



Ventura County SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Jim Fryhoff - Sheriff | John Reilly - Undersheriff
800 S. Victoria Avenue, Ventura, CA 93009 | 805.654.2385 | VenturaSheriff.org

February 27, 2024

Board of Supervisors
County of Ventura
800 S. Victoria Avenue
Ventura, CA 93009

Subjects: Adoption of a Resolution Establishing a Fixed-Term Forensic Scientist II Position, Effective March 31, 2024 through September 30, 2025

Recommendations:

It is recommended that your Board:

- 1. Adopt the attached resolution establishing the following fixed-term Forensic Scientist II position in Unit 2544, Sheriff's Forensic Services, effective March 31, 2024 and expiring September 30, 2025:

Job Code	Description	Business Unit	Department	FTE	Comp Frequency	Hourly Salary Range
01952	Forensic Scientist II	SHFVC	2544	1.0	Hourly	\$42.42- \$59.45

Current Fiscal Year Budget Projections:

FY 2023-24 Budget Projection for Sheriff's Police Services - Division 2500				
	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Budget	Estimated Savings/(Deficit)
Appropriations	\$191,758,553	\$239,616,878	\$239,541,469	\$75,409
Revenue	\$100,572,176	\$136,435,231	\$136,563,025	\$127,794
Net Cost	\$ 91,186,377	\$103,181,647	\$102,978,444	\$203,203

**\$210,272 Salaries and Benefits Appropriations and Revenues included during FY23/24 grant budget reestablishment.*

Strategic Plan

This resolution meets the County of Ventura's strategic plan for being Fiscally Responsible by using grant funds to maintain essential DNA typing services throughout the county and to maintain public safety services. It also meets the strategic plan of having a Healthy, Safe, and Resilient Communities by helping to maintain the County's public safety service through use of DNA technologies.

Discussion:

BJA DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program and Fixed-Term Forensic Scientist Position

The DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction (CEBR) Program is administered by the DOJ, a component of the Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice. The purpose of this grant is to provide funding for qualifying forensic laboratories to increase capacity and improve backlogs in DNA services. The best means to accomplish this is to hire and train individuals in the technical skills necessary to be qualifying scientists. It is anticipated that, because of the increase in trained forensic staff, each DNA laboratory will become more effective and efficient in meeting the needs of the criminal justice system. The overall objective of this grant is to improve DNA analysis capacity and to reduce the number of backlogged DNA cases.

On January 13, 2015, the Board authorized the establishment of a fixed-term Forensic Scientist II position that expired on September 30, 2016. Based on the Sheriff's Office's continued receipt of grant funds, the Director-Human Resources authorized the extension of the fixed-term position through April 1, 2018. On February 27, 2018, your Board again authorized the establishment of a fixed-term Forensic Scientist II position that expired on March 31, 2021. On January 12, 2021, the Board again authorized the establishment of a fixed-term Forensic Scientist II position that expires on March 31, 2024. Because of the upcoming expiration of that position, we request that your Board adopt the attached resolution establishing a fixed-term Forensic Scientist II position that begins on March 31, 2024, and expires on September 30, 2025. We anticipate additional DNA backlog grants to continue funding this position in the future. No funding match is required of participating agencies.

On November 7, 2023, the Board ratified the acceptance of grant funds of \$250,000 for the BJA FY23 DNA Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program. The grant term was from October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2025. We anticipate additional DNA backlog grants to continue funding this position in the future.

The Offices of the County Executive, County Counsel, Auditor-Controller and Human Resources have reviewed this Board letter. Please contact Assistant Sheriff Victor Fazio at 805-856-8793, if you have questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'JF', enclosed within a large, loopy oval shape.

James Fryhoff
Sheriff

Attachments:

Resolution