

Hammond



County of Los Angeles CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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DAVID E. JANSSEN
Chief Administrative Officer

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District

YVONNE B. BURKE
Second District

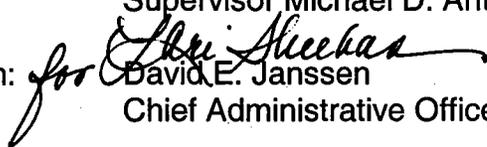
ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

May 31, 2005

To: Supervisor Gloria Molina, Chair
Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: 
David E. Janssen
Chief Administrative Officer

EXTENSION OF AGREEMENT WITH FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY ASSOCIATES (FTA) FOR COURT-ORDERED FORENSIC TOXICOLOGY SERVICES

Under the Lockyer-Isenberg Trial Court Funding Act of 1997, AB 233, the County maintains funding responsibility for indigent defense programs. Indigent defendants are entitled to have defense counsel appointed to represent them in criminal cases and the services of an expert necessary to the preparation of their cases. On May 10, 2003, your Board approved an agreement with FTA to provide court-ordered forensic toxicology services in the County.

The initial term of the agreement was for a 12-month period which commenced on July 12, 2003 and expired on June 11, 2004. The agreement includes the provision of four 12-month renewal options that may be exercised by my office. On June 7, 2004, my office exercised the first 12-month renewal to extend the term of the agreement through June 11, 2005.

The Public Defender (PD) Department and the Alternate Public Defender (APD) Department, along with the defendants they represent are the recipients of this service. We consulted with PD and APD staff on the quality of the service and the appropriateness of renewing the agreement. We have been advised by both departments that they are satisfied with the performance of FTA and do not have any outstanding issue with the vendor that requires corrective action.

Each Supervisor
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Conclusion

Based on the positive performance record of FTA during the last 12-month period of the agreement, my office believes it is appropriate to exercise the second 12-month renewal to extend the contract through June 11, 2006. This extension will allow the County to fulfill its obligation under AB 233 to provide indigent defendants with expert services necessary to prepare for their cases. Funding for this contract is included in the FY 2005-06 Proposed Budget. Therefore, my office will proceed to execute the second one-year extension unless we are advised otherwise by June 6, 2005.

If you have any questions, please let me know or your staff may contact Amy Clarke of my office at (213) 974-1163.

DJ:DL
AC:TT:yf

c: Enrique Sandoval, Los Angeles Superior Court
Gordon Trask, County Counsel
Leslie McMillan, Public Defender Department
Jordan Yerian, Alternate Public Defender Department

Fta.trial.court.bn