



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
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Agenda Item Number: 3

Agenda Date: April 16, 2024

In Control: Public Safety Committee

DEPARTMENT: Police Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: William McManus, Chief of Police

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

FY 2023 DNA Testing Grant Program

SUMMARY:

A briefing to the Public Safety Committee authorizing the award acceptance of grant funds in an amount of \$196,084.00 from the Office of the Governor, Public Safety Office for the FY2023 DNA Testing Grant Program for the period of January 1, 2024, through December 31, 2024.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The purpose of the program is to assist law enforcement agencies with the costs associated with the forensic analysis of physical evidence in relation to sexual assault or other sex offenses. These funds will be for the reimbursement of costs associated with DNA kits collected from sexual assault/sexual offence victims and offenders.

The funds will reimburse the Department for the processing of any evidence in an active sex

offense investigation which would include: Victims of Sexual Assault Nurse Examination (SANE) kits, suspect SANE kits, suspect DNA swabs, as well as processing evidence such as bedding, clothing, and any other materials taken into evidence in a sex offense investigation.

The grant application was authorized by a Grant Application Approval Form dated January 23, 2024, and the application was submitted to the Office of the Governor on January 31, 2024.

ISSUE:

A briefing to the Public Safety Committee on the acceptance of grant funds, \$196,084.00, from the Office of the Governor, Public Safety Office for the TK-DNA Test Kit Fund, FY 2023 DNA Testing Grant Program for reimbursement of expenditures incurred by the SAPD.

FISCAL IMPACT:

This grant provides funding in an amount up to \$196,084.00 for reimbursement of expenditures in the examination of Sexual Assault Kits. This grant does not require a match.

ALTERNATIVES:

This grant provides an opportunity for the City of San Antonio to be reimbursed for DNA Testing in sexual offense cases. There are no other similar grants available to the City.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that Public Safety Committee forward this item to the full City Council to accept funds for reimbursement of DNA kits collected from sexual assault/sexual offence victims and offenders.