



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: May 8, 2018

DATE: Wednesday, May 02, 2018

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Kerri Heward, Director – Forensic Science Division
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THROUGH: Sheriff Chuck Allen

SUBJECT: Recommendation to approve the sole source exemption to purchase a 3500 XL Genetic Analyzer from ThermoFisher Scientific at a cost of [\$191,610.79], using \$149,038.00 from the 2017 Capacity Enhancement Backlog Reduction (CEBR) DNA Grant (IO 11448) and \$42,572.79 from the restricted funding set up for DNA offender mandates per NRS 176.0911-0917 (IO 201391). (All Commission Districts)

SUMMARY

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office Forensic Science Division is requesting sole source approval to purchase a 3500 XL Genetic Analyzer from ThermoFisher Scientific at a cost of [\$191,610.79] using \$149,038.00 from the 2017 Capacity Enhancement Backlog Reduction (CEBR) DNA Grant (IO 11448) and \$42,572.79 from the restricted funding set up for DNA offender mandates per NRS 176.0911-0917 (IO 20391).

The \$191,610.79 price not only includes the instrument but also a one year service contract that will be initiated after the 1 year warranty has expired. The cost also includes 8 hours of in-house training to all DNA criminalists.

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

PREVIOUS ACTION

On 01/09/18, the Board approved the 2017 DNA Backlog Reduction Grant Award.

BACKGROUND

The WCSO Forensic Science Division currently has three 3130 genetic analyzers for use in the processing of criminal cases and offender samples for DNA. All three instruments are over 10 years old and will no longer be supported by the manufacturer in the next few years. Therefore, we would like purchase one 3500 XL to replace one 3130. The 3500 XL genetic analyzer is the newer model of 3130 and can inject 24 samples at a time. Our current instrument can inject 4 samples at a time. Therefore, the 3500 XL will

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significantly improve the efficiency of the DNA analysis process for both casework and offender samples.

FISCAL IMPACT

The 3500 XL genetic analyzer will be purchased using \$149,038.00 from the 2017 Capacity Enhancement Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Grant (IO 11448) and \$42,572.79 from the restricted funding set up for DNA offender mandates per NRS 176.0911-0917 (IO 20391). This pricing includes the trade in value for one of the currently used 3130 genetic analyzers. The \$191,610.79 price not only includes the instrument but also a one year service contract that will be initiated after the 1 year warranty has expired. The cost also includes 8 hours of in-house training to all DNA criminalists.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners approve the sole source exemption to purchase a 3500 XL Genetic Analyzer from ThermoFisher Scientific at a cost of [\$191,610.79], using \$149,038.00 from the 2017 Capacity Enhancement Backlog Reduction (CEBR) DNA Grant (IO 11448) and \$42,572.79 from the restricted funding set up for DNA offender mandates per NRS 176.0911-0917 (IO 201391).

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: Move to approve the sole source exemption to purchase a 3500 XL Genetic Analyzer from ThermoFisher Scientific at a cost of [\$191,610.79], using \$149,038.00 from the 2017 Capacity Enhancement Backlog Reduction (CEBR) DNA Grant (IO 11448) and \$42,572.79 from the restricted funding set up for DNA offender mandates per NRS 176.0911-0917 (IO 201391).