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

LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

October 7, 2008

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 FISCAL YEAR 2008 FORENSIC DNA BACKLOG REDUCTION PROGRAM (ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

Request Board approval for the Sheriff, as an agent for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Department), to sign and accept a grant award in the amount of $1,057,121 from the United States Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice (NIJ), for the purpose of improving Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) analysis capacity and the infrastructure of the existing crime laboratory. This is the fifth 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) 2008 Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction Program grant award from NIJ, for FY 2008-09, in the total amount of $1,057,121 with no matching funds.

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

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

On June 2, 2008, the Department submitted an application in response to the NIJ's FY 2008 Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction Program grant solicitation. Upon review of the

Department's application, the NIJ selected the Department to be a recipient of the NIJ's FY 2008 Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction Program grant award. As a recipient of this award, the Department will receive $1,057,121 with no local match required. On October 16, 2007, your Board authorized the Sheriff to accept $1,153,158 for the 2007 Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction Program.

The objective of the NIJ's FY 2008 Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction Program is to assist awarded agencies and/or jurisdictions with improving their DNA analysis capacity and improving their existing crime laboratory infrastructure. To successfully achieve the objectives of this DNA program, the Department will use the grant funds for overtime to work DNA cases that are backlogged, to purchase supplies, outsource some DNA cases, provide training classes for personnel, and purchase equipment to aid in the timely processing of DNA cases for the Department's Scientific Services Bureau's Crime Lab. Realization of these goals and objectives will ensure that the Department continues to successfully meet the accreditation requirements for the Crime Lab.

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Approval of the recommended actions is consistent with the County of Los Angeles' Strategic Plan; specifically, Goal 1, Service Excellence; Goal 2, Workforce Excellence; Goal 3, Organizational Effectiveness; and Goal 4, Fiscal responsibility. With the grant funds being directed toward assisting the Department in improving the operation of the 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 2008 DNA program is for a period of 12 months, from October 1, 2008, to September 30, 2009. The FY 2008-09 fifth year of funding in the amount of $1,057,121 (Salaries and Employee Benefits - $144,081, Services and Supplies - $773,040, and Fixed Assets - $140,000), is offset by Federal funds with no local match.

Funding for this program has been included in the Department's operational budget for FY 2008-09.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

This Board letter and award documents have been reviewed by the District Attorney, Public Defender, and the Alternative Public Defender (County Justice Departments) and approved as to form by County Counsel.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

The program may create workload increases for the 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 (2) 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 08 Forensic DNA Backlog Reduction Program

This grant will fund DNA analysis to identify and test backlogged forensic DNA casework samples.

In addition, this grant will fund the procurement and retention of automated systems, laboratory equipment, computer hardware/software, and the training for the Department's Scientific Services Bureau, thereby improving DNA analysis capacity and the infrastructure of the existing crime laboratory.

Funding Agency	Program (Fed. Grant # /State Bill or Code #)	Grant Acceptance Deadline
National Institute of Justice (NIJ)	2008-DN-BX-K033	September 23, 2008

Total Amount of Grant Funding: $1,0057,121 **County Match Requirements:** 0
Grant Period: 7/1/08 - 6/30/09 **Begin Date:** 7/1/08 **End Date:** 6/30/09
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? Yes__X__ No____

Will all personnel hired for this program be placed on temporary ("N") items? Yes _X___No____

Is the County obligated to continue this program after the grant expires? Yes ____ No__X_

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 services Yes _____ No__X__

b). Identify other revenue sources Yes ___ No_X_

(Describe)_FY 2009-10 funding is anticipated in the State Budget

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

Impact of additional personnel on existing space: None

Other requirements not mentioned above: None

Department Head Signature_____ Lee Baca _____ **Date** 9/25/08