



City Council Report

Date: August 22, 2022
To: City Council
Through: Michael Kennington, Deputy City Manager/Chief Financial Officer
From: Edward Quedens, Business Services Director
Kristy Garcia, Procurement Administrator
Subject: Purchase for QIASymphony Instrument Validation for the Mesa Police Department **(Sole Source) (Funded by Department of Justice, DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Grant) (Citywide)**

Recommendation

Council is requested to approve the award as recommended.

The Police Department and Purchasing recommend awarding the contract to the sole source vendor, QIAGEN at \$58,870.

Background / Discussion

In June 2020, Council approved the purchase of a QIAGEN QIASymphony SP instrument, an automated extraction system that has the capability of extracting up to 96 samples at the same time. At the time, we were in the middle of pandemic, and Forensic Services was trying to complete as much casework as possible while working alternate schedules. Validations were put on hold at that time to prioritize casework. The Division also lost two casework analysts in June 2020 and March 2021.

Forensic Services hired additional staff in July/August 2021 but due to thirteen Biology Unit validations/verifications, it was decided the validation would be outsourced using grant funds.

Forensic Services has requested validation of this QIASymphony SP instrument. Validation is required before the instrument can be used on DNA casework. QIAGEN quoted \$58,870 for the Top Comprehensive Validation Support Plan.

QIAGEN is the only vendor that can provide the necessary installation, training, and forensic validation support for the QIASymphony SP instrument.

Purchase Information

Action: Award
Procurement Type: Sole Source
Contract Number: 2023008
Quote Numbers: 220110US01445838BD - 1/11/2022
Local Consideration: Policy did not apply to this procurement method
Protests Received: None
Funding Source: Mesa Police Department operating budget