



WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service

www.washoecounty.us

STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: January 12, 2021

DATE: Thursday, January 07, 2021

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 sole source exemption and purchase of consumables from Life Technologies at an approximate cost not to exceed [\$400,000.00] annually for the retroactive term of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 for the purchase of consumables for the Forensic Science Division to use in the DNA section. (All Commission Districts.)

SUMMARY

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office Forensic Science Division is requesting approval of a sole source exemption to purchase consumables from Life Technologies to use in the DNA section. The cost of these consumables is estimated not to exceed \$400,000.00 annually. Actual cost not yet determined. WCSO FSD orders consumables as needed throughout the year based on casework and offender samples volume.

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

PREVIOUS ACTION

On July 24, 2018, the Board of County Commissioners approved item 21, the sole source exemption and purchase of consumable from Life Technologies.

BACKGROUND

Life Technologies is the Washoe County Sheriff's Office Forensic Science Division current vendor for DNA kits and consumables. Life Technologies is the only manufacturer and distributor of these kits, associated chemicals and instrumentation. The WCSO FSD has a validated DNA analysis process utilizing Quantifiler Trio Quantitation kits, GlobalFiler and YFiler along with the 7500 real time PCR instrument and 3500 capillary electrophoresis instruments. The WCSO FSD has validated a Y screening method currently used with our validated instruments and processes. The instruments were purchased with ThermoFisher/Life Technologies. There is no alternative for consumables using our current validated system for DNA analysis.

AGENDA ITEM # _____

With Life Technologies, WCSO FSD has government pricing and negotiated volume discount pricing based on our dollar volume usage which is updated annually.

Chemicals and Supplies are for use in the 7500 real-time PCR instrument and 3500 Capillary Electrophoresis instruments in DNA. Chemicals include: Y screening supplies, Quantifiler Trio Quantitation kits, Global Filer STR kits, YFiler STR kits, POP-4, Calibration kits, Matrix standards and LIZ 500 and 600.

All DNA casework and offender samples are processed using the above listed chemicals and associated equipment.

Reason for retroactive submittal: Item was submitted to the first available Board of County Commissioners meeting upon exceeding \$100,000 for Fiscal Year 2020-2021.

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the Board approve the sole source exemption and purchase of consumables from Life Technologies, the use of existing funds in the approved FY21 budget will be as follows:

Cost Object & Description	G/L Account & Description	Amount
CC - 150650 Crime Lab	710319 - Chemical Supplies	\$120,000.00
CC - 150650 Crime Lab	710300 - Operating Supplies	\$10,000.00
IO - 20003 Genetic Marker Testing	710319 - Chemical Supplies	\$130,000.00
IO - 20003 Genetic Marker Testing	710300 - Operating Supplies	\$5,000.00
IO - 20391 DNA Offender Mandates	710319 - Chemical Supplies	\$130,000.00
IO - 20391 DNA Offender Mandates	710300 - Operating Supplies	\$5,000.00

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended the Board of County Commissioners approve the sole source exemption and purchase of consumables from Life Technologies at an approximate cost not to exceed [\$400,000.00] annually for the retroactive term of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 for the purchase of consumables for the Forensic Science Division to use in the DNA section.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to approve the sole source exemption and purchase of consumables from Life Technologies at an approximate cost not to exceed [\$400,000.00] annually for the retroactive term of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 for the purchase of consumables for the Forensic Science Division to use in the DNA section."