



COMMISSIONERS COURT
COMMUNICATION

REFERENCE NUMBER _____

PAGE 1 OF 2

DATE: 04/04/2023

SUBJECT: **APPROVAL TO SUBMIT THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUREAU OF JUSTICE ASSISTANCE MISSING AND UNIDENTIFIED HUMAN REMAINS PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE TARRANT COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE**

***** CONSENT AGENDA *****

COMMISSIONERS COURT ACTION REQUESTED

It is requested that the Commissioners Court approve the submittal of the FY 2023 Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Missing and Unidentified Human Remains Program Grant Application to hire staff, purchase equipment, and provide for genealogy testing of unidentified remains associated with cases managed by the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office.

BACKGROUND

The goal of the Missing and Unidentified Human Remains Program is to provide funding for services focused on reporting and identifying missing persons and unidentified human remains cases in the United States. The funding, if awarded, would be used to hire a staff member (Forensic II Death Investigator) that would assist the Human Identification Laboratory with investigating and managing the TCME's District and contracting agencies long term unidentified "cold" cases where standard identification modalities have been exhausted. The Forensic II Death Investigator will serve as a liaison to law enforcement partners in researching possible links to missing persons and unidentified cases. Funding will also be requested for the following:

Travel to Washington, DC for BJA grant recipient training courses required each year during the three (3) year grant period.

Forensic genetic genealogical DNA analysis (FGG)/forensic genetic genealogical DNA analysis and searching for approximately ten (10) unidentified cases (number may fluctuate based on final cost for each case).

Purchase of 3D scanner for digitizing cranium and mandible for digital facial reconstruction.

The program aims to provide investigatory leads and identify unidentified human remains that require approaches and resources beyond current capabilities.

Tarrant County Budget and Risk Management Department have reviewed the grant application.

SUBMITTED BY:	Budget and Risk Mgmt	PREPARED BY: APPROVED BY:	Claudia J. Del Toro Castro Helen Giese
---------------	----------------------	------------------------------	---



COMMISSIONERS COURT COMMUNICATION

REFERENCE NUMBER: _____ DATE: 04/04/2023 PAGE 2 OF 2

FISCAL IMPACT

The requested grant amount is approximately \$496,000.00.

There is no required match.

No indirect costs allowed for this grant.

No operating subsidy required for this grant.