NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Janet Nottley - Director
Child Support Services
REPORT BY: Karina Castaneda, STAFF SERVICES MANAGER - 259-8289
SUBJECT: Approval and authorization to sign renewal agreement with Laboratory Corporation of America Holdings

RECOMMENDATION
Director of Child Support Services requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign an agreement with Laboratory Corporation of America Holdings for a maximum of $9,000 for the term July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011 and annually thereafter to provide genetic testing.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
Federal and State law require genetic testing be made available to recipients of Public Assistance who are required to cooperate with the local Child Support Service Department. Department of Child Support Services Policy also requires Local Child Support Agencies (LCSAs) to provide genetic testing at no cost to non aided applicants who require genetic testing. Genetic testing may be necessary to establish paternity before the establishment of a child support order. Laboratory Corporation of America Holdings (LabCorp) will perform genetic testing for Child Support Services customers at the request of either party involved in the lawsuit and/or the Court.

FISCAL IMPACT
Is there a Fiscal Impact? Yes
Is it currently budgeted? Yes
Where is it budgeted? Child Support Services
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary? Mandatory
Is the general fund affected? No

Future fiscal impact: Costs for services under this agreement have been included for the current budget and will be appropriated accordingly in future fiscal years as these services are mandated and paid for with State and Federal funding.

Consequences if not approved: The Child Support Services Department would be out of compliance with State and Federal laws and in carrying out the terms and conditions of court orders.

Additional Information:

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

There is no Environmental Impact for this item.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

Section 45 Code of Federal Regulations § 303.5 requires Child Support Services (CSS) Departments to make genetic testing available at no cost for all cases receiving Public Assistance if paternity has not been legally established or is contested by the parties involved in the case.

The Department of Child Support Services (DCSS) policy requires counties to offer genetic testing to non aided applicants at no cost who require parentage to be determined. Additionally, the Court may order any IV-D customer, aided or not, to participate in genetic testing. Napa CSS is required by DCSS to offer testing at no cost to the participants.

Under this agreement, Laboratory Corporation of America Holdings (LabCorp) will perform 'genetic testing' to determine paternity for customers of the Child Support program. Testing is provided to customers who dispute paternity during legal proceedings required of the Child Support Department. Additionally, the Court may order the Department to provide genetic testing to the parties involved in the lawsuit for child support. The Department conducts approximately 150 testings on an annual basis. This agreement includes an annual automatic renewal clause under the same terms and condition.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Maiko Klieman