



Legislation Text

File #: 22-1242, Version: 1

**Contract Request Template (Contracts; IGAs; Leases)**

**Date Submitted: 10-3-2022**

**Requesting Agency: Department of Public Health and Environment  
Division:**

**Subject Matter Expert Name: Steve Castro  
Email Address: Steven.Castro@denvergov.org  
Phone Number:**

**Item Title & Description:**

*(Do not delete the following instructions)*

*These appear on the Council meeting agenda. Initially, the requesting agency will enter a 2-3 sentence description. Upon bill filling, the City Attorney's Office should enter the title above the description (the title should be in **bold** font).*

*Both the title and description must be entered between the red "title" and "body" below. Do **not** at any time delete the red "title" or "body" markers from this template.*

**A bill for an ordinance approving a proposed Agreement between the City and County of Denver and Denver Health & Hospital Authority (DHHA), for experts to conduct postmortem skeletal surveys on deaths of children aged three years or younger.**

Approves an intergovernmental agreement with the Denver Health & Hospital Authority (DHHA) through 12-31-23 whereby DHHA experts will conduct postmortem skeletal surveys on deaths of children aged three years or younger that occur within city limits, pursuant to the recommendation of the Office of the Medical Examiner (ENVHL-202264740-00). The last regularly scheduled Council meeting within the 30-day review period is on 11-7-2022. The Committee approved filing this item at its meeting on 10-5-2022.

**Affected Council District(s) or citywide? Citywide**

**Contract Control Number: ENVHL-202264740-00**

**Vendor/Contractor Name (including any "DBA"): Denver Health and Hospital Authority (DHHA)**

**Type and Scope of services to be performed: See Executive Summary**

New intergovernmental agreement between Denver Health & Hospital Authority and the City and County of Denver-Office of the Medical Examiner for Denver Health and Hospital Authority to conduct postmortem skeletal surveys on deaths of children aged three years or younger that occur within the limits of the City and County of Denver. This service is for deaths that occur at Denver Health and Hospital Authority or at a residence within the City and County of Denver under suspicious circumstances where a death may have resulted from child abuse. (Denver Health and Hospital has provided this service in the past at no cost; however, we believe it is the level of expertise needed and vicarious trauma on their staff that has generated this situation. We anticipate this service to be absorbed into the Denver Health and Hospital Operating Agreement for 2024.) Please also see the attached Executive Summary.

**Scope of Work:**

- Denver Health and Hospital Authority will notify the Denver Office of the Medical Examiner in the event that any patient aged three (3) years or younger has died at Denver Health and Hospital Authority and the hospital's medical staff is suspicious that such death may have resulted from child abuse pursuant to existing protocols.
- Upon notification from Denver Health and Hospital Authority, the Denver Office of the Medical Examiner will determine whether a postmortem skeletal survey is needed and if so, will request a postmortem skeletal survey from Denver Health and Hospital Authority.
- The Denver Office of the Medical Examiner will ensure that a coroner or investigator is present with the body at Denver Health and Hospital Authority's facility during the performance of the postmortem skeletal survey. In the event the coroner requests a postmortem skeletal survey, Denver Health and Hospital Authority will allow up to ninety (90) minutes for the coroner or investigator to arrive at Denver Health and Hospital Authority's facility. After such time period has passed, Denver Health and Hospital Authority staff may move the patient's body to the morgue to await the arrival of the coroner or investigator. If the coroner or investigator arrives after the body has been transported to the morgue, Denver Health and Hospital Authority will nonetheless attempt to perform the skeletal survey; provided, however, the parties each acknowledge that a skeletal survey performed after rigor mortis has set in will affect the ability of Denver Health and Hospital Authority staff to manipulate the body and therefore, may affect the quality of images produced during the skeletal survey.
- The coroner or investigator shall provide direction to Denver Health and Hospital Authority staff to ensure that the postmortem skeletal survey satisfies the evidentiary requirements of the Denver Office of the Medical Examiner, including and without limitation, any requirements relating to chain of custody and manipulation of the body.
- The postmortem skeletal survey will be performed by Denver Health and Hospital Authority in accordance with Denver Health and Hospital Authority's protocol and appropriate standards of practice. Without limiting the foregoing, the Denver Office of the Medical Examiner understands that the body will be removed from the body bag and reasonably manipulated by Denver Health and Hospital Authority staff in order to perform the skeletal survey.
- Denver Health and Hospital Authority will prepare documentation of the postmortem skeletal survey and will provide the Denver Office of the Medical Examiner copies of such documentation in a manner determined by Denver Health and Hospital Authority, in consultation with the Denver Office of the Medical Examiner.

**Location (if applicable): Citywide**

**WBE/MBE/DBE goals that were applied, if applicable (construction, design, Airport concession contracts): N/A**

**Are WBE/MBE/DBE goals met (if applicable)? N/A**

**Is the contract new/a renewal/extension or amendment?**

**Was this contractor selected by competitive process or sole source?**

**For New contracts**

**Term of initial contract:**

**DOE through 12-31-2023**

**Options for Renewal:**

**How many renewals (i.e. up to 2 renewals)?**

**Term of any renewals (i.e. 1 year each):**

**Cost of initial contract term:**

**\$600 per survey**

**Cost of any renewals:**

**Total contract value council is approving if all renewals exercised:**

**For Amendments/Renewals Extensions:**

**Is this a change to cost/pricing; length of term; terms unrelated to time or price (List all that apply)?**

***If length changing***

**What was the length of the term of the original contract?**

**What is the length of the extension/renewal?**

**What is the revised total term of the contract?**

***If cost changing***

**What was the original value of the entire contract prior to this proposed change?**

**What is the value of the proposed change?**

**What is the new/revised total value including change?**

***If terms changing***

**Describe the change and the reason for it (i.e. compliance with state law, different way of doing business etc.)**