

# CITY OF CAPE CORAL

## REQUEST FOR SOLE SOURCE OR SINGLE SOURCE PURCHASE

Requesting Department: Police Department

Vendor Name: DNA Labs International Corp.

Address: 260 SW Natura Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Deerfield Beach, FL 33441

Phone: (954) 426-5163 E-Mail: clientservices@dnalabsinternational.com

Price: \$17,282.00

Description of item to be procured:

DNA Processing/Analysis

1.) Uniqueness of vendor's item/service. How is this vendor the only vendor uniquely qualified to provide the product or service:

At the present time, DNA Labs International is the only private lab in Florida that is accredited by ANAB to process DNA evidence. The Cape Coral Police Department's Forensic Unit is accredited by ANAB and must follow specific requirements for evidence processing. DNA Labs International allows our agency to have access to the many DNA profiles already accumulated in DNA Labs International's local DNA database.

2.) Market Research. Describe other, similar sources or products available in the market, if any, and why they are not acceptable:

DNA Labs is the only private lab in Florida, approved by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) to support any forensic DNA analysis needs required by law enforcement agencies. DNA Labs International complies with the strict standards set forth by the FBI and FDLE to ensure the integrity of the information submitted. DNA Labs is the only private lab that performs SPENTSHELL Collection, STRmix Analysis, Rootless Hair Shaft Extraction and utilizes the M-Vac in-house.

3.) Proposed Actions. Describe the actions the department will take to overcome the present barriers to competition for any future acquisition of this product or service:

With only a few accredited labs in the country, it is rare to have a private lab in the same state. Having the ability to utilize an accredited DNA lab in-state allows Forensic personnel or detectives to hand deliver evidence which protects the crucial chain of custody and allows for quick turnaround time. If other private labs become available that meet our accreditation requirements, the department will look into them.

Department Director's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 4-1-24

Approval: Procurement Manager Wanda Roop

(not to exceed \$50,000.00)

Date: 4/2/24

Approval: City Manager \_\_\_\_\_

(not to exceed \$100,000.00) Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Council authorization required if exceeding \$100,000.00



## DNA LABS INTERNATIONAL

ISO/IEC 17025:2017 and FBI QAS DNA Laboratory

*DNA Labs International* is a private woman and family owned, ANAB ISO 17025/IEC accredited DNA laboratory proudly located in South Florida. We are celebrating our 19th year supporting law enforcement agencies processing criminal forensic casework, with the longest continuous hands-on ownership of any private forensic DNA laboratory in the US. Founded in 2004 DNA Labs International, is run by a mother-daughter team. We are passionate about our work and instill and share the company's core mission: to provide the highest quality results, friendly service and innovative technology for law enforcement agencies and the victims they represent. When it comes to forensic casework, we are one of the top labs in the country and we work with hundreds of agencies throughout the US, Canada and Caribbean Nations.



### *Partnering with Cape Coral Police Department*

#### Forensic DNA Testing

**DNA Labs International** is located in Deerfield Beach, Florida. We are a leader processing forensic casework by applying the latest technology available to obtain maximum results. For better results, we employ the latest screening, collection, and specialized extraction techniques for degraded samples.

*We are here to help you solve crime with DNA.*

#### Sole Source

- DNA Labs International is the most experienced private lab in the US that has STRmix expert software analysis validated **up to 5 person mixtures** for all commercially available STR Kits. This allows us the ability to partner with any government laboratory across the US.
  - We have processed over 10,000 samples with STRmix.  
We are the 5th lab in the country and the 1st private lab to validate and implement STRmix in 2015. With this experience we are able to achieve the best results possible.  
*We have already testified numerous times in court with STRmix, and we have had 8 admissibility hearings in which STRmix was found to be admissible in court. When it comes to STRmix, experience matters.*
- Partnering with DNA Labs International allows your agency to have access to the many DNA profiles already accumulated in DNA Labs International's local DNA database. Our local database currently contains more than **65,000+** DNA profiles collected from crime scenes and associated

suspects brought to our lab to work since we opened in 2004. Many agencies experience the benefits of interagency hits to help them solve and connect crimes.

- Comparing your agency's DNA profiles to other crimes and suspects we already have, is an incredibly valuable resource that should increase solve rates and justifies DNA Labs International as a sole source provider of DNA services.
- We are the only private lab that performs SPENTSHELL™ Collection, STRmix Analysis, Rootless Hair Shaft Extraction, and utilizes the M-Vac in-house. These technologies give your agency an extreme advantage to solve your case.
- DNA Labs International is the only forensic lab achieving:
  - **40% results from spent fired cartridge casings**
  - **90% results from gun possession**
  - **60% results from property crime evidence**

#### 43% COMPARABLE RESULTS FROM SPENT SHELL CASINGS!

*Our SPENTSHELL™ method utilizes our proprietary buffer solution in combination with an optimized swabbing technique. We performed an extensive comparative study of all published methods and subsequently designed a testing protocol incorporating the most effective tests combined with new technology. Our technique consistently yields the best results. We can use this method to retrieve more DNA on any nonporous item of evidence. It has been especially valuable when processing fired cartridge casings.*

#### *Results from Only:*

- 1 casing
- 1/2 of a casing where the casing was found partially in the victim's blood.
- CODIS eligible results - from as few as 1 spent casing

#### Why DNA Labs International

DNA Labs International has been working violent crime cases for law enforcement agencies since 2004. As the DNA backlogs at government crime labs increased, resources such as our lab, have been made available to help lighten crime labs' caseloads and to help get cases to court sooner.

