



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: November 15, 2022

DATE: Tuesday, November 08, 2022

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Steve Johnson, Crime Lab Director
775-328-8721; sjohnson@washoecounty.gov

THROUGH: Darin Balaam, Sheriff

SUBJECT: Recommendation to accept a grant award from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) FY 22 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Program, Award No 15PBJA-22-GG-01690-DNAX [amount not to exceed \$400,000.00, No County match required], to cover costs related to the DNA capacity enhancement and backlog reduction/prevention and travel, for the retroactive grant term of October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2024 and if approved, authorize Sheriff Balaam to execute grant award documentation, and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments. (All Commission Districts.)

SUMMARY

This item is presented seeking approval to accept the grant award from the Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance. Per county policy, the Washoe County Board of County Commissioners must accept grant awards and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments.

The Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) awarded the Washoe County Sheriff's Office \$400,000.00 to fund the FY22 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program. The Washoe County Sheriff's Office Forensic Science Division will utilize these funds to pay costs associated with overtime needed to eliminate/prevent bottlenecks in the DNA analysis of cases and offender samples, travel and training, equipment, and supplies.

Washoe County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Meet the needs of our growing community.

PREVIOUS ACTION

AGENDA ITEM # _____

On February 8, 2022, the Board approved item 6.F.5, a grant award from the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Program for \$465,032.00.

On November 12, 2019, the Board approved item #27, a grant award from the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Program for \$378,706.

On November 13, 2018, the Board approved item #18, a grant award from the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Program for \$407,395.

On January 9, 2018, the Board approved item #12, a grant award from the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Program for \$265,125.

On January 10, 2017, the Board approved item #8, a grant award from the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Program for \$267,156.

The Board has been approving the DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Program awards since 2015.

BACKGROUND

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office Forensic Science Division will utilize these funds to pay costs associated with overtime needed to eliminate/prevent bottlenecks in the DNA analysis of cases and offender samples, travel and training, equipment, and supplies from October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2024.

Reason for retroactive submittal: Item was submitted to the first available BCC meeting once award paperwork was received and processed.

GRANT AWARD SUMMARY

Project/Program Name: *2022 DNA Capacity Enhancement Backlog and Reduction Program*

Scope of the Project: *Funding for costs associated with reducing the backlog of DNA samples (both casework and offender) to be tested.*

Benefit to Washoe County Residents: *Increased capability to test pending DNA samples (both casework and offender).*

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

Award Amount: *\$400,000.00*

Grant Period: *10/1/22-9/30/24*

Funding Source: *Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs*

Pass through From: *Bureau of Justice Assistance*

CFDA Number: *16.741*

Grant ID Number: *15PBJA-22-GG-01690-DNAX*

Match Amount and Type: *None*

Sub-Awards and Contracts: Equipment will be purchased using Washoe County grant procurement processes compliant with 2 CFR 200.317-200.326.

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the Board accept this award and approve these amendments, the adopted FY22 budget will be increased by \$400,000.00 in both revenues and expenditures in the following accounts:

Cost Object & Description	G/L Account & Description	Amount
IO-12067 FY 22 CEBR	431100 - Federal Grants	\$400,000.00
IO-12067 FY 22 CEBR	701300 - Overtime	\$66,174.00
IO-12067 FY 22 CEBR	705230 – Medicare	\$960.00
IO-12067 FY 22 CEBR	711210 – Travel	\$9,666.00
IO-12067 FY 22 CEBR	710509 – Seminars and Meetings	\$12,830.00
IO-12067 FY 22 CEBR	710200 – Service Contract	\$310,370.00

There is no cash match required for this grant funding. This is reimbursement-based funding.

- *No match required*
- *Funds will be drawn as a reimbursement*
 - *General funds are source of the upfront cash*
- *Indirect costs are not allowable on this grant award as no salary or wages are included in the grant budget.*

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners accept a grant award from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) FY 22 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Program, Award No 15PBJA-22-GG-01690-DNAX [amount not to exceed \$400,000.00, No County match required], to cover costs related to the DNA capacity enhancement and backlog reduction/prevention and travel, for the retroactive grant term of October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2024 and if approved, authorize Sheriff Balaam to execute grant award documentation, and direct the Comptroller’s Office to make the necessary budget amendments.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to accept a grant award from the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) FY 22 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Program, Award No 15PBJA-22-GG-01690-DNAX [amount not to exceed \$400,000.00, No County match required], to cover costs related to the DNA capacity enhancement and backlog reduction/prevention and travel, for the retroactive grant term of October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2024 and if approved, authorize Sheriff Balaam to execute grant award documentation, and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments."