



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Sheriff
Department No.: 032
For Agenda Of: 5/19/2015
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: **Majority**

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Sheriff Bill Brown
Director(s)
Contact Info: Lieutenant Craig Bonner, Ext. 4136

SUBJECT: Approve contract with Dr. Jon Smith for Pathology services through June 30, 2018 for an amount not to exceed \$870,000.

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form: No

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve a contract for Pathology services with Dr. Jon Smith (not a local vendor) for an amount not to exceed \$870,000 expiring June 30, 2018.
- b) Find that the proposed action does not constitute a "Project" within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), pursuant to 14 CCR 15378 (b)(5), in that it is a government administrative activity that will not result in direct or indirect changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

The Sheriff's staff Forensic Pathologist left county service in July 2014. In November 2014, your Board approved a contract with Dr. Jon Smith for Pathology services through June 30, 2015 at a cost not to exceed \$308,000 (#14-00845, BC 15112). This gave the Sheriff time to recruit a permanent replacement for the staff Pathologist position. Since that time, Dr. Smith has provided excellent service in the area of pathology and the search for a permanent replacement

has resulted in very few potential candidates. Since Pathology services are still a required aspect of the Sheriff's Office, the Sheriff-Coroner proposes continuing our current contract with Dr. Jon Smith. Based on an estimate of workload in performing autopsies, consulting with Sheriff's Office staff on an on-going cases, and providing testimony in court as an expert witness, it is anticipated that the cost for these services between for the three fiscal years starting July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2018 will total about \$870,000, or \$290,000 per year. This proposed contract is a savings to the Recommended Budget for a permanent Pathologist, anticipated to be \$315,583 in FY2015-16.

Background:

The Sheriff-Coroner is required to investigate deaths occurring within Santa Barbara County, which fall within the parameters of California Government Code §27491 and California Health and Safety Code §102850. Furthermore, California Government Code §27491.5 requires, "The cause of death appearing on the death certificate shall be in conformity with facts ascertained from inquiry, autopsy and other scientific findings." Compliance with this legal requirement requires the Sheriff-Coroner to utilize the services of a board certified forensic pathologist for case consultation, the completion of autopsy procedures, interpretation of pathology and toxicology test results and offering of expert opinions relating to the cause and manner of death.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes **Fiscal Analysis:**

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund	\$ 290,000.00	\$ 290,000.00	\$ 870,000.00
State			
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ 290,000.00	\$ 290,000.00	\$ 870,000.00

Narrative:

The Recommended Budget for the Sheriff's Coroner's Bureau for FY2015-16 includes \$315,583 in Salaries and Benefits for the Pathologist. If this contract is approved, a Final Budget Adjustment (FBA) will be submitted to the Board shifting the Pathologist funding from Salaries & Benefits to Services & Supplies, line item 7460.

Special Instructions:

Please send a copy of the minute order to Douglas Martin, CFO Sheriff's Office.

Attachments

Contract between Santa Barbara County and Dr. Jon Smith for services to commence July 1, 2015.

Authored by:

Douglas Martin, CFO, Sheriff's Office. Ext 4293

Lt. Craig Bonner, Ext. 4136