

Wilmington, Delaware  
June 20, 2019

#4679

Sponsor:

Council  
Member  
Williams

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 2-363 of the City Code, the Council deemed it necessary and proper to specify the requirements for review and approval of City-sponsored grant applications and proposals, including authorization for expedited grant applications when necessary prior to Council’s approval by resolution; and

**WHEREAS**, the City, through the Wilmington Police Department (“WPD”), applied for the Cold Case DNA Grant from the Delaware Department of Safety and Homeland Security (“DSHS”) in the amount of \$50,000; and

**WHEREAS**, the WPD intends to use the grant money to assist with DNA testing and related expenses for the investigation of open cold case; and

**WHEREAS**, related expenses may include travel for witness interviews, supplies, attendance at seminars related to cold case investigation techniques, and the submission of DNA evidence to an appropriate nationally accredited laboratory facility; and

**WHEREAS**, unsolved violent crime cases continue to amass annually. As crimes occur, unresolved crimes accumulate, adding to an expanding caseload for prosecutors and law enforcement. Once the investigation leads to the identification of a suspect, prosecuting agencies may experience an accumulation of cases to be prosecuted due to limited resources. The purpose of this grant award is to make funding available to prosecuting agencies for projects that will assist in the resolution of the nation’s violent crime cold cases

**WHEREAS**, the goals of the Cold Case DNA Grant are to prosecute violent crime and to decrease the number of violent crime cold cases awaiting prosecution; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council deems it necessary and proper to authorize the grant application, for the aforesaid purpose.

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON** that the WPD's grant application to DSHS in the amount of \$50,000 is hereby authorized.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Chief of the Wilmington Police Department, or his designee, shall be authorized to take all necessary actions to accept any and all funds associated with the grant application and to fulfill the grant requirements.

Passed by City Council,

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

**SYNOPSIS:** This Resolution authorizes the Wilmington Police Department's application for a grant from the Delaware Department of Safety and Homeland Security in the amount of \$50,000. The grant will enable the Wilmington Police Department to prosecute violent crime using DNA and other forensic testing to identify suspects and to decrease the number of violent crime cold cases awaiting prosecution.

**FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT:** There is no negative fiscal impact on the City as no local matching funds are required.