**FAST RESULTS possible in 24-48 Hours!**

*Each case has a victim & each case is treated with the individual attention it deserves.*

#### How We Partner with You

We are an extremely dedicated private DNA laboratory that will process your cases with the latest techniques and technology available to achieve the best possible results.

- |                   |                                 |                        |                  |
|-------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| • Homicides       | • Spent Cartridge Casings       | • Rootless Hair Shafts | • SNP, NGS, Mito |
| • Sexual Assaults | • STRmix™- DNA Mixture Analysis | • Degraded DNA & Bones | • Expert Witness |
| • Touch DNA       | • M-Vac® Collection             | • Y-STR Testing        | • Genealogy      |

*Family Owned & Run DNA Laboratory*

Visit our offices at: 260 SW Natura Avenue, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Deerfield Beach, FL 33441. P. 954.426.5163

[www.dnalsinternational.com](http://www.dnalsinternational.com)

## CODIS Partnership with FDLE

Since 2008 the Florida Department of Law Enforcement gives preapproved participating law enforcement agencies, within *FDLE's jurisdiction*, the option to submit evidence (at their own expense) directly to DNA Labs International for analysis. Any eligible DNA profile generated from analysis is submitted to FDLE for review and possible upload into CODIS. Please call us to start the quick preapproval process today!

## Accreditation

We currently hold the most up to date accreditation ISO/IEC 17025:2017 and FBI QAS DNA Laboratory. The ANAB inspects US laboratories for adherence to standards set by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and the DNA Advisory Board established by the Director of the FBI.

## Solve Crime with New Technology

### M-Vac - Collection Technique

DNA Labs International has over 7 years of experience from working hundreds of cases processing evidence with the M-Vac for DNA testing. Experience makes a difference when utilizing the M-Vac.

The M-Vac System® is helping solve more crimes by collecting more DNA than ever before. The M-Vac utilizes the same principles as a wet vacuum. With our years of experience, we have seen that it can dramatically improve DNA collection.



### Why M-Vac®

- Advancements in DNA technology have led to a higher volume of touch DNA samples being submitted to forensic laboratories.
- Touch DNA refers to samples where biological fluids are not detected, but skin cells may be left behind due to contact.
- Traditional collection methods, such as swabbing an item, are not always sufficient to collect the small amounts of DNA left behind.
- The M-Vac® system was validated by DNA Labs International in 2014 to improve recovery from touch DNA samples.

### Suggested Evidence:

- Porous Materials- Rocks, Bricks
- Clothing - ***Pants Pockets***, Masks
  - Touch/Contact DNA
  - If no DNA results achieved before.
- Rope
- Car Seats & Trunks
- Cold Case Evidence
- Touch/Contact DNA  
Large Surface Areas

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### No CODIS Hit? We've Got Genealogy!

*Our in-house genealogy team* works closely with you to help find the person(s) of interest by building out a family tree utilizing public DNA databases when a case does not yield a CODIS hit or a match to a known suspect DNA profile. Forensic genealogy can assist your case and provide you with new leads. Our expert Genealogists and DNA Analysts have extensive experience working evidence and cases for forensic genealogy.

### Rootless Hair Shafts

DLI is the only accredited private lab obtaining DNA from rootless hair shafts in the US. We implemented a specialized DNA extraction method and amplification kits with increased sensitivity that have allowed us to now obtain STR DNA profiles from a rootless hair shaft.

- *Only 1-3 cm piece of hair required.*

### NGS, SNP Testing & Whole Genome Mitochondrial DNA Testing on the MiSeq FGx®

DNA Labs International is the only ISO 17025:2017, and FBI QAS accredited forensic laboratory processing Forensic Genetic Genealogy cases from start to finish. SNP testing that is used for FGG was previously developed for family ancestry testing and required significantly more input DNA than what is needed for traditional forensic DNA analysis. In many cases, crime scene evidence results in limited amounts of DNA, and many cases previously did not yield enough DNA to conduct the SNP testing utilized for FGG. Kintelligence is the only kit designed with forensic samples in mind to be human-specific and use 10,230 SNP markers specifically selected for FGG purposes.

We are currently implementing Next Generation Sequencing (NGS) for the ForenSeq™ Signature Prep Kit, which is NDIS approved and provides data for more markers.

### *A Dedicated Company – Our people make us great!*

DNA Labs International requires the highest level of quality and expertise of all its employees. Scientists processing casework are well-rounded and have experience analyzing every type of evidence conceivable. Our scientists are innovative and passionate about helping you attain the best results possible.

We hope this letter has given you an introduction to the work we are trying to accomplish together. Please use us as a resource for any questions that you have any time.

Sincerely,

### **Allison Nunes**

Laboratory Director & Chief Operating Officer - Hands-On Owner

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