County of Los Angeles
Sheriff's Department Headquarters
4700 Ramona Boulevard
Monterey Park, California 91754-2169

LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

October 20, 2009

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

ACCEPT A GRANT AWARD FROM THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2009 FORENSIC DNA BACKLOG REDUCTION PROGRAM (ALL DISTRICT) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

Request Board approval for the Sheriff, to sign and accept a grant award in the amount of $1,435,858 from the United States Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice (NIJ), for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Department), for the purpose of improving Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) analysis capacity and the infrastructure of the existing crime laboratory. This is the sixth year the Department has received funding under this program.

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Authorize the Sheriff to accept the NIJ's Fiscal Year (FY) 2009 Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction Program Grant Award from NIJ, for FY 2009-10, in the amount of $1,435,858 with no matching funds.

2. Delegate authority to the Sheriff or his designee to sign and execute the grant award and all future amendments, modifications, extensions, and augmentations to said grant when necessary.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

The objectives of the NIJ's FY 2009 Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction Program (DNA Program) is to assist awarded agencies and/or jurisdictions with improving their DNA analysis capacity and improving their existing crime laboratory infrastructure. The Department's objective is to reduce the backlog of sexual assault cases waiting for DNA testing by approximately 1,100 cases. To successfully achieve the objective of this DNA Program, the Department will use the grant funds to pay overtime for laboratory staff directly engaged in the handling, screening, analysis, report review, and Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) entry of DNA evidence and for the outsourcing of DNA evidence to accredited fee-for-service laboratories.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Approval of the recommended actions is consistent with the Los Angeles County's Strategic Plan, Goal 1, Operational Effectiveness; and Goal 5, Public Safety. With the grant funds being directed toward assisting the Department in improving the operations of its Crime Lab, the Department will be given the opportunity to complete its mission more effectively and efficiently, as well as maintain the safety and security of the residents of Los Angeles County.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The term of the 2009 DNA Program is for a period of 18 months from October 1, 2009, to March 31, 2011. The FY 2009-10 sixth year of funding in the amount of $1,435,858 (Salaries and Employee Benefits - $82,293 and Services and Supplies - $ 1,353,565) is offset by Federal funds with no local match.

Funding for this program has been included in the Department's operational budget for FY 2009-10.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

On June 18, 2009, the Department submitted an application in response to the NIJ's FY 2009 DNA Program grant solicitation. Upon review of the Department's application, NIJ selected the Department to be a recipient of this grant award. As a recipient, the Department will receive $1,435,858 with no local match required.

The grant period will be from October 1, 2009, through March 31, 2011.

This Board letter has been reviewed by County Counsel.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The program may create workload increases for Los Angeles County's justice departments as suspects are identified from offender databases and subsequently charged with a crime. The Department has made contact with each of the County justice departments.

This grant funding will have a positive impact on current services by improving the existing infrastructure of the Department's Crime Lab, thereby, enhancing the capacity to analyze DNA.

CONCLUSION

Upon your Board approval, please instruct the Executive Office to return two individually certified copies of the adopted Board letter to the Department's Grants Unit.

Sincerely,

LEROY D. BACA
SHERIFF

Los Angeles County Chief Administrative Office
Grant Management Statement for Grants Exceeding $100,000

Department: Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department

Grant Project Title and Description: NIJ's FY 09 Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction Program

This grant will fund DNA analysis to identify and test backlogged forensic DNA casework samples from the department's sexual assault kit backlog. The objective of this grant is to reduce the backlog of sexual assault cases waiting for DNA testing by approximately 1,100 cases.

Funding Agency	Program (Fed. Grant # /State Bill or Code #)	Grant Acceptance Deadline
National Institute of Justice	2009-DN-BX-K070	October 20, 2009

Total Amount of Grant Funding: $1,435,858 **County Match Requirements:** 0
Grant Period: 10/01/2009 -03/31/2011 **Begin Date:** 10/01/2009 **End Date:** 03/31/2011
Number of Personnel Hired Under This Grant: 0 **Full** Time 0 **Part Time** 0

Obligations Imposed on the County When the Grant Expires

Will all personnel hired for this program be informed this is a grant-funded program? **N/A**

Will all personnel hired for this program be placed on temporary ("N") items? **N/A**

Is the County obligated to continue this program after the grant expires? **No**

If the County is not obligated to continue this program after the grant expires, the Department will:

a). Absorb the program cost without reducing other **No**

b). Identify other revenue sources **No**

(Describe)

c). Eliminate or reduce, as appropriate, positions/program costs funded by the grant. **Yes**

Impact of additional personnel on existing space: None

Other requirements not mentioned above: None

Department Head Signature Leroy D. Baca **Date** 10-5-09