

REPORT FROM

## OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

---

---

Date: April 02, 2024

CAO File No. 0130-01862-0037

Council File No. 24-0020

Council District: --

To: The Mayor and Council

From: Matthew W. Szabo, City Administrative Officer 

Reference: Board of Police Commissioners Transmittal dated December 21, 2023

Subject: **2023 PAUL COVERDELL FORENSIC SCIENCE IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM GRANT – APPLICATION AND AWARD – U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE**

---

---

### RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Council, subject to the approval of the Mayor:

1. Authorize the Chief of Police of the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), or designee, to retroactively apply for and accept a grant award of \$138,270 relative to the 2023 Paul Coverdell Program from the United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, for the period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2026;
2. Authorize the Chief of Police or his designee to negotiate and execute any documents or agreements necessary to accept the grant funds, subject to the approval by the City Attorney as to form;
3. Authorize the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) to spend up to the grant amount of \$138,270 in accordance with the grant award agreement;
4. Authorize the LAPD to submit grant reimbursement requests to the grantor and deposit grant receipts into Fund No. 339, Department No. 70;
5. Authorize the Controller to establish a grant receivable and appropriate up to \$138,270 within the Police Department Grant Fund No. 339, Department No. 70, account number to be determined, for the receipt and disbursement of the 2023 Paul Coverdell Program grant funds; and,
6. Authorize the LAPD to prepare Controller instructions for any technical adjustments as necessary to implement Mayor and Council intentions, subject to the approval of the City Administrative Officer, and authorize the Controller to implement the instructions.

### SUMMARY

The Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) is seeking retroactive approval to apply for and accept a \$138,270 grant award for the 2023 Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Program from

the United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance. The grant award has a performance period of October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2026.

The LAPD's Technical Investigation Division (TID) operates a laboratory that provides forensic support to investigative personnel in the disciplines of electronics, latent print, photography, and polygraph. The TID's current instrumentation for latent print detection, capture, and enhancement of latent print is not up-to-date and is limiting the quality of available latent print forensics.

In utilizing this grant award, the LAPD intends to implement the *LAPD 2023 Technical Investigation Improvement Project*. The goal of the proposed project is to establish improvements to increase the quality and timeliness of latent forensic services provided by the Department for the benefit of investigators, prosecutors and community members affected by the investigation process.

The LAPD will allocate grant funding for the purchase of \$123,100 in equipment and \$15,170 in supplies. The equipment to be acquired includes a Crime-lite® laser kit, modules, flexible tools, portable cameras and lasers. The supplies include camera lens, alternate light sources, and various accessories to allow for a timely and quality digital upload and analysis. With the addition of this equipment, the TID will be afforded the ability to increase the scope and variety of latent print evidence that can be processed. The categorical allocation of the grant award is provided in the table below:

<b>Expense Category</b>	<b>Amount</b>
Equipment	\$123,100
Supplies	15,170
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 138,270</b>

In accordance with Los Angeles Administrative Code (LAAC) Section 14.6, Mayor and Council approval of the grant award is required before accepting and receiving the grant award.

## **FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

Approval of the recommendations stated in this report will authorize the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) to retroactively accept the 2023 Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Program grant award of \$138,270 from the United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, for the term beginning on October 1, 2023 through September 30, 2026. No matching funds are required for this grant. There is no impact to the General Fund as a result of these recommendations.

## **FINANCIAL POLICIES STATEMENT**

The recommendations in this report are in compliance with the City's Financial Policies in that all grant-eligible costs are fully covered by grant award funds.