

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE August 10, 2026

Honorable Members of the Public Safety Committee
TO Cara Mendelsohn (Chair), Jesse Moreno (Vice Chair), Laura Cadena, Maxie Johnson,
Jaime Resendez, William Roth, Kathy Stewart

SUBJECT **August 12, 2026, City Council Agenda Item #4. 26-2253A A grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice through the Texas Office of the Governor Criminal Justice Division (CJD) for the CD-Coverdell Nat'l Forensic Sciences Improve Act**

AGENDA ITEM #4. 26-2253A

Authorize the (1) application for and acceptance of a grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice through the Texas Office of the Governor Criminal Justice Division (CJD) for the CD-Coverdell Nat'l Forensic Sciences Improve Act (Grant No. 5414801, Federal/State Award ID No. 15PBJA-25-GG-02163-COVE, Assistance Listing No. 16.742) in the amount of \$300,000.00 to make improvements to the quality and timely processing of forensic evidence resulting in an overall reduction in the backlog of non-DNA evidence for the period October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026; (2) establishment of appropriations in an amount not to exceed \$300,000.00 in the CJD Forensic Sciences DPD Crime Scene Grant Fund; (3) receipt and deposit of funds in an amount not to exceed \$300,000.00 in the CJD Forensic Sciences DPD Crime Scene Grant Fund; and (4) execution of the grant agreement with CJD and all terms, conditions, and documents required by the agreement- Not to exceed \$300,000.00- Financing: CJD Forensic Sciences DPD Crime Scene Grant Fund

BACKGROUND

The Dallas Police Department is requesting funding to expand and enhance forensic services within the Crime Scene Division. This project will improve three critical areas: firearms analysis, latent print processing, and latent print analysis. Current staffing, equipment, and technology limitations require the Department to rely on outside laboratories for many firearms examinations, resulting in delays due to significant backlogs. Funding will allow the Department to perform more of this work in-house using advanced technology, including three-dimensional and virtual comparison microscopy recommended by the Texas Forensic Science Commission, improving both the quality and timeliness of forensic examinations. The project will also upgrade the Department's Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) by adding Case AFIS capability, allowing investigators to conduct faster, case-specific fingerprint comparisons that improve investigative efficiency. In addition, replacing aging latent print processing and

DATE August 10, 2026
SUBJECT **August 12, 2026, City Council Agenda Item #4. 26-2253A A grant from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice through the Texas Office of the Governor Criminal Justice Division (CJD) for the CD-Coverdell Nat'l Forensic Sciences Improve Act**
PAGE **2 of 2**

digital imaging equipment will ensure the Crime Scene Unit can continue to recover, preserve, and analyze critical fingerprint evidence. These improvements will reduce reliance on outside agencies, shorten turnaround times, strengthen criminal investigations, and better support the prosecution of offenders while enhancing public safety across the City of Dallas.

Should you have any questions, please contact Daniel Comeaux, Chief of Police Dallas Police Department at Daniel.Comeaux@dallaspolice.gov.

Service First, Now!



Dominique Artis
Chief of Public Safety

c: Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, City Manager Bertram Vandenberg, City Attorney (I) Mamatha Sparks, City Auditor (I) Billerae Johnson, City Secretary Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge Baron Eliason, Inspector General (I) Dev Rastogi, Assistant City Manager	M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager Alina Ciocan, Assistant City Manager Robin Bentley, Assistant City Manager Jack Ireland, Chief Financial Officer Ahmad Goree, Chief of Staff to the City Manager John Johnson, Chief of Real Estate Directors and Assistant Directors
---	--