



Public Safety Committee Update: Sam Houston State University Regional Crime Lab

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Acquisition of SHSU-RCL

- Discussion with Sam Houston State University regarding Regional Crime Lab services and divesting by September 2012
- Acquisition allows for an efficient integration of SHSU operations and expansion of HPD Toxicology forensic discipline
- Transfer of capital equipment in exchange for providing internships and collaborative research opportunities



Benefits of Acquisition

- Acquire validated grant-funded equipment
- Hire previously trained, experienced staff
- Obtain procedures which are compliant with ISO accreditation standards
- Eliminate alcohol testing backlog by increasing capacity and adding drug testing capability in body fluids
- This added capacity will eliminate outsourcing, associated costs and delays



Property

- Equipment
- Supplies
- Protocols
- Casework Files





Costs

One-time Costs:

Renovation Estimate	\$	20,000
Hoods and installation	\$	57,014
Work tables	\$	31,000
Moving costs	\$	<u>26,355*</u>
Total One-time costs	\$	134,369*

Annual Recurring Costs:

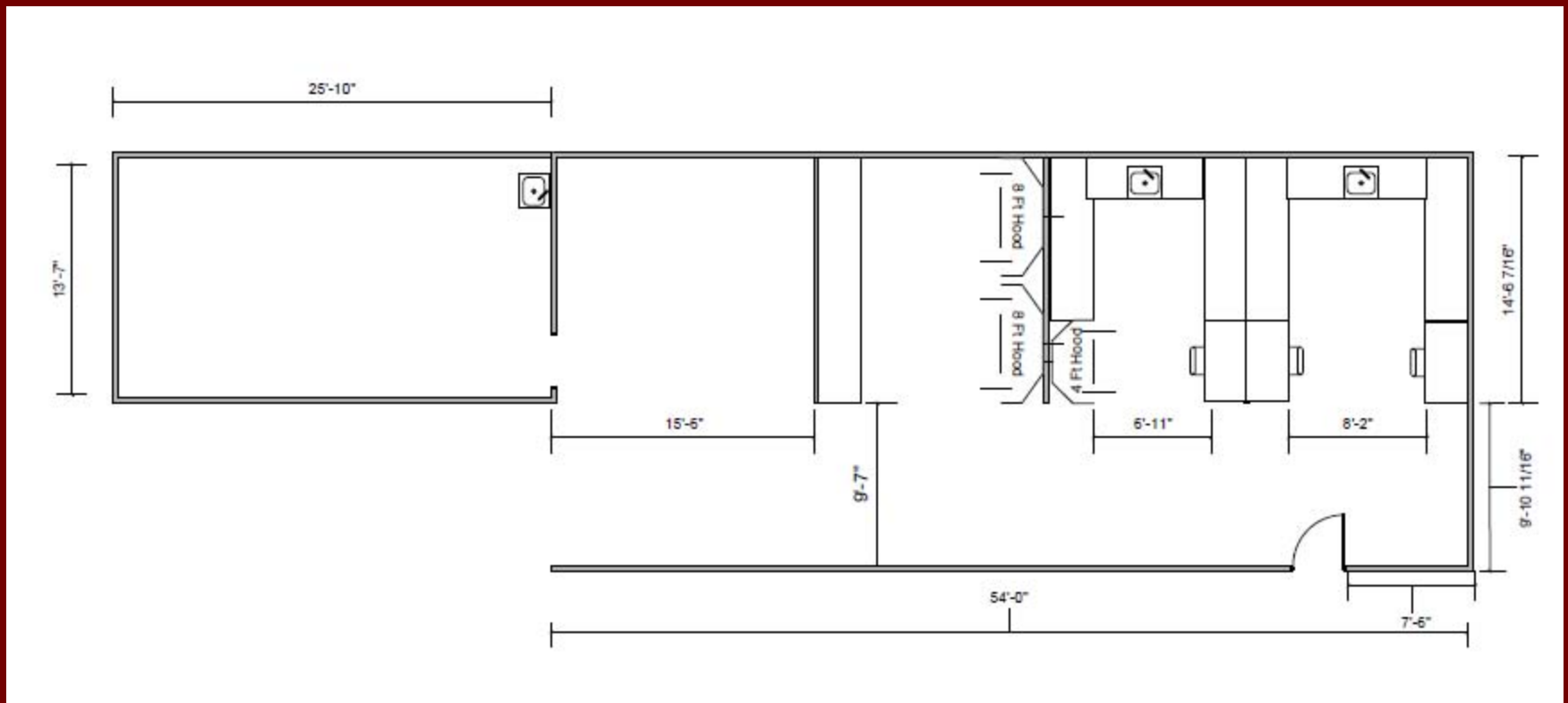
Staff (6)	\$	427,508
Supplies, QA, Services, Training	\$	36,430
Outsource costs eliminated	\$	<u>(293,300)</u>
Net Operating Cost	\$	170,638

*Adjust for moving cost for non-equipment related items



Toxicology Floor Plan

■ Renovation





Advantage of Acquisition

- Low cost and low risk: validated, grant-funded equipment and trained staff
- Short integration period: approximately 8 weeks
- Expansion of Toxicology to include drug analysis, eliminating outsourcing
- Minimize delays in the Criminal Justice System
- Apprehension of impaired drivers increases public safety



Summary of Contract Terms

- COH will receive at least \$500,000 worth of equipment and supplies at minimal cost to the COH
- SHSU Lab will maintain equipment in accordance with accreditation standards
- COH will be allowed to inspect property and receive warranties, service and maintenance agreements, and documents related to calibration & testing of equipment
- COH will receive SHSU Case Files



Summary of Contract Terms

- COH will use good faith efforts to employ six persons from SHSU in accordance with HPD Crime Lab employment standards
- COH will provide to SHSU unpaid internships for forensic students and collaborative research opportunities for SHSU forensic science faculty
- COH may terminate transfer if equipment is not operating according to specifications or SHSU fails to maintain accreditation until September 9, 2012
- Either party may terminate transfer if not completed by September 30, 2012