

Budget Rider for Budget Concept Items PS1.04

Item	Description	General Fund	One-Time Funds
PS1.04	Funding for 7 additional DNA analysts and 1 additional supervisor to fully staff the APD Forensic Lab	941,500	477,500
PS1.07	Funding to process 500 backlog sexual assault examination evidence kits with a private laboratory		500,000

Budget Rider for PS1.04:

A budget rider set forth specific instructions regarding the expenditure of funds. It is the intent of the City Council that appropriations for PS1.04 only be made if only certain conditions have been met. A review of other possible options should be conducted on the backlog of kits unanalyzed as an alternative to the opening the police forensics lab.

A team of experts should conduct a review of the start up of forensics lab measured against the formation of an independent lab as a local government corporation with an independent board of directors. The National Academy of Science has recommended that crime laboratories be separated from law enforcement agencies. The Academy has suggested that the mission and priorities of police departments are not always compatible with maintaining high scientific standards and concluded that scientists rather than police officers should run crime labs. An example of this is the transition of the Houston crime lab to full independence from the police department completed in April 2014. Other feasible options in delivering forensic services should also be reviewed.

This budget rider only relates to PS1.04 and that the rider be implemented immediately. PS.1.07 is shown only for reference because it is related to the backlog issue.