

Department of State Police

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February 27, 2017

The Honorable Senator Richard Devlin, Co-Chair The Honorable Representative Nancy Nathanson, Co-Chair Joint Committee on Ways and Means 900 Court Street NE H-178 State Capitol Salem, OR 97301-4048

RE: DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE – GRANT APPLICATION RELATED TO COVERDELL FORENSIC SCIENCE IMPROVEMENT COMPETITIVE GRANTS PROGRAM

Dear Co-Chairpersons:

Nature of the Request

The Department of State Police (OSP) respectfully requests approval to apply for \$250,000 in Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Competitive program grant funding. These grant funds have been made available through the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice. The grant application is due March 10, 2017.

Agency Action

The Oregon State Police, Forensic Services Division (FSD) provides scientific, technical and investigative support to the criminal justice system through the forensic analysis of evidence in a timely fashion. The grant will assist the Division to complete casework through the use of overtime, ultimately reducing the turnaround time of the results to the submitting agency. Toxicology requests are used in conjunction with drug expert recognition (DRE) evaluations in court. Based on current estimates, the Department plans to utilize the grant funding to allow for an additional 2,528 submissions to be processed. This will greatly assist OSP's Forensic Services Division in their ongoing efforts to address the toxicology workload as effectively and efficiently as possible.

The grant does not require a match.

If awarded, the grant would begin January 1, 2018 and end December 31, 2018.

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Action Requested

Approve the Department's request to apply for \$250,000 in funding through the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,
Li C Abuptan

Travis Hampton, Superintendent

Oregon State Police

Cc:

Heidi Moawad, Governor's Office

Dustin Ball, Department of Administrative Services - Chief Financial Office

Julie Neburka, Legislative Fiscal Office