



Contra
Costa
County

To: Board of Supervisors
From: Robin Lipetzky, Public Defender
Date: September 13, 2016

Subject: Public Defender Forensic Evidence Training Project

RECOMMENDATION(S):

APPROVE and AUTHORIZE the Public Defender, or designee, to be the fiscal agent and act as a co-sponsor of a DNA forensic Evidence professional training event for state and federal public defense attorneys on November 3-4, 2016, at the Federal Conference Center in Oakland, California.

FISCAL IMPACT:

No fiscal impact.

BACKGROUND:

In cooperation with the Northern California District of the Federal Defenders Office, the Public Defender is co-sponsoring an intensive two-day training program for public agency defense attorneys designed to provide familiarity with DNA forensic analysis and report interpretation. This in-service training event will be available to those Deputy Public Defender's attorneys having current cases involving DNA evidence and defense attorneys from other public agencies throughout California. Continuing Legal Education (CLE) credit required for State Licensing will be awarded to the program participants, at the completion

☒ APPROVE

☐ OTHER

☒ RECOMMENDATION OF CNTY ADMINISTRATOR

☐ RECOMMENDATION OF BOARD COMMITTEE

Action of Board On: **09/13/2016** ☒ APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED ☐ OTHER

Clerks Notes:

VOTE OF SUPERVISORS

AYE: John Gioia, District I Supervisor
Candace Andersen, District II Supervisor
Mary N. Piepho, District III Supervisor
Karen Mitchoff, District IV Supervisor
Federal D. Glover, District V Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

ATTESTED: September 13, 2016

David Twa, County Administrator and Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

By: June McHuen, Deputy

Contact: Richard Loomis,
335-8093

cc:

of the training.

This training

BACKGROUND: (CONT'D)

event is scheduled for November 3-4, 2016, and attendance will be limited to fifty (50) participants. The training will cover issues relevant to criminal litigation, including: admissibility challenges, cross-examination of government experts and jury instructions, following a review of forensic fundamentals for DNA testing evidence (including: laboratory procedures, testing protocols, statistical significance and probabilistic genotyping).

This type of cooperative training event is an infrequent activity for the Office of the Public Defender, and is not normally included in its annual Budget.

Pursuant to Administrative Bulletin 104.1 the County Administrator's Office has reviewed and approved the Public Defender's request to be the fiscal agent and act as co-sponsor of the DNA Forensic Evidence Training and recommends approval of this action by the Board of Supervisors.

CONSEQUENCE OF NEGATIVE ACTION:

The Pubic Defender would not be able to co-host this event.

CHILDREN'S IMPACT STATEMENT:

N/A