



**CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE
City Commission Agenda Memo
REGULAR MEETING**

#23-0682

TO: Honorable Mayor & Members of the
Fort Lauderdale City Commission

FROM: Greg Chavarria, City Manager

DATE: September 5, 2023

TITLE: Motion Approving Piggyback Agreement for DNA Testing for Sexual Assault Evidence with Bode Cellmark Forensics, Inc., Utilizing Maricopa County, Arizona, Contract No. 190294-S - \$72,459.50 - (**Commission Districts 1, 2, 3 and 4**)

Recommendation

Staff recommends the City Commission approve an Agreement for DNA Testing for Sexual Assault Evidence with Bode Cellmark Forensics, Inc., in substantially the form attached, utilizing ("Piggybacking") Maricopa County, Arizona, Contract No. 190294-S in the amount of \$72,459.50, and authorize execution of the Agreement.

Background

In January 2021, the City accepted an award from the Department of Justice's (DOJ) National Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) Competitive Grant program (CAM 21-0023). The purpose of the program is to examine issues related to the handling of sexual assault kits (SAKs), develop, and implement methodology to improve the processing and preservation of quality DNA evidence, and the provision of trauma-informed victim services. Since the inception of the SAKI Grant Program under a FY2018 grant award, detectives have re-opened 61 cold cases and 4 individuals have been charged with sexual assault.

During a recent Evidence Unit Audit, 21 sexual assault kits were identified as in need of DNA testing. There is also one case that will possibly require forensic genetic genealogical DNA analysis. The Police Department has outsourced Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) testing services, as the City does not have its own laboratory to facilitate the described type of procedure. Bode Cellmark Forensics, Inc. (Bode) was selected through a competitive process by the County of Maricopa as one of the outsourcing vendors based on specific criteria recommended by the DOJ and best practices. Bode has previously partnered with the Police Department to facilitate SAK testing. It is accredited by ANSI National Accreditation Board (ANAB) to ISO/IEC 17025:2005, the ASCLD/LAB-International Supplemental Requirements for Forensic Testing Laboratories, as well as the FBI Quality Assurance Standards for Forensic Testing Laboratories and DNA Databasing Laboratories.

Resource Impact

Funds for this contract in the amount of \$143,918 are available under 21GNSAKI account(s) listed below:

<i>Funds available as of August 7, 2023</i>					
ACCOUNT NUMBER	COST CENTER NAME (Program)	CHARACTER/ ACCOUNT NAME	AMENDED BUDGET (Character)	AVAILABLE BALANCE (Character)	AMOUNT
10-129-9300-521-30- 3199-21GNSAKI	Sexual Assault Kit Initiative FY2021	Other Professional Services	\$143,918.00	\$71,458.50	\$72,459.50
TOTAL AMOUNT ►					\$72,459.50

Strategic Connections

This item is a *2022 Commission* Priority, advancing the Community Response and Safety initiative.

This item supports the *Press Play Fort Lauderdale 2024* Strategic Plan, specifically advancing:

- The Public Safety Focus Area
- Goal 6: Build a safe and well-prepared community.
- Objective: Prevent and solve crime in all neighborhoods.

This item advances the *Fast Forward Fort Lauderdale 2035* Vision Plan: We Are Community.

This item supports the *Advance Fort Lauderdale 2040* Comprehensive Plan specifically advancing:

- The Public Safety Focus Area
- The Coastal Management, Community Health and Safety Element
- Goal 4: Coordinate with related partners and agencies (at city, local, county, regional, state, and federal levels) to plan for disaster and emergency management, further the resiliency of coastal areas, and ensure city-wide community health and safety.

Attachments

Exhibit 1 - FY2020 National Sexual Assault Initiative Grant (SAKI) Award

Exhibit 2 - Bode Cellmark Forensics Inc. - Piggyback Agreement

Exhibit 3 - Maricopa County Agreement No. 190294-S

Prepared by:

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