



AGENDA ITEM

March 10, 2014

Consider and possibly approve a grant to the Jefferson County Crime Lab from the Texas Forensics Commission to fund a laboratory case review of hair microscopy cases.



TEXAS FORENSIC
SCIENCE COMMISSION

Justice Through Science

1700 North Congress Ave., Suite 445
Austin, Texas 78701

February 12, 2014

Ms. Linda Johnson
Jefferson County Crime Laboratory
5030 Highway 69 South, Suite 500
Beaumont, Texas 77705

RE: Hair Microscopy Review Funding

Dear Linda:

As you know, the Texas Forensic Science Commission is conducting a review of cases involving microscopic hair analysis. This review stems from a similar review currently being conducted by the FBI. The FBI believes some of its examiners overstated the extent to which the science underlying hair microscopy allowed for a positive association between a known hair sample and crime scene evidence. Because the FBI trained many hair examiners at state and local laboratories (including some in Texas) the Commission believes the most prudent course would be to review the cases both for educational purposes and to ensure against miscarriages of justice.

To identify cases, each laboratory that has performed microscopic hair analysis will be required to conduct searches to identify the cases and enter key information from each case into a spreadsheet provided by the Commission. This effort will require significant human resources from the laboratories. Because the Commission does not want to adversely affect the current workflow of the laboratories, we have offered to pay the laboratories for the time it will take their staff to identify the cases and enter the information into the spreadsheet. We have set aside \$10,200 for the Jefferson County Crime Laboratory for this purpose based on the estimate you provided. We leave it to each laboratory's discretion how best to staff this project. If you believe you will exhaust the \$10,200 before completing the project, please let us know as soon as possible because any additional funds would require reauthorization by the Commission.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "L. Garcia", is written over a horizontal line.

Lynn Robitaille Garcia
General Counsel



Sam Houston State University
A Member of The Texas State University System
Procurement and Business Services
Box 2028
Huntsville, Texas 77341-2028
Phone (936) 294-1894 * Fax (936) 294-1997

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PO Number: **P0031025**

PO Date: **02/17/14**

Desired Delivery Date: **03/31/14**

Supplier:

Jefferson County
5326 HWY 69 S
BEAUMONT TX 77705

**CONFIRM RECEIPT OF PURCHASE ORDER
AND ACCEPTANCE OF DELIVERY DATE
BY EMAILING:**

procurement@shsu.edu

Contact: Linda Johnson

Contact Info: (409)726-2577; ljohnson@co.jefferson.tx.us

Send Billing Invoice to:

Sam Houston State University
Box 2185
Huntsville, TX 77341-2185
ATTN: Accounts Payable

Ship to:

Leigh Tomlin
Texas Forensic Science Commission
1700 N. Congress Ave. Ste. 445
Austin TX 78701
Phone: 512-936-0770
Email: leigh@fsc.texas.gov

Show PO # and Federal Tax ID or State of Texas Tax ID on invoice.

BUYER: Marilyn Meshell

936-294-1905

**PURCHASE ORDER NO. MUST APPEAR ON ALL
SHIPPING DOCUMENTS AND INVOICES**

Item	Description	Quantity	Unit Cost	Total Cost
1	At the request of the FSC, Jefferson County Crime Lab will perform a laboratory case review of all hair microscopy cases, benefiting SHSU and the FSC in carrying out their legislatively mandated duties of forensic oversight in TX. Forensic Lab Services for Hair Microscopy Invstgtn	1.00 SVC	10,200.0000	10,200.00
			DISCOUNT:	.00
Terms Net 30 FOB:			TOTAL:	10,200.00

Sam Houston State University is a tax exempt entity under Subtitle E, Chapter 151, Section 151.309 of the Tax Code, for purchases of tangible personal property herein purchased from contractor and/or shipper listed above, as this property is being secured for the exclusive use of the State of Texas.

The University reserves the right to cancel this order if delivery is not made by agreed-upon delivery date.

ALL TERMS & CONDITIONS ARE LISTED ON THE UNIVERSITY WEB SITE:

http://www.shsu.edu/~pur_www/

SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Marilyn Meshell

Marilyn Meshell, Purchasing Officer

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