



Legislation Text

File #: 21-2735, Version: 1

To: Harris County Commissioners Court

Through: Luis A. Sanchez, M.D., Executive Director & Chief Medical Examiner, Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences

Prepared By: Robin Alewine, Grant Analyst, Harris County Institute of Forensic Sciences

Subject: Grant Item for June 8, 2021 Court Agenda

Project ID (If applicable): Grant Application #O-NIJ-2021-95001

Purpose and Request:

Request by the Institute of Forensic Sciences for authorization to submit an application to the U.S. Department of Justice/National Institute of Justice for grant funds in the amount of \$152,696, with no required match, for the FY 2021 SFT Analysis: Research and Development in Forensic Science for Criminal Justice Purposes Program.

Background and Discussion:

The goal of this project is to resolve some of the remaining challenges associated with anthropological sharp force trauma (SFT) analysis and reduce the number of SFT analyses of blade class that are classified as indeterminate.

Fiscal Impact:

This is a one (1) year research grant with a total project cost of \$152,696.00. The research project is 100% grant-funded with no cash match requirement.

Fiscal Summary			
Expenditures	FY 20-21	FY 21-22 Projected	Future Years Projected [3 additional years]
Service Impacted: <i>[Please specify division where expenditures will be incurred]</i>		<u>Anthropology</u>	<u>N/A</u>
Existing Budget		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Additional Appropriation Requested		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Expenditures		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Funding Sources			
Existing Department Budget			
Grant - DOJ/National Institute of Justice		<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
Research & Development in Forensic Science for Criminal Justice Purposes		<u>152,696.00</u>	<u>0</u>
Total Sources		<u>152,696.00</u>	<u>0</u>

Alternatives:

There are very few, if any, alternatives or other resources available for this type of research program. If HCIFS does not receive this award, the research would have to be funded by the general fund.

Alignment with Strategic Objective:

This project allows for scientific inquiry within the forensic community and provides our scientific experts the opportunity to expand their professional roles within the justice system.

Attachments:

Court Letter

Court Order

Grant Narrative

Grant Budget

Financial Management and Internal Controls Form (needs County Judge's Signature)