

Alameda County Sheriff's Office

Lakeside Plaza, 1401 Lakeside Drive, 12th Floor, Oakland, CA 94612-4305



Gregory J. Ahern, Sheriff

Coroner - Public Administrator - Marshal
Director of Emergency Services

AGENDA _____ May 19, 2008

April 30, 2008

Honorable Board of Supervisors
County Administration Building
1221 Oak Street, Room 536
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: **Approval of Contract with Applera Corporation for Validation of Crime Lab Equipment Services**

RECOMMENDATION

It is respectfully requested that your Honorable Board approve contract (number 2722) with Applera Corporation (DBA Applied Biosystems, Principal, Tony White, President, located in Foster City, California) to provide validation services for the Alameda County Sheriff's Office Crime Lab at a cost not to exceed \$65,000. The term of this contract shall begin March 19, 2008 and shall end June 30, 2008.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION/FINDINGS

The Sheriff's Office Crime Laboratory recently purchased an Applied Biosystems 3130 Genetic Analyzer which is expected to allow the Laboratory to process DNA samples four times as fast as currently utilized technology. The new equipment must be validated to ensure it produces scientifically accurate and reproducible results which can be supported in a court of law before it can be used. The analytical work and data analysis required for this validation is estimated to take 14 weeks to complete. Given its limited staffing, the Crime Laboratory cannot afford to dedicate the time to this project without significantly affecting DNA casework output. Therefore, we are requesting that the Crime Laboratory be given the ability to contract for services to complete this validation. The requested vendor is Applied Biosystems, the manufacturer of the equipment. Funding for this service will be provided with current DNA grant monies.

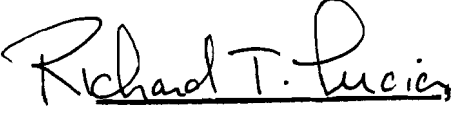
SELECTION CRITERIA/PROCESS

Selection of Applied Bio-Systems was based on their sole ability to provide validation services for recently acquired DNA testing equipment at the Crime Laboratory. An Advanced notice of Sole Source Procurement posted on the County website for ten (10) business days, resulted in no responses. Therefore, an exception to the County Competitive Bidding Requirement was approved by GSA Purchasing based on the determination that the requested services cannot be substituted and satisfy our Agency's needs.

In addition, the Business Outreach and Compliance Office recommended approval to waive the SLEB requirement as per their attached authorization form.

FINANCING

The 2007 DNA Backlog Reduction grant will provide the necessary funding for this contract. This action does not increase the net County cost in FY 2007-2008 or future years.

 *Richard T. Lucier, Undersheriff*

for Gregory J. Ahern
Sheriff-Coroner

cc: County Administrator
Auditor-Controller-Recorder

GJA:LYM:lym