

RFP – DNA Analysis for Testing of Sexual Assault Kits

Addendum No. 1

Project Name:	DNA Analysis for Testing of SAKs	Project No.:	RFP# 18-19-12
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In accordance with the published timeline for the RFP, please find below responses to vendor inquiries.

General Questions, Clarifications & Requirements:

Q: What is the volume of casework that will be outsourced?

A: There are approximately 200 cases which remain to be tested prior to November 2019.

Q: Page 7, Section 7: Given the specialized nature of forensic testing can the 4% MWBE goal be waived?

A: It is a goal and not a requirement. The evaluation of a firm will not be affected if the goal is not met.

Q: Page 11, Section 7.2.4: Would the city accept y-screening (direct to DNA) testing in place of Acid Phosphatase testing?

A: Yes, this would be acceptable if allowed by the State Crime Lab.

Q: Page 11, Section 7.2.5: Would mentioned “additional samples” be included in the per kit price (line 1 on page 5, section 3.2.3), or would it be charged under additional unknown/question sample (line 3 on page 5, section 3.2.3)? a. If the city would like the additional items to be included in the per kit price, how many additional samples would be required?

A: This is for initial testing of the Sexual Assault Evidence Kit.

Q: Page 11, Section 7.2.7: Given that the city is requesting 20 loci, how old the kits are?

A: 1992 or more recent.

Q: Page 12, Section 2: Are the shipping requirements of shipping evidence to the vendor the same as the return requirements of overnight shipping? a. Would 2 or 3-day shipping be acceptable?

A: 2-3 day shipping would be acceptable.

Q: Page 14, Section 13.c: Would it be acceptable to submit standard operating procedures upon award instead of with the RFP response?

A: Yes

Q: Page 15, Section 14: Could the city please clarify if “case run” is considered a batch of cases, or a per case extraction?

A: Per case extraction.

Q: Page 16, Section 19.a: Would it be acceptable to have the case file include only data used, and then provide all other data files in an electronic format?

A: If acceptable to the State Crime Lab, then yes this would be acceptable.

Q: Page 16, Section 19.f: Could the city clarify what the Evaluation/Screening Form is?

A: The evaluation/screening form is the document used to provide additional information concerning the kit to the State Crime Lab.

Q: Page 17, Section 19.f: Would it be acceptable to include the Chain of Custody with the evidence return shipment, to ensure it is complete, instead of including it with the case file upload?

A: Yes.

Q: Page 17, Section 19.f: Would the city find it acceptable to include the well location in the lab notes in place of CE plate maps?

A: If this is acceptable to the State Crime Lab, yes.

Q: Page 17, Section 19.f: Is the summary of allele call table for CODIS upload acceptable provided per case rather than per batch?

A: If this is acceptable to the State Crime Lab.

Q: Page 21, Attachment A: Would the city be interested in additional services such as YSTR line item pricing?

A: As a separate pricing item, yes, this can be included in the RFP package submitted.

Q: Is the indemnification clause negotiable?

A: No.

Q: Under 7.2 Tasks Data Reporting (19a), it states that data must include but not be limited to Genescan, Genemapper ID, Excel files. Is the use of Genemapper ID-X acceptable?—

A: If the State Crime Lab accepts the use of Genemapper ID-X then its usage would be acceptable for this RFP.

Q: Do you have an expected volume of SAKs that would need to be tested per month?

A: Number of kits to be submitted for testing each month would vary dependent upon the capabilities of the processing lab. There are approximately 200 kits remaining to be tested prior to November 2019.

Q: 5.0 General Terms and Conditions, 5 Services Performed

Will the City consider adding “third party” within this section? *All services rendered under this agreement will be performed at the Seller’s own risk and the Seller expressly agrees to indemnify and hold harmless The City of Greenville, its officers, agents, and employees from any and all third party liability, loss or damage that they may suffer as a result of claims, demands, actions, damages or injuries of any kind or nature whatsoever by or to any and all persons or property*

A: The City is not comfortable with the inclusion of the words “third party” as proposed

Q: Will it be equally acceptable to the City to be listed as certificate holder on the certificate of insurance rather than additional insured?

A: The vendor should name the City as an additional insured.

Q: 7.2 Task, a) DNA Analysis, 4. If underwear is contained within a sexual assault kit, the underwear will be screened with Acid Phosphatase (AP) testing on a minimum of three areas from the crotch area unless otherwise noted in the case specific details that other areas of interest are possible. The area with the highest AP activity will proceed forward for DNA testing as described below. If no AP activity is noted, no sample from the underwear will proceed forward for DNA testing.

Question: Would the City consider the vendor’s approach of testing this type of evidence (underwear) by using a Direct to DNA approach instead of the described screening process?

A: Yes

Q: 5. 7.2 Tasks, b) Sample Analysis, 14 DNA Extraction

Discusses DNA extraction and states that each case run must include one negative reagent control for the questioned sample and one for the known sample. Typically with batched/volume processing, multiple cases are processed on a single tray. In these situations, multiple reagent negative controls are included in each batch to ensure sufficient sample for several rounds of processing. Please confirm that this is an acceptable approach rather than initiating a reagent negative for each case.

A: Yes