



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:20-3185

Agenda Item Number: 7.

Agenda Date: 6/25/2020

In Control: City Council A Session

DEPARTMENT: Police

DEPARTMENT HEAD: William P. McManus, Chief of Police

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Office of the Governor, Public Safety Office, Criminal Justice Division TK20-FY20 DNA Testing Grant Program.

SUMMARY:

This ordinance ratifies the submission of a grant application and authorizes the acceptance of funds in the amount of up to \$275,000.00 from the Office of the Governor (OOG), Public Safety Office (PSO), Criminal Justice Division (CJD) for the for the TK20-FY20 DNA Testing Grant Program for reimbursement of expenditures incurred by the SAPD during the period of October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The purpose of this program is to assist law enforcement agencies with the costs associated with the forensic analysis of physical evidence in relation to sexual assault or other sex offenses.

In prior years, funds were received through a reimbursement request submitted by SAPD to OOG/CJD. Beginning this year, due to changes in the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure (Article 102.0569(e)), agencies are required to apply for the funds through a grant application.

The grant application was submitted on February 3, 2020, and the award notification was received on April 22, 2020. The grant award is for an amount not to exceed \$275,000 for the reimbursement of costs associated with DNA kits collected from sexual assault/sexual offence victims and offenders. The grant period is October 1, 2019 through September 30, 2020.

The DNA kits consist of a Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) exams which are conducted on the victim and the suspected offender if known. The DNA kits are submitted to the Bexar County Criminal Investigation Laboratory for analysis testing. If the victim's offender is known the DNA results are kept for potential comparison to the Victim's SANE finding. If the Victim's offender is unknown the DNA results will be placed

in the National database for potential comparison.

Based on the DNA collected from the Victim if there is a match in the system then Detectives investigate that lead and if evidence is developed present the case for prosecution to the District Attorney's Office.

ISSUE:

This ordinance continues City Council's policy of seeking and accepting financial assistance for improving the collection of crime data to provide specific, detailed information regarding crime, arrests, and identify crime trends.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Funds in the amount of up to \$275,000.00 will be used to reimburse SAPD Expenditures related DNA kits collected from sexual assault/sexual offence victims and offenders for the period of October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020. This grant does not require a city match.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends approval.