



# COMMISSIONERS COURT COMMUNICATION

REFERENCE NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

PAGE 1 OF 1

DATE: 06/21/2022

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL TO SUBMIT THE FISCAL YEAR 2022 FORENSIC DNA CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT FOR BACKLOG REDUCTION PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE FOR DNA SERVICES PROVIDED BY THE MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE**

**\*\*\* CONSENT AGENDA \*\*\***

**COMMISSIONERS COURT ACTION REQUESTED**

It is requested that the Commissioners Court approve the submission of an annual grant application to the Department of Justice for continued funding of DNA services provided by the Medical Examiner's Office DNA Laboratory. These funds will be available through the FY 2022 DNA Capacity Enhancement for Backlog Reduction Program.

**BACKGROUND**

This grant provides continued funding to increase the capacity of public forensic DNA laboratories to process more DNA samples, thereby helping to reduce the number of forensic DNA samples awaiting analysis or prevent a backlog in analysis.

If awarded, the grant would fund an existing senior forensic biologist to assist in the DNA analysis of forensic evidence, and laboratory equipment, supplies, and software for casework processing. In addition, the grant will fund the validation of software. Training and travel are also included in the application to ensure that DNA laboratory personnel receive the continuing education hours needed and stay up-to-date on new technology in the field.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

The application is seeking \$461,000.00 effective October 1, 2022 for a twenty-four (24) month period. A County match is not required.

SUBMITTED BY:	Budget and Risk Mgmt	PREPARED BY: APPROVED BY:	Kandice S. Boutté Helen H. Giese
---------------	----------------------	------------------------------	-------------------------------------