



MEMORANDUM

Council Agenda
Item No. IX. BH
9/26/2023

The City of OKLAHOMA CITY

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Craig Freeman, City Manager

Resolution authorizing The City of Oklahoma City to accept, for the benefit of the Oklahoma City Police Department, a \$355,434 award from the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs for the 2023 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program, ratifying submittal of the internet based application by the Chief of Police and the Police Department Business Manager; authorizing the Mayor to sign any necessary documents; authorizing the Police Business Manager or Management Specialist to submit the internet acceptance, request for funds, and provide reports as required; and authorizing the City Treasurer to receive and deposit the funds in the Grants Management Fund.

Background:

The Oklahoma City Police Department DNA Laboratory has seen continued growth in case submissions. This growth is primarily due to the wide-spread application of DNA testing to property crimes occurring in the City of Oklahoma City.

OCPD has been awarded \$355,434 from the Department of Justice 2023 Forensic DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program grant to purchase equipment and contract for outside DNA testing. The grant funding will also provide for training and Lab Analyst overtime.

The addition of laboratory equipment will improve efficiency and expand capacity in the DNA laboratory. The contract for additional outside DNA testing of 100 cases will assist with backlog reduction.

Lab Analyst overtime has proven to reduce the backlog of unworked forensic cases effectively, reducing turnaround times, improving unit morale and providing better customer service. We are estimating that over the period of this award a minimum of 80 forensic cases can be completed on the requested funds and removed from the current backlog.

This is the twelfth year of funding for the DNA Backlog Reduction grant. Since 2011, over \$2.7 million in grant funds have been made available through the Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, DNA Backlog Reduction Program for the Oklahoma City Police Department.

This grant does not require matching funds from the City.

Revenue:

\$355,434 to be deposited in Grants Management Fund – Department of Justice – Justice Assistance Grant – Grant Receipts – 2023 DNA Backlog Reduction Grant (019-6160-4209009-G9998–G93610)

Review:

Police Department

Recommendation: Resolution be adopted.