

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting : February 15, 2018

Item Number: 043

Purchasing Office

Authorize an amendment to an existing contract with Sorenson Forensics, LLC, to provide continued services for the sexual assault backlog elimination program, for an increase in an amount of \$220,250 and to increase the term by six months, for a revised contract amount not to exceed \$1,450,250. (Note: This contract was awarded in accordance with City Code Chapter 2-9C Minority Owned and Women Owned Business Enterprise Procurement Program. There were insufficient subcontracting opportunities and an insufficient number of certified M/WBEs; therefore, no subcontracting goals were established).

Lead Department	Purchasing Office.
Fiscal Note	Funding in the amount of \$220,250 is available from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Grant.
Purchasing Language	Contract Amendment.
Prior Council Action	April 21, 2016 - approved original contract, item #23.
For More Information	Inquiries should be directed to the City Manager’s Agenda Office, at 512-974-2991 or AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov <mailto:AgendaOffice@austintexas.gov> or to the buyer, Erin D’Vincent, at 512-974-3070 or Erin.DVincent@austintexas.gov <mailto:Erin.DVincent@austintexas.gov>.
Client Department(s)	Austin Police Department.

--	--

Additional Backup Information:

In April 2016, a contract was established with Sorenson Forensics, LLC to allow an outside laboratory to analyze the backlog of the Austin Police Department’s (APD) sexual assault cases for the presence of deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA). Eligible DNA profiles are entered into the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) database in order to assist investigators in solving crimes.

APD was selected as an awardee of the 2017 National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative Grant Program by the U.S Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance. The award provides an additional \$220,250 to test an estimated additional 215 sexual assault kits and reference samples which will generate DNA evidence that may help solve cases across the country. This program will complete the testing of backlogged sexual assault kits that the former APD in-house laboratory was not able to process. Sorenson Forensics, LLC will continue to provide DNA analysis of the additional kits and related reference samples and enter the information into the CODIS database.

This amendment will add funding and extend the term of this contract from September 30, 2018 until April 1, 2019 in an effort to test the additional kits. Delay in approving this amendment will result in APD not being able to meet the terms of the grant related to deadlines for encumbrance of funds. Performing these services are essential in assisting law enforcement in identifying unknown suspects, linking DNA profiles between crimes scenes, and eliminating suspects in sexual assault cases.

Contract Detail

	<u>Contract Term</u>	<u>Current Contract Authorization</u>	<u>Requested Additional Authorization</u>	<u>Revised Total Authorization</u>
Initial Term	18 months	\$1,180,000	n/a	\$1,180,000
Contract Amendment	1 year	\$ 50,000	n/a	\$ 50,000
Proposed Amendment	6 months		\$220,250	\$ 220,250
TOTALS	3 yrs.	\$1,230,000	\$220,250	\$1,450,000