

2016-2017 BUDGET QUESTION
Response to Request for Information

DEPARTMENT: Police

REQUEST NO.: 85

REQUESTED BY: Casar

DATE REQUESTED: 8/15/17

DATE POSTED: 8/17/17

REQUEST: Please provide an update on the following budget rider included in the FY 2016-2017 budget: “It is the intent of the City Council that a team of experts should conduct a review of the operation of the Austin Police Department’s own DNA lab measured against the formation of an independent lab. Other feasible options in delivering forensic services should also be reviewed.”

RESPONSE: Staff is currently preparing an item for council consideration for approval of a professional services contract with the University of Pennsylvania Law School’s Quattrone Center for Fair Administration of Justice to conduct a thorough assessment of the factors that led to issues in the APD DNA Lab. This assessment will help to inform the “look forward” to identify the best lab structure going forward. APD is working with Corporate Purchasing Office to have the item placed on the first meeting in October 2017.