



WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: March 26, 2019

DATE: Wednesday, March 20, 2019

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Kerri Heward, Director – Forensic Science Division
(775) 328-2803, kheward@washoecounty.us

THROUGH: Sheriff Darin Balaam

SUBJECT: Recommendation to approve the purchase of 7 new and 10 upgraded GeneMapper ID-X licenses from ThermoFisher Scientific at a cost of [\$113,500.00] using \$52,500 from the 2018 Capacity Enhancement Backlog Reduction (CEBR) DNA Grant (IO 11515) and \$61,000.00 from the restricted funding set up for DNA offender mandates per NRS 176.0911-0917 (IO 20391) under a sole source purchasing exemption. (All Commission Districts)

SUMMARY

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office Forensic Science Division is requesting approval to purchase 7 new and 10 upgraded GeneMapper ID-X licenses from ThermoFisher Scientific at a cost of [\$113,500.00] using \$52,500 from the 2018 Capacity Enhancement Backlog Reduction (CEBR) DNA Grant (IO 11515) and \$61,000.00 from the restricted funding set up for DNA offender mandates per NRS 176.0911-0917 (IO 20391) under a sole source purchasing exemption

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Safe, Secure and Healthy Communities.

PREVIOUS ACTION

The Board approved a similar purchase of GeneMapper for the Sheriff's Forensic Science Division on May 27, 2008.

The Board approved the purchase of STRmix mixture interpretation software for the Sheriff's Forensic Science Division on September 12, 2017.

The Board approved a similar purchase of a 3500 XL Genetic Analyzer from ThermoFisher Scientific on October 9, 2018

AGENDA ITEM # _____

BACKGROUND

GeneMapper ID-X is a powerful data analysis software package needed to generate DNA profiles. We are requesting the approval to upgrade the current version of GeneMapper ID-X utilized by our laboratory to a new version. This new version complements our new mixture interpretation software (STRmix) and takes advantage of an off scale recovery feature that will be extremely beneficial when processing offender samples. Since GeneMapper ID-X is currently utilized in our laboratory, it is compatible with existing instrumentation used in the WCSO Forensic Science Division. The new licenses are needed to accommodate additional criminalists hired into the Biology Unit. ThermoFisher Scientific does not have authorized dealers/re-sellers for this software making the purchase a sole source directly from ThermoFisher Scientific.

FISCAL IMPACT

The GeneMapper ID-X software licenses will be purchased for [\$113,500.00] using \$52,500 from the 2018 Capacity Enhancement Backlog Reduction (CEBR) DNA Grant (IO 11515) and \$61,000.00 from the restricted funding set up for DNA offender mandates per NRS 176.0911-0917 (IO 20391) under a sole source purchasing exemption.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners approve the purchase of 7 new and 10 upgraded GeneMapper ID-X licenses from ThermoFisher Scientific at a cost of [\$113,500.00] using \$52,500 from the 2018 Capacity Enhancement Backlog Reduction (CEBR) DNA Grant (IO 11515) and \$61,000.00 from the restricted funding set up for DNA offender mandates per NRS 176.0911-0917 (IO 20391) under a sole source purchasing exemption.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to approve the purchase of 7 new and 10 upgraded GeneMapper ID-X licenses from ThermoFisher Scientific at a cost of [\$113,500.00] using \$52,500 from the 2018 Capacity Enhancement Backlog Reduction (CEBR) DNA Grant (IO 11515) and \$61,000.00 from the restricted funding set up for DNA offender mandates per NRS 176.0911-0917 (IO 20391) under a sole source purchasing exemption."