



# 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](mailto: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)

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### **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."