



CITY COUNCIL MEMORANDUM

FROM: The Office of the City Manager **DATE:** November 12, 2018

SUBJECT: Authorize the purchase of the IBIS BRASSTRAX Acquisition Station cartridge imaging system for firearm related crime from Ultra Electronics Forensic Technology, Inc., for the North Texas Anti-Gang (TAG) Center in the amount of \$137,500

PRESENTER: Jimmy Perdue, Director of Public Safety

SUMMARY:

Staff is requesting authorization to purchase the IBIS BRASSTRAX Acquisition Station from Ultra Electronics Forensic Technology Inc., for the North Texas Anti-Gang (TAG) Center. This forensic technology solves firearm-related crime and is designed to meet the needs of police and military organizations that gain actionable information from firearms and their fired ammunition components. The station will be purchased using previously awarded grant funding for the TAG.

GENERAL DESCRIPTION:

BRASSTRAX is the cartridge case-imaging component of Ultra Electronics Forensic Technology Inc., (Forensic Technology) IBIS TRAX-HD3D product family. This 3D technology was custom-designed by Forensic Technology to provide optimal performance for the specific characteristics of cartridge cases. This integrated ballistic identification (IBIS) technology enables the sharing and comparison of significant quantities of exhibit information and images across a network of imaging sites, as well as the automated identification of likely matching bullets or cartridge cases. It is the latest generation of IBIS technology and includes exceptional 3D imaging, advanced comparison algorithms, and a robust infrastructure.

IBIS features networking capabilities using the TCP/IP communications protocol. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) has committed the National Correlation Center to accept the images from IPD for correlation and to access the ATF's National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN). ATF has also committed to providing a full time contractor/technician position for the entry of casings into the system.

The North Texas TAG Executive Board approved acquisition of the BRASSTRAX at the September 28, 2018 Board Meeting. As a member of the Executive Board, the Irving Police Department (IPD) has committed to providing office space for the machine and for the contractor/technician to operate. IPD will serve as a hub for use by multiple agencies with potential need for 24-hour access, which the TAG center cannot provide. Additionally, the proximity to a range is desirable.



Ultra Electronics Forensic Technology Inc. is a sole-source provider of the IBIS BRASSTRAX Acquisition Station. The total cost of \$137,500 includes the station, installation, on-site training and a one-year warranty. The purchase will be funded through Grant #2848903 previously awarded by the Office of the Governor and approved through Resolution 2017-025.

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the purchase of the IBIS BRASSTRAX Acquisition Station cartridge imaging system for firearm related crime from Ultra Electronics Forensic Technology, Inc., for the North Texas Anti-Gang (TAG) Center in the amount of \$137,500.