

May 1, 2023

The Honorable Tyisha Walker-Myers
President, Board of Alders
City of New Haven
165 Church Street
New Haven, CT 06510

Dear Alder President Walker-Myers,

I am writing to respectfully request that the Honorable Board approve the indemnification of the State of Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection Division of Scientific Services (DSS) in a contract with the NHPD to enable us to obtain results from searches requested by NHPD in conjunction with the State's Rapid DNA Program. The State has requested indemnification and the City's Corporation Counsel advised us that the BOA is the body responsible to approve this request.

As you know, the Department has a federal Crime Gun Intelligence Center grant to create a real time state-of-the-art command and control environment that uses a combination of technology and design to improve detection and response to firearm-involved violent incidents that will reduce and deter violence in the City. A Rapid DNA Machine was purchased to process DNA for investigative leads. These leads help solve crimes faster by giving officers actionable leads in real time, excluding or including suspects at the scene, and reduces time for evidence tampering or allowing a perpetrator to escape. Saliva or blood is obtained with a cotton swab and placed in a DNA terminal and results are obtained in 90 minutes. Samples/data are sent to DSS Rapid DNA Program, which has access to the CT Offender Database and is authorized to conduct searches and to verify whether an individual qualifies to be in the database. NHPD may request that DSS conduct a search of the Database on its behalf with regard to certain identified offender(s). We are looking forward to using this technology to help us solve violent crimes.

Thank you for your consideration. Please contact me if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

Karl Jacobson
Chief of Police