

REPORT FROM

OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

Date: August 12, 2016

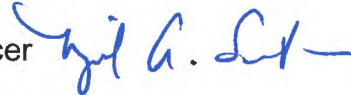
CAO File No. 0220-03790-0048

Council File No. 16-0621

Council District: --

To: The City Council

From: Miguel A. Santana, City Administrative Officer



Reference: Board of Police Commissioner's transmittals dated May 24, 2016

Subject: **2015 DNA CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT AND BACKLOG REDUCTION PROGRAM**

SUMMARY

The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) seeks retroactive authority to apply for and accept a \$981,593 grant award from the United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice (NIJ) for the 2015 DNA Capacity Enhancement and DNA Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Program. The grant award has a performance period of January 1, 2016 through December 31, 2017. No matching funds are required.

BACKGROUND

The 2015 CEBR Program provides funding to state and local units of government with existing crime laboratories to increase the capacity of public forensic DNA and DNA database laboratories to process more DNA samples and thereby reduce the number of forensic DNA database samples awaiting analysis. Funding from this grant will allow the LAPD's Forensic Science Division Serology/DNA Unit (SDU) to analyze at least 477 additional cases and contract out analysis of another 20 cases. The grant award will also increase laboratory capacity to meet existing and future demand for DNA screening and testing. The program budget approved by the NIJ is as follows:

<u>Expense</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Overtime General	\$650,519
Travel	31,387
Equipment	245,443
Contractual Services	30,000
Laboratory Software	6,824
Workshop Registration Fees	<u>17,420</u>
TOTAL:	\$981,593

This budget provides funding for civilian Criminalists and support staff to process backlogged DNA cases on an overtime basis and travel registration expenses for continuing education of DNA analysts. The SDU expects to decrease the turnaround time in regular casework by five percent or more through validation and implementation of a new, grant-funded genetic analyzer and an automated liquid sampler. The equipment purchased will allow LAPD to capitalize upon technical improvements in instrumentation to DNA sample processing.

To further reduce the backlog of forensic DNA cases, the LAPD proposed in the grant agreement that 20 cases be processed by the City's DNA laboratory contractor, Bode Cellmark Technology, Inc. The Grantor approved this proposal and awarded \$30,000 for this purpose; therefore, the LAPD requests authority to amend the contract in compliance with the grant award.

The LAPD will continue to address its ongoing forensic case workload with funds provided in the 2016-17 Adopted Budget. Any additional needs for the SDU and Crime Laboratory will be addressed in the context of the annual budget. Further details on the award and cooperative agreement are provided in the correspondence from the Board of Police Commissioners dated May 18, 2016.

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 grant award from the United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice (NIJ) for the 2015 Forensic Deoxyribonucleic (DNA) Capacity Enhancement and DNA Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Program in the amount of \$981,518 for the period of January 1, 2016, through December 31, 2017;
 - b. Negotiate and execute the grant award agreement, subject to City Attorney approval as to form;
 - c. Amend the agreement between the City of Los Angeles and Bode Cellmark Forensics, Inc., contract No. TBD, by increasing total compensation by \$30,000 in accordance with the grant agreement and subject to City Attorney approval as to form;
2. Authorize the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) to:
 - a. Spend up to the grant amount of \$981,583 in accordance with the grant award agreement;

- b. Submit grant reimbursements requests to the grantor and deposit grant receipts in Fund No. 339, Department 70;

3. Authorize the Controller to:

- a. Establish a grant receivable and appropriate \$981,583 to appropriation account, account number to be determined, within Fund 339, Department 70, for the receipt and disbursement of the 2015 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Grant;
- b. Increase appropriations for NIJ's Fiscal Year 2015 DNA Capacity Enhancement and DNA Backlog Reduction Program as needed from appropriations account number to be determined, within Fund No. 339, Department 70, to Fund No. 100, Department 70, account numbers and amounts as follows:

Account No. 001090, Civilian Overtime: \$650,519

- 4. Authorize the LAPD to prepare Controller 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 in that one-time revenue is used for one-time expenses. No matching funds are required for the grant.