

# **National Forensic Sciences Improvement Act (NFSIA)**

**August 18, 2016**

**Supplemental Documents**

## BUDGET COMMITTEE GRANT RECOMMENDATION REPORT

**Program Name:** National Forensic Science Improvement Act

**Funding Source:** NFSIA FFY16: \$313, 276.00; Match Amount: N/A

### **Program Description**

The Illinois Criminal Justice Information Authority proposes the use of federal fiscal year 2016 (FFY16) **National Forensic Science Improvement Act (NFSIA)** funding to support improvements at the Cook County Medical Examiner's Office and nine crime labs across Illinois. These improvements will be made through agreements with the DuPage County Crime Lab (DuPage), Northeastern Illinois Regional Crime Lab (NIRCL), Office of the Cook County Medical Examiner's (CCME), and the Illinois State Police (ISP).

### **Program Activities**

NFSIA funds support the purchase of new lab equipment and required proficiency testing, lab accreditation, and conference travel. In addition, staff overtime and contractual toxicology testing will help labs keep up with the demand for testing.

### **Priorities**

The NFSIA application guidance indicates that the purpose of the program is "...to help improve the quality and timeliness of forensic science and medical examiner services. Among other things, funds may be used to eliminate a backlog in the analysis of forensic evidence and to train and employ forensic laboratory personnel, as needed, to eliminate such a backlog."

### **Funding Prospectus**

Facility	# Months of Funding	Anticipated Funding amount
Illinois State Police (ISP)	17 years, 3 months	\$204,119.00
Northeastern Illinois Regional Crime Lab (NIRCL)	11 years	\$29,160.00
DuPage County Crime Lab (DuPage)	11 years	\$29,160.00
Office of the Cook County Medical Examiner (CCME)	2 years	\$29,160.00
ICJIA (Administration cost)		\$21,677.00
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$313,276.00</b>

### **Past Performance**

These programs have demonstrated improvement in the quality and/or timeliness of forensic science and medical examiner's services throughout Illinois. Reduction of forensic science analysis backlogs is considered an improvement in timelessness of services.

There are no performance or reporting issues at this time. The forensic science labs continue to handle a high volume of tests while meeting accreditation and proficiency standards, as reporting for the period of November 1, 2015, through May 31, 2016, demonstrates:

New cases received	48,944
Total cases tested	49,565
Current Backlog	10,808
Staff trained	2
Allegations of misconduct	4

### **Budget Detail**

Personnel (ICJIA administration cost + fringe)	\$21,677.00
Equipment –N/A Commodities- N/A Travel N/A	\$0
Contractual:  <b>Cook County Medical Examiner's Office:</b> <i>Commodities:</i> Purchase a cloud-based Document Management Software Program to ensure the proper maintenance of documents, forms, and procedures so that the office can continue to comply with National Association of Medical Examiners and College of American Pathologists national accreditation standards  <b>NIRCL:</b> <i>Personnel:</i> Overtime will be used to address backlogs in the Drug Chemistry, Latent Prints, and Firearms sections. <i>Contractual:</i> National Accreditation Board Accreditation fee. <i>Travel:</i> Accreditation inspectors will be arriving at NIRCL from different areas of the country. At this time four people are expected to inspect the lab. Accreditation is required for the CODIS database and DNA and Coverdell grants.  <b>DuPage:</b> <i>Equipment:</i> Purchase a forensic light source used by the latent print section to visualize latent prints. <i>Personnel:</i> Overtime will be used for casework/backlog reductions. Drug chemist and latent print technicians will be used to reduce workload and backlog in the drug chemistry and latent print sections. <i>Contractual:</i> ASCLD/LAB Accreditation Annual Fee to maintain accreditation. Proficiency tests for continuing to demonstrate proficiency in provided services. <i>Travel:</i> Two conferences.  <b>ISP:</b> <i>Equipment:</i> Purchase of new lasers for the forensic science laboratories at Joliet, Springfield, Rockford, and Chicago. Purchase of Fourier Transform Infrared spectrometers for the forensic science centers at Chicago and Rockford. Purchase a high intensity UV lamp for the latent print section at the forensic science center at Chicago.	\$291,599.00
<b>Total:</b>	\$313,276.00

**For Internal Use:**

<b>Projected Start Date</b>	October 1, 2016	<b>Total months of funding including this designation</b>	See funding table
<b>Funding Source 1</b>	NFSIA FFY 16	<b>Funding Source 1 Amount</b>	\$313,276.00
<b>Funding Source 2</b>	N/A	<b>Funding Source 2 Amount</b>	N/A
<b>Required Match % of Designation Total</b>	No match requirement	<b>Recommended Maximum Designation Amount</b>	\$313,276.00
<b>Implementing Agency</b>	See funding table	<b>Program Agency</b>	See funding table
<b>Program Title</b>	N/A	<b>Project Name (if applicable)</b>	N/A
<b>Purpose Area (JAG only)</b>	N/A	<b>Formula Category (if applicable)</b>	N/A
<b>JAG Priority Area</b>	N/A	<b>JAG Sub Priority</b>	N/A