



# Pinellas County

## Staff Report

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### **Subject:**

Grant agreement with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement for the Statewide Criminal Analysis Laboratory System Grant.

### **Recommended Action:**

Approval of the grant agreement with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement for Fiscal Year (FY) 2023 Statewide Criminal Analysis Laboratory Grant (Grant).

- The Grant is supported by court fines and fees and provides recurring supplemental funding for the Pinellas County Forensic Laboratory's (Pinellas Laboratory) operating costs.
- Funding in an amount not to exceed \$265,000.00 has been identified in the FY22 Medical Examiner Budget provided by Grant Number 2L005. No Match is required.
- Through Calendar Year (CY) 2021 there have been unprecedented workload increases due to synthetic opioids with 618 drug-related accidental deaths in CY21, of which 66% were due to a combination of prescription and illicit drugs. Additionally, from CY20 to CY21, DUI Toxicology increased by 37%, Post-mortem Toxicology increased by 7%, and DNA analyses increased by 19%.

### **Strategic Plan:**

Deliver First Class Services to the Public and Our Customers

5.2 Be responsible stewards of the public's resources

5.3 Ensure effective and efficient delivery of county services and support

### **Summary:**

This Grant Agreement is recurring supplemental funding for the Pinellas Laboratory. The Grant supports the Pinellas Laboratory operating costs reducing reliance on general revenue support.

### **Background Information:**

The Grant was established under Florida Statutes, Section 938.07 and Section 938.055.

Fines and fees are allocated annually across each of the five locally operated state crime laboratories based upon the percentage of population served. Pinellas County serves 12.27% of the population and will receive approximately 12.27% of the fines collected through FY22. FDLE disperses funding quarterly based upon the total fines collected.

Through CY21 there have been unprecedented workload increases due to synthetic opioids with 618 drug-related accidental deaths in CY21, of which 66% were due to a combination of prescription and illicit drugs. Additionally, from CY20 to CY21, DUI Toxicology increased by 37%, Post-mortem Toxicology increased by 7%, and DNA analyses increased by 19%.

### **Fiscal Impact:**

Appropriation to support related grant activities is consistent with the development of the FY23

Tentative Budget. No match is required.

**Staff Member Responsible:**

Karen Yatchum, Director, Human Services

**Partners:**

Pinellas County Forensic Laboratory

Florida Department of Law Enforcement

**Attachments:**

Agreement

Intent to Apply