



# COMMISSIONERS COURT COMMUNICATION

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

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DATE: 10/03/2023

**SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF THE FISCAL YEAR 2023 BUREAU OF JUSTICE  
ASSISTANCE FORMULA DNA CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT AND  
BACKLOG REDUCTION GRANT AWARD FOR THE TARRANT  
COUNTY MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE**

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

**COMMISSIONERS COURT ACTION REQUESTED**

It is requested that the Commissioners Court accept the FY 2023 Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Formula DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Grant Award, in the amount of \$600,000.00, to continue supporting grant-funded personnel, equipment, supplies, and continuing education for the forensic biology/DNA section of the Tarrant County Medical Examiner's (TCME's) Office.

**BACKGROUND**

The Formula DNA CEBR program furthers the Department of Justice's mission to increase the number of forensic DNA and DNA database samples processed for entry into the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI's) Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) by providing funding for laboratories to process DNA samples and to increase their capacity to process the DNA samples for CODIS upload. The Tarrant County Medical Examiner's Office has applied for Formula DNA CEBR (previously named Backlog Reduction) grants since 2009.

On April 18, 2023, the Commissioners Court, through Court Order #140709, approved submittal of the FY 2023 BJA Formula DNA CEBR Grant Award application for grant funding in the amount of \$600,000.00 to support the forensic biology/DNA section of the TCME's Office.

The program duration is October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2025. A portion of this funding will continue supporting salary and fringe benefits for two (2) DNA analysts, currently funded by Formula DNA CEBR funding, DNA analysis equipment, additional DNA analysis consumable supplies and continuing DNA education for the forensic DNA analysts.

The Tarrant County Auditor's Office and the Budget and Risk Management Department have reviewed the notice of grant award.

SUBMITTED BY:	Budget and Risk Mgmt	PREPARED BY: APPROVED BY:	Claudia J. Del Toro Castro Helen Giese
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### **FISCAL IMPACT**

The award amount is \$600,000.00.

There is no required grant match.

No indirect costs allowed for this grant.

No operating subsidy required for this grant.

The grant award will be deposited into the following account: GRANT-2004/L0013-2025/2310100000.

Positions funded by grants or special funds may be eliminated due to a loss of funding at any time, and Tarrant County has no obligation to assume funding for these positions.