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INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

OCT 30 2019

POLICE COMMISSION

October 29, 2019
8.9

[Signature]
RICHARD...
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
DATE 10/30/19

TO: The Honorable Board of Police Commissioners

FROM: Chief of Police

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS ANALYSIS LABORATORY TRUST FUND EXPENDITURE PLAN NO. 22

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

That the Board of Police Commissioners (Board) REVIEW and APPROVE the Narcotics Analysis Laboratory Trust Fund Expenditure (NALTF) Plan No. 22. The Expenditure Plan includes funding in the amount of \$170,000 that will be used to pay for specialized analysis of evidence samples for drugs of abuse, casework overtime, and the continuing education and training for the Forensic Science Division (FSD).

1. That the Board TRANSMIT the NALTF Expenditure Plan No. 22 to the Mayor and the Los Angeles City Council for approval.
2. That the Board AUTHORIZE the City Controller's Office to establish appropriation accounts within Fund 863 Department 70 as follows:

<u>Account No.</u>	<u>Account Name</u>	<u>Amount</u>
TBD	Toxicology Analyses	\$5,000.00
TBD	Casework Overtime	\$65,000.00
TBD	Training, Travel & Subscriptions	\$100,000.00

3. That the Board AUTHORIZE the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD) to prepare City Controller's instructions for any technical adjustments, subject to the approval of the City Administrative Officer (CAO), and AUTHORIZE and INSTRUCT the City Controller to implement the instructions.
4. AUTHORIZE the Controller to increase appropriations as needed from Fund 863/70, Account to be determined, to Fund 100/70, General Overtime Account No. 001090, by an amount not to exceed \$65,000.00.

DISCUSSION

Section 11372.5 of the California Health and Safety Code provides that a \$50 fee shall be collected from every person for each narcotics offense for which they are convicted. The intent of the law is to reimburse law enforcement agencies for costs associated with the chemical analysis of controlled substances and the operation of their criminalistics laboratories.

The City of Los Angeles (City) has established the Narcotics Analysis Laboratory Trust Fund to receive, administer and disburse funds that are collected by the courts and forwarded to the City pursuant to this legislation. The City ordinance that established the fund requires that the Los Angeles City Council approve an expenditure plan prior to actual disbursement of funds.

The overtime and equipment to be purchased includes the following items:

OVERTIME, ANALYSIS AND EQUIPMENT ITEMS	COST
Toxicology analyses of blood and urine samples for drugs of abuse	\$ 5,000.00
Narcotics Casework Overtime	\$ 65,000.00
Training, Travel and Subscriptions	\$100,000.00
TOTAL	\$170,000.00

A fact sheet describing these items in detail is attached.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Forensic Science Division Commanding Officer Jeffrey A. Thompson at (323) 415-8100.

Respectfully,


MICHEL R. MOORE
Chief of Police

Attachment

BOARD OF
POLICE COMMISSIONERS
Approved *November 5, 2019*
Secretary *Maria Silva*

INTRADEPARTMENTAL CORRESPONDENCE

October 8, 2019
8.9

TO: Chief of Police

FROM: Chief of Detectives

SUBJECT: NARCOTICS ANALYSIS LABORATORY TRUST FUND EXPENDITURE PLAN 22

It is requested that the Chief of Police approve and transmit to the Board of Police Commissioners the Narcotics Analysis Laboratory Trust Fund (NALTF) Expenditure Plan 22. The expenditure plan totals \$170,000. Below is a description of each requested item. A fact sheet with a detailed description of each item is attached.

- **\$5,000** for the Toxicology Unit (TOX) and Narcotics Analysis Unit (NAU) analyses of samples for drugs of abuse outsourced to an appropriate laboratory.
- **\$65,000** for casework overtime to be used in the Forensic Science Division (FSD) for field response and analyses of narcotics and toxicology cases.
- **\$100,000** for the continuing education, training/travel, subscriptions and development of scientific staff.

Section 11372.5 of the California Health and Safety Code provides that every person who is convicted of narcotics offense(s) shall pay a laboratory analysis fee of \$50 for each narcotics offense. The City has established the NALTF to receive, administer and disburse funds that are collected by the courts and forwarded to the City pursuant to this legislation. The City ordinance that established the fund requires that the City Council approve an expenditure plan prior to actual disbursement of funds.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Forensic Science Division Commanding Officer Jeffrey A. Thompson at (323) 415-8110.


KRIS PITCHER, Deputy Chief
Chief of Detectives

Attachment

FACT SHEET

NARCOTICS ANALYSIS LABORATORY TRUST FUND SPENDING PLAN 22 REQUEST

October 8, 2019

Background

Forensic Science Division (FSD) requests that funds in the Narcotics Analysis Laboratory Trust Fund (NALTF) be used to provide the following items:

Toxicology and Narcotics Analyses

\$5,000 is requested to pay for the drug testing of blood and urine samples in the FSD, Toxicology Unit (TOX) and for solid sample analysis of synthetic cannabinoids, Cathinone, and miscellaneous synthetic drugs in the Narcotics Analysis Unit (NAU)

The FSD TOX Unit with a 13% vacancy rate, continues to develop more test methods reducing the total number of blood and urine evidence samples processed by outside laboratories. In 2018, NALTF funds paid approximately \$12,000 for toxicology analysis, a 9% decrease from 2017.

