the quality and timeliness of forensic science and medical examiner services and/or to eliminate backlogs in the analysis of forensic evidence, including controlled substances, firearms examination, forensic pathology, latent prints, questioned documents, toxicology, and trace evidence.

The LAPD's Scientific Investigation Division Criminalistics Laboratory will use the Program funds for training of civilian staff in the Firearms Analysis and Trace Analysis Units and for overtime to reduce casework backlogs caused by a high volume of analysis requests and employee attrition. National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN) training will increase the number of analysts trained to perform NIBIN casework while overtime funding will allow the Trace Analysis Unit to reduce a backlog of casework by 20 cases and the Firearms Analysis Unit to reduce a backlog of non-DNA casework by 221 cases. The funding will be allocated as follows:

- \$63,603 for the Firearms Analysis Unit – 85 cases
- \$12,000 for the Trace Analysis Unit – 22 cases
- \$ 8,723 for NIBIN training by Forensic Technology

Acceptance of the grant does not require any matching funds. Further details on the grant are provided in the Los Angeles Police Commission transmittal dated April 8, 2015 (C.F. 14-1373).

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council, subject to the approval of the Mayor:

1. Authorize the Chief of Police, or designee, to:
 - a. Retroactively apply for and accept the 2014 Paul Coverdeli Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program (Program) in the amount of \$84,326 from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services for the period October 1, 2014 through August 31, 2015;
 - b. Negotiate and execute the Program Agreement on behalf of the City for the period of October 1, 2014 through August 31, 2015 and submit all necessary documents relative to the grant award and to negotiate, execute, and submit any other necessary agreements and documents relative to the grant, subject to the approval of the City Attorney as to form and legality;
2. Authorize the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) to:
 - a. Submit grant reimbursement requests to the grantor and deposit grant receipts in the Police Department Grant Trust Fund No. 339, Department 70;
 - b. Spend up to the total grant amount of \$84,326 in accordance with the grant award agreement;
3. Authorize the Controller to:
 - a. Establish a grant receivable in Fund 339 in the amount of \$84,326 and establish an appropriation account, account number to be determined, within Fund 339, Department 70 for the receipt and disbursements of Program funds;
 - b. Increase appropriations on an as-needed basis from Fund No. 339, Department No. 70, appropriation account number to be determined, to Fund No. 100, Department No. 70, account numbers and amounts as follows:

Account No.	Account Name	Amount
001090	Overtime General	\$75,603

4. Authorize the LAPD to prepare Controller's instructions for any technical adjustments, subject to the approval of the City Administrative Officer, and authorize the Controller to implement the instructions.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Approval of the recommendations in this report will have no additional impact on the General Fund. Acceptance of the grant is in compliance with the City's Financial Policies as one-time revenue will be used for one-time expenses.