



Office of the County Executive

Monroe County, New York

Adam J. Bello
County Executive

March 5, 2021

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Committee Assignment	
HUMAN SERVICES	-L
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To The Honorable
Monroe County Legislature
407 County Office Building
Rochester, New York 14614

Subject: Acceptance of a Grant from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services for the Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Program (Office of the Medical Examiner's Forensic Toxicology Laboratory)

Honorable Legislators:

I recommend that Your Honorable Body accept a grant from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services in the amount of \$51,490 for the Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Program (Office of the Medical Examiner's Forensic Toxicology Laboratory) for the period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021.

The purpose of this grant is to improve forensic science services in the Monroe County Office of the Medical Examiner's Forensic Toxicology Laboratory. This program provides postmortem forensic toxicology services to aid in the determination of cause and manner of deaths and toxicology services to aid in the evaluation of cases of driving under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol and drug-facilitated sexual assault. The funds will be used to purchase supplies needed to: increase the analytical capacity of the Laboratory; minimize testing downtimes; train staff; and maintain the Laboratory's accreditation. This will be the eighteenth year the County has received this grant. This year's funding represents a decrease of \$2,028 from last year. This funding varies annually and is dependent on the total amount of federal funds available and the number of forensic laboratories in New York State eligible to receive funds.

The specific legislative actions required are:

1. Authorize the County Executive, or his designee, to accept a \$51,490 grant from, and to execute a contract and any amendments thereto with, the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services for the Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Program (Office of the Medical Examiner's Forensic Toxicology Laboratory) for the period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021.

2. Amend the 2021 operating budget of the Department of Public Health by appropriating the sum of \$28,806 into general fund 9001, funds center 5804020200, Forensic Laboratory.
3. Authorize the County Executive to appropriate any subsequent years of the grant award in accordance with the grant terms, to reappropriate any unencumbered balances during the grant period according to the grantor requirements, and to make any necessary funding modifications within the grant guidelines to meet contractual commitments.
4. Should funding of this program be modified or terminated for any reason, the County Executive is hereby authorized to terminate or modify the program and, where applicable, to terminate or abolish some or all positions funded under such program. Any termination or abolishment of positions shall be in accordance with New York State Civil Service Law and, when applicable, the terms of any labor agreement affecting such positions.

This action is a Type II Action pursuant to 6 NYCRR § 617.5(c)(26) ("routine or continuing agency administration and management, not including new programs or major reordering of priorities that may affect the environment") and (31) ("purchase or sale of furnishings, equipment or supplies, including surplus government property, other than the following: land, radioactive material, pesticides, herbicides, or other hazardous materials") and is not subject to further review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

Partial funding for this grant is included in the 2021 operating budget of the Department of Public Health, general fund 9001, funds center 5804020200, Forensic Laboratory. The appropriated amount will adjust the current funding to that established by the grant.

This grant is 100% funded by the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services. No net County support is required in the current Monroe County budget.

I recommend that this matter be referred to the appropriate committee(s) for favorable action by Your Honorable Body.

Sincerely,



Adam J. Bello
Monroe County Executive