The FSD NAU is expected to receive requests for the quantitative analysis of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) on plant material, which the Unit currently does not provide. Driving the issue was the passing of Proposition 64 and the change in the definition of “cannabis” under Health and Safety Code 11018 to exclude “industrial hemp,” which is defined as “a crop that is limited to types of the plant *Cannabis sativa* L. having no more than three-tenths of 1 percent tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) contained in the dried flowering tops...” Industrial hemp is largely unregulated: no cannabis license is required to sell it, nor is the seller required to pay cannabis taxes. Since possession of “industrial hemp” is not a crime in California, anyone suspected of illegally possessing cannabis may claim that the product is only “industrial hemp.” To refute the “hemp” claim under these circumstances a quantitative test to show that the “dried flowering tops” of the plant contain greater than .3% THC is necessary. While the Unit researches and evaluates whether developing a test method is cost effective, we will outsource cases to an accredited laboratory to complete a comprehensive analysis.

An allocation of \$15,000 from NALTF Spending Plan 21 is currently being used to pay for analyses by outside Laboratories for both TOX and NAU.

FACT SHEET

NARCOTICS ANALYSIS LABORATORY TRUST FUND SPENDING PLAN 22 REQUEST

October 8, 2019

Narcotics Casework Overtime Fund

\$65,000 is requested for overtime to compensate NAU employees to complete casework devoted to narcotics evidence analysis and to compensate the Hazardous Chemical Team (HCT) members for field response and related analyses.

The primary task of the NAU and HCT is to analyze narcotics evidence seized from drug offenders and prepare laboratory reports with conclusions for District and City Attorneys. With increases in casework and staffing levels in the NAU at a 10% vacancy rate, a portion of this work must be completed on overtime.

The total number of narcotics requests analyzed in 2018 (7346) remained steady with a small increase of 1% from 2017. However, due to a substantial increase in HCT call outs, the total number of overtime hours used in 2018 (974) increased by 53% from 2017. At an average hourly overtime pay rate of \$82, the cost to compensate the 2018 overtime in cash was approximately \$80,000. The narcotics caseload and HCT field response for 2019 are projected to increase from 2018.

An allocation of \$65,000 from NALTF Spending Plan 20 is currently being used to pay for both casework overtime in the NAU and field response for the HCT. These funds are tracked and managed by FSD staff.

Training, Travel and Subscriptions

\$100,000 is requested to fund attendance at courses and subscriptions for the continuing education, training, and development of scientific staff. An allocation of \$110,000 from NALTF Spending Plan 21 is currently being used to pay for training, travel and subscriptions.

NARCOTICS ANALYSIS LABORATORY TRUST FUND EXPENDITURE PLAN NO. 22
 LIST OF TRAINING ATTENDED – JULY 2018 THROUGH JUNE 2019
 October 8, 2019

Courses are required to maintain national laboratory accreditation with the ANSI National Accreditation Board, to be up to date with new methods, procedures and technology, and/or to maintain expertise. The following is a list courses attended by Forensic Science Division staff since the last NALTF expenditure request.

2018 Skeletal Recovery Workshop
JusticeTrax Group Meeting with Crystal Reports Training
Intoximeters EC/IR II Maintenance School
Navigating The New ISO/IEC 17025:2017-Comparison to ISO/IEC 17025:2005 (Online Course)
Shooting Incident Reconstruction Course
Crystal Reports 2013 Introduction Training (Online)
ASQDE/SWAFDE 2018 Joint Annual Meeting
Southwestern Association of Forensic Scientists 2018 Training Conference
California Association of Toxicologists Biannual Meeting
California Criminalistics Institute (CCI) Forensic Alcohol Interpretation
Colt M4/M16 and 1911 Armorer Courses (R-77523 and R-77522)
SOFT 2018 Annual Meeting
Forensic ISO/IEC 17025:2017 Assessor Training (Testing)
Association of Forensic Quality Managers Training Conference
California Association of Criminalists - Fall 2018 Seminar
Borkenstein's Alcohol and Highway Safety Course
Association of forensic Quality Assurance Managers Annual Training Conference
California Association of Criminalists: 131st Spring Seminar
GC-101: Basic Shimadzu GC Operation and Maintenance

Autodesk University 2018

California Association of Crime Laboratory Directors

CA Association of Criminalists Fall 2018 Seminar

FBI Post Blast Investigator's Course

Beretta Armorer Course

Establishing and Maintaining Command Credibility

Facilitated Mentoring & Coaching

AAFS 71st Annual Scientific Meeting

C111 Mass Spectra - Theory and Interpretation

Essentials of Forensic Interpretation

Leadership Training - Practical Approaches to performance Management

Leadership Training: Assertive Supervision

Western Laboratory Director's Meeting

Advanced Crime Scene Investigation

2019 Qualtrax User Conference

California Association of Crime Laboratory Directors

133rd CAC Seminar

California Association of Toxicologists (CAT) Spring 2019 Meeting

AFTE 2019 Annual Training Seminar

2019 ASCLD Symposium

Forensic Science Division Subscriptions

October 8, 2019

Journal	Annual Cost
Forensic Policy & Management: An International Journal	\$700
Association of Firearm and Tool Mark Examiners Journal (AFTE) Journal	\$170
Journal of Forensic Sciences (print & on-line)	\$800
Forensic Science Review	\$100
Journal of the American Society of Questioned Document Examiners	\$260
Journal of Analytical Toxicology	\$1300
Microscope	\$200 (3 years)
Forensic Science International: Genetics	\$1300
Other Forensic Science Journals	\$35 per on-line article (not to exceed 20/year)

*cost per year includes taxes and subscription; journal is print and on-line when available