



# WASHOE COUNTY

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## STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: March 12, 2019

**DATE:** Thursday, March 07, 2019

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Kerri Heward, Crime Lab Director  
775-321-2851, [KHeward@washoecounty.us](mailto:KHeward@washoecounty.us)

**THROUGH:** Darin Balaam, Sheriff

**SUBJECT:** Recommendation to approve a pass through grant award from the State of Nevada Department of Public Safety, Office of Criminal Justice Assistance 2018 Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement (FSI), Project No. 18-FSI-03 for [\$177,189.00 with an \$11,285.00 County match requirement] to provide for continued education for staff members and training for new Criminalists in the Forensic Science Division and purchase of TruNarc™ devices for the screening of drugs for the retroactive grant period of 01/1/19 through 12/31/19 and if approved, direct Comptroller's Office to make necessary budget amendments. In addition; if approved, authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute all relevant purchasing documents of the 6 additional TruNarc screen instruments that will cost not to exceed a total cost of \$145,000. (All Commission Districts)

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### SUMMARY

The State of Nevada Department of Public Safety, Office of Criminal Justice Assistance, awarded the Washoe County Sheriff's Office \$177,189.00 in a pass through grant award to fund the 2018 Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement (FSI) grant. The grant will be used to improve quality and timeliness of forensic services through continued education for current and new staff. In addition to training the grant will be used to purchase 6 additional TruNarc™ screening instruments that can provide presumptive results for controlled, prescription and illegal drugs. This device will assist officers from all agencies we serve with accurate presumptive results, provide them with a printed document that can be utilized as objective evidence for court purposes, reduce officer exposure to potentially harmful drugs such as fentanyl, and reduce the amount of chemical consumables (presumptive chemical test kits) used by these agencies.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Safe, secure and healthy communities.

## **PREVIOUS ACTION**

Prior Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement (FSI) funds were approved by the Board on 1/9/2019, 1/10/17, 10/28/14, 10/22/13, 3/12/13, 11/13/12, 10/11/11, 3/8/11, and 12/14/10.

## **BACKGROUND**

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office Forensic Science Division will utilize these funds to improve quality and timeliness of forensic services through continued education for current and new staff in trajectory analysis and crime scene reconstruction as well as to improve the capability, capacity, and timeliness of the latent print section. In addition to training the grant will be used to purchase 6 additional TruNarc™ screening instruments that can provide presumptive results for controlled, prescription and illegal drugs. This device will assist officers from all agencies we serve with accurate presumptive results, provide them with a printed document that can be utilized as objective evidence for court purposes, reduce officer exposure to potentially harmful drugs such as fentanyl, and reduce the amount of chemical consumables (presumptive chemical test kits) used by these agencies. Reason for retroactive submittal: Item was submitted to the first available BCC meeting once all paperwork was received and processed.

## **GRANT AWARD SUMMARY**

**Project/Program Name:** 2018 Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement (FSI)

**Scope of the Project:** Improve quality, timeliness, and capacity of forensic services through continued education and training for new employees and to purchase a TruNarc™ screening instrument that can provide presumptive results for controlled, prescription and illegal drugs.

**Benefit to Washoe County Residents:** Increased safety to Officers from all agencies who will be able to scan the suspected drugs through packaging prior to submitting the items to evidence thus eliminating the potential exposure to harmful chemicals.

**On-Going Program Support:** N/A

**Award Amount:** \$177,189.00

**Grant Period:** 1/01/2019 - 12/31/2019

**Funding Source:** U. S. Department of Justice

**Pass Through Entity:** State of Nevada, Office of Criminal Justice Assistance

**CFDA Number:** 16.742

**Grant ID Number:** 18-FSI-03

**Match Amount and Type:** \$11,285.00 cash

**Sub-Awards and Contracts:** Any equipment will be purchased using Washoe County grant procurement processes compliant with 2 CFR 200.317-200.326. Professional services and/or Independent Contract Agreement will be approved by Purchasing within Washoe County grant procurement processes.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Should the board accept this grant award and approve these amendments, the adopted FY19 budget will be increased by \$177,189.00 in both revenues and expenditures in the following accounts:

**INCREASE REVENUES:**

11560 - 431100 (Coverdell FSI 2018 Lab-Federal Funds)	\$177,189.00
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**INCREASE EXPENDITURES:**

11560 – 710509 (FSI 2018 Seminars & Meetings)	\$ 5,571.00
11560 – 711210 (FSI 2018 Travel)	\$ 42,785.00
11560 – 781004 (FSI 2018 Equipment Capital)	\$120,115.00
11560 – 710200 (FSI 2018 Service Contract)	\$ 8,718.00

- Cash Match of \$11,285.00 required. This will be met with the Forensic Sciences Division providing the funding for the partial cost of one TruNarc™ screening instrument. This will be paid for out of Drug Deferred funding IO 20001.
- Reimbursement
  - Upfront cash from General funds
- Sponsor does not allow for indirect cost recovery

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners approve a pass through grant award from the State of Nevada Department of Public Safety, Office of Criminal Justice Assistance 2018 Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement (FSI), Project No. 18-FSI-03 for [\$177,189.00 with an \$11,285.00 County match requirement] to provide for continued education for staff members and training for new Criminalists in the Forensic Science Division and purchase of TruNarc™ devices for the screening of drugs for the retroactive grant period of 01/1/19 through 12/31/19 and if approved, direct Comptroller’s Office to make necessary budget amendments. In addition; if approved, authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute all relevant purchasing documents of the 6 additional TruNarc screen instruments that will cost not to exceed a total cost of \$145,000.

**POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with staff’s recommendation, a possible motion would be: “Move to approve a pass through grant award from the State of Nevada Department of Public Safety, Office of Criminal Justice Assistance 2018 Paul Coverdell Forensic Science

Improvement (FSI), Project No. 18-FSI-03 for [\$177,189.00 with an \$11,285.00 County match requirement] to provide for continued education for staff members and training for new Criminalists in the Forensic Science Division and purchase of TruNarc™ devices for the screening of drugs for the retroactive grant period of 01/1/19 through 12/31/19 and if approved, direct Comptroller's Office to make necessary budget amendments. In addition; if approved, authorize the Purchasing and Contracts Manager to execute all relevant purchasing documents of the 6 additional TruNarc screen instruments that will cost not to exceed a total cost of \$145,000.”