

REPORT FROM

OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Date: February 3, 2016

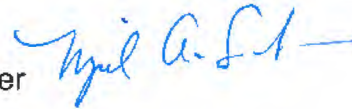
CAO File No. 0130-01862-0019

Council File No. 16-0015

Council District: --

To: The Council

From: Miguel A. Santana, City Administrative Officer



Reference: Board of Police Commissioners Transmittal dated December 21, 2015

Subject: **2015 PAUL COVERDELL FORENSIC SCIENCE IMPROVEMENT GRANT**

SUMMARY

The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) is seeking retroactive authority to apply for and accept a 2015 Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program (Program) award of \$95,480 for the period October 1, 2015 through August 31, 2016 from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES). The grant will fund overtime and equipment within the Forensic Science Division.

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 overtime to reduce casework backlogs as well as hardware and software to increase efficiency in solving cases caused by a high volume of analysis requests. The \$95,480 award will be allocated as follows:

- \$53,013 to provide overtime to Firearms Analysis Unit (FAU) staff to reduce the backlog of incomplete cases by 168 cases;
- \$33,931 to improve the quality and efficiency in the Criminalistics Laboratory by upgrading the current quality management system to the Qualtrax Cloud System; and,
- \$8,536 to improve the timeliness and efficiency of the Questioned Documents Unit by purchasing a computer workstation that will be dedicated to the MatchMaker reconstruction software program.

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 December 21, 2015 (Attached).

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 2015 Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program (Program) in the amount of \$95,480 from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services for the period October 1, 2015 through August 31, 2016;
 - b. Negotiate and execute the Program Agreement on behalf of the City for the period of October 1, 2015 through August 31, 2016 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 \$95,480 in accordance with the grant award agreement;
3. Authorize the Controller to:
 - a. Establish a grant receivable in Fund 339 in the amount of \$95,480 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	\$53,013

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.

MAS:MFC:04160069c

Attachment