

#109986

TO: Honorable Board of Acquisition and Contract

FROM: Aleksandar Milovanovic, M.D.  
Pathologist / Medical Examiner  
Department of Laboratories & Research

DATE: November 20, 2024

RE: Authority for the County of Westchester, acting by and through its Department of Laboratories and Research, Division of Forensic Toxicology, to enter into a grant agreement with the State of New York, acting by and through its Division of Criminal Justice Services, to participate in the Paul Coverdell Forensic Sciences Improvement Grant Program, for a term commencing on October 1, 2024 and terminating on September 30, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$58,159.00.

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Authority is respectfully requested from your Honorable Board for the County of Westchester (the "County") acting by and through its Department of Laboratories and Research, Division of Forensic Toxicology (the "Department"), to enter into a grant agreement (the "Agreement") with the State of New York, acting by and through its Division of Criminal Justice Services (the "State"), to participate in the Paul Coverdell National Forensic Sciences Improvement Grant Program (the "Program"), for a term commencing on October 1, 2024 and terminating on September 30, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$58,159.00.

The Paul Coverdell Forensic Sciences Improvement Grant Program supports state and local units of government to improve forensic science and medical examiner/coroner services. Approximately 57 percent of funds are allocated to specifically target the challenges that opioid and synthetic drugs have brought to the forensic science community.

The public purpose of this Agreement is to promote the public safety and security of County residents and enhance the County's ability to provide timely results from evidence submissions to the Department, thereby expediting criminal case processing.

The goals and objectives of this Agreement are to accept federal funding channeled by and through the State to provide the Westchester County Medical Examiner, law enforcement, and hospital teams with timely and quality scientific results from the evidence submitted to the Department. The analyses include Postmortem, Human Performance ("DWI/DWAI"), Drug Facilitated Sexual Assault and hospital casework. Timely analyses are extremely important for prosecution.

The Human Performance results for DWI/DWAI cases provide the citizens of the County with a higher degree of public safety. For Medical Examiner cases, toxicological results are important in determining the cause of death and impact on various criminal and liability cases affecting the community as well as relatives of the deceased. The Department will monitor and report the progress of this Agreement in semiannual progress reports provided to the State.

I certify that my department, a) has copies of, or access to, applicable laws, rules, regulations, grant applications, and grant agreements (including any master grant agreement), as well as any guidance or instructions received from the agency making the grant (the “Grant Terms”), b) has reviewed the Grant Terms, c) is aware of and understands all of the Grant Terms, and d) can and will comply with all of the Grant Terms.

Accordingly, I respectfully recommend your Honorable Board’s approval of the annexed Resolution authorizing the County to enter into the Agreement.

AM/mcz  
Attachment

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 12/05/2024 - RAYMOND SCULKY, SECRETARY

**RESOLUTION**

Upon a communication from the Pathologist / Medical Examiner, be it hereby

**RESOLVED**, that the County of Westchester (the “County”), acting by and through its Department of Laboratories and Research, Division of Forensic Toxicology is authorized to enter into a grant agreement with the State of New York, acting by and through its Division of Criminal Justice Services, to participate in the Paul Coverdell Forensic Sciences Improvement Grant Program, for a term commencing on October 1, 2024 and expiring September 30, 2026, in an amount not to exceed \$58,159.00; and be it further

**RESOLVED**, that the County Executive or his authorized designee is hereby authorized and empowered to execute any and all documents necessary and appropriate to effectuate the purposes hereof.

Account to be  
Charged/Credited

Fund	Dept	Major Program, Program & Phase Or Unit	Object/ Sub- Object	Trust Account	Dollars
263	31	T894 – A894	9853	T894	\$58,159.00

Budget Funding Year(s) \$58,159.00 Start Date 10/1/2024 End Date 09/30/2025

(must match resolution)

Funding Source Tax Dollars \_\_\_\_\_

State Aid \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \$58,159.00 Federal Aid \$58,159.00 (Federal Funds Channeled Through NYS DCJS)

(must match resolution)

APPROVED BOARD OF ACQUISITION & CONTRACT - 12/05/2024 RAYMOND SCULY, SECRETARY