



## AGENDA MEMORANDUM

Action Item for the City Council Meeting of January 25, 2022

**DATE:** January 25, 2022  
**TO:** Peter Zanoni, City Manager  
**FROM:** Mike Markle, Chief of Police  
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**Approval to submit a grant application to the State of Texas, Criminal Justice Division for funding available under the FY 2023 Paul Coverdell Forensic Sciences Improvement Grant**

### **CAPTION:**

Resolution authorizing submission of a grant application for \$150,000.00 to the State of Texas to cover the cost of a forensic sciences computer system under the FY 2023 Paul Coverdell Forensic Sciences Improvement Grant.

### **SUMMARY:**

Federal funding is available through the Office of the Governor, Public Safety Office, Criminal Justice Division from the U.S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice Paul Coverdell Forensic Sciences Improvement Grant Program. There is no match requirement for this program.

### **BACKGROUND AND FINDINGS:**

The Coverdell Grant will support the purchase of a 3D laser scanner computer system for the documentation and capture of crime scenes, particularly homicides and officer-involved shootings. It will be assigned to the Corpus Christi Police Department's (CCFD) Forensic Services Division.

This system has the ability to record millions of points of data to create a three-dimensional point cloud that is a digital reconstruction of a crime scene. It also provides unprecedented levels of detail and precision versus traditional methods of documentation and measurement while dramatically reducing the amount of time and manpower needed to thoroughly document crime scenes. In its entirety, from initial documentation to preparation of final diagrams, a typical crime scene can take many hours both at the scene itself and afterwards compiling measurements and creating a sketch, either by hand or using antiquated software. Use of a 3D scanner could potentially reduce this time by 80 percent or more. Furthermore, data acquired with this device can be integrated with information captured with drone-based 3D mapping to provide a completely digital workflow for documenting both indoor and outdoor crime scenes.

This technology will greatly enhance our ability to conduct thorough, accurate, and timely crime scene analysis. It will also aid investigators, judges, attorneys, and juries in understanding the scene to a much greater degree, allowing for examination from literally all angles, as well as 3D "flythroughs" that put investigator "virtually" inside of the crime scene. Such detail is increasingly

expected in the courtroom setting. The combined approach of laser scanning with drone photogrammetry will advance CCPD's capabilities by several decades, bringing CCPD into the modern era of crime scene investigation and forensic analysis. The equipment will be the first of its kind used by CCPD.

The project period is from October 1, 2022 through September 30, 2023.

**ALTERNATIVES:**

The alternative is not to submit the grant and continue with current manual documentation of crime scenes; however, CCPD will not be equipped with the latest crime scene mapping technology, putting it behind the curve in investigations, court cases, and modern police best practices.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

There is no financial impact at this time.

**Funding Detail**

Fund	1061
Organization/Activity:	Police Grant Fund – 822903F
Mission Element:	152
Project #	N/A
Account:	520090 – Minor Tools & Equipment

**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends submission of the grant application, as presented.

**LIST OF SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:**

Resolution