



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Fire Protection Services



Date: August 24, 2016
Board Meeting Date: October 4, 2016
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Stephen M. Wagstaffe, District Attorney

Subject: Amendment with Central Valley Toxicology for lab testing

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a resolution authorizing an amendment to the agreement with Central Valley Toxicology (CVT), to provide drug testing submitted as evidence by the District Attorney's Office (DAO), increasing the amount by \$40,000 to an amount not to exceed \$140,000.

BACKGROUND:

CVT is a corporation that is owned and operated in the County of Fresno by Ms. Sydney N. Kimble, President (Emeritus) and Mr. Bill L. Posey, Vice-President, Director. CVT performs Post-Mortem and Human Performance Forensic Toxicology testing on approximately 13,000 forensic cases a year and provides expert witness testimony in State and Federal Courts. Since its inception in 1986, CVT has performed forensic alcohol and comprehensive drug testing for coroners and medical examiners, law enforcement agencies, and crime laboratories in over thirty counties in California and for public and private agencies throughout the United States.

During the course of criminal prosecution, the DAO may require the testing of urine and blood samples for prescription and illegal drugs. While the County's crime lab has the ability to test for drug substances, it does not have the capacity to test urine and blood samples. The number of sampling requests per year can also be significant. Additionally, an expert testimonial may be required from lab analysts to assist in court proceedings. Therefore the DAO will require the assistance from an external forensic laboratory to provide such services.

DISCUSSION:

On February 1, 2014 the District Attorney's Office entered into a three year agreement with Central Valley Toxicology. Central Valley Toxicology, Inc., was chosen as the contractor to conduct forensic laboratory tests on evidence gathered during criminal

investigations and provide expert testimony on an as-needed basis. CVT was selected because they offered a more cost effective flat fee rate compared to other vendors that would charge hourly. Through two and half years of progress billings, the DAO has reached the not to exceed amount. An amendment is required to avoid an interruption of service through the January 2017 term date.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the resolution as to form.

Approval of the resolution contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Safe Community by assisting in the prosecution of criminal matter.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The amendment adds \$40,000 to the existing agreement for a total agreement obligation of \$140,000.

The impact to the General Fund are additional charges in upwards of \$40,000.