ORDINANCE NO. 20210204-032

AN ORDINANCE CREATING THE FORENSIC SCIENCE DEPARTMENT; AMENDING THE FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021 AUSTIN POLICE DEPARTMENT OPERATING BUDGET (ORDINANCE NO. 20200812-001) TO TRANSFER OUT FUNDING AND POSITIONS FOR THE FORENSIC SCIENCE BUREAU; DECREASING THE TRANSFER FROM THE GENERAL FUND TO THE APD DECOUPLE FUND BY THE AMOUNT OF FUNDING FOR THE FORENSIC SCIENCE BUREAU; AND TRANSFERRING IN TO THE FORENSIC SCIENCE DEPARTMENT THE SAME POSITIONS AND FUNDING FROM THE APD DECOUPLE FUND.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:

PART 1. The Council creates the Forensic Science Department, which shall be under the control and direction of the City Manager as provided in Article V, Section 3 of the Austin City Charter. The Forensic Science Department shall be engaged in the administration of criminal justice in support of state, federal, and local laws, and shall aid law enforcement in the detection, suppression, and prosecution of crime. In carrying out this purpose, the Forensic Science Department shall:

- Conduct objective, accurate and timely analyses of forensic evidence supporting the administration of criminal justice, and perform related services;

- Allocate substantially all of its annual budget to such criminal identification activities; and

- Be responsible for the following services in support of criminal justice: crime scene investigation; evidence management; firearm/toolmark examination; seized drug analysis; toxicological analysis; latent print examination; DNA analysis; and related forensic services as may be now or later developed for public safety purposes.

- Establish such policies, management control agreements, and procedures as necessary to carry out its purposes and activities stated above.
PART 2. Council amends the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Austin Police Department Operating Budget (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to transfer out 86.75 full-time equivalent positions and decrease funding in the APD Decouple Fund in the amount of $11,908,897, which consists of the positions and funding for the Forensic Science Bureau, and decreases the transfer from the General Fund to the APD Decouple Fund by the same amount.

PART 3. Council amends the Fiscal Year 2020-2021 General Fund Operating Budget (Ordinance No. 20200812-001) to transfer in 86.75 full-time equivalent positions and increase funding in the amount of $11,908,897, which consists of the same positions and funding for the Forensic Science Bureau, to establish the Forensic Science Department as set forth in PART 1 of this ordinance.

PART 4. This ordinance takes effect on February 15, 2021.

PASSED AND APPROVED

February 4, 2021

Steve Adler
Mayor

APPROVED: Anne L. Morgan
City Attorney

ATTEST: Jannette S. Goodall
City Clerk

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