



**COMMISSIONERS COURT  
COMMUNICATION**

COURT ORDER NUMBER 144986

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DATE: 4/2/2025

**SUBJECT: NICHE VISION FORENSICS, LLC - STRMIX DNA ANALYSIS SYSTEM -  
MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE**

**\*\*\* CONSENT AGENDA \*\*\***

**COMMISSIONERS COURT ACTION REQUESTED**

It is requested that the Commissioners Court approve Niche Vision Forensics, LLC as sole source for STRmix DNA analysis system for the Medical Examiner's Office.

**BACKGROUND**

Niche Vision Forensics, LLC provided the Purchasing Agent documentation that they are the exclusive US distributor for the STRmix DNA analysis system and exclusive provider of North America maintenance, upgrade and support services for the STRmix Software.

STRmix is a stand-alone instrument designed to help deconvolute DNA mixtures and provide DNA profile statistical calculations for DNA interpretation by the forensic biology section of the Medical Examiner's Office.

Under the County Purchasing Act, exemptions to the competitive bidding requirements are allowed for certain types of purchases. The statutes require that the Purchasing Agent advise the Commissioners Court of the existence of only one (1) source, with such notice to be entered into the minutes of the Court.

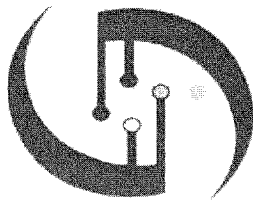
Accordingly, the above item has been determined to be sole source under the County Purchasing Act 262.024(a)(7) as follows:

- “(7) an item can be obtained from only one (1) source, including:
  - (A) items for which competition is precluded because of the existence of patents, copyrights, secret processes, or monopolies.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

There is no fiscal impact associated with this item.

SUBMITTED BY	Purchasing	PREPARED BY:	Kehinde Olugbile
		APPROVED BY:	Christopher Lax, CPSM, CPSD, CPCP



**NicheVision**  
Forensics, LLC

February 19, 2025

Tarrant Co. Medical Examiner's Office  
200 Feliks Gwozdz Place  
Fort Worth, TX 76104

To Whom It May Concern:

Thank you for your interest in STRmix™. This letter is to confirm that NicheVision Forensics LLC a wholly owned subsidiary of NicheVision Inc. was appointed by ESR (Institute of Environmental Science and Research Ltd.) in Auckland New Zealand, effective April 1, 2014, as the exclusive US distributor for the STRmix™ expert DNA analysis system that uses a fully continuous approach for DNA profile interpretation. Further, NicheVision Forensics, LLC is the exclusive provider of North America Maintenance and Upgrades as well as the support services for the STRmix™ Software.

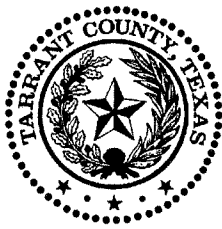
For further confirmation please contact:

Bjorn Sutherland  
Forensic Development Manager  
ESR (Institute of Environmental Science and Research Ltd.)  
bjorn.sutherland@esr.cri.nz

We look forward to providing your laboratory with this cutting edge software technology.

Sincerely,

Tracy Bauer  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Director of Operations  
Tracy@NicheVision.com



## TAKINGS IMPACT ASSESSMENT CHECKLIST

Complete this form for any county action that involves the adoption of a regulation, policy, guideline, court resolution, or order.

Project/Regulation Name: Niche Vision Forensics, LLC - STRmix DNA Analysis System - Medical Examiner's Office

County Department: PURCHASING

Contact Person: Melissa Lee, C.P.M., A.P.P.

Phone Number for Contact Person: (817) 884-3245

Type of TIA Performed: SHORT TIA or FULL TIA. Circle one after answering the questions in Sections II and III below.

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### I. Stated Purpose

Attach to this checklist an explanation of the purpose of the regulation, policy, guideline, court resolution, or order.

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**Note: The remainder of this Takings Impact Assessment Checklist should be completed in consultation with the Criminal District Attorney's Office.**

### II. Potential Effect on Private Real Property

1. Does the county action require a physical invasion, occupation, or dedication of real property?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No √

2. Does the county action limit or restrict a real property right, even partially, or temporarily?

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No √

If you answered yes to either question, go to Section III. If you answered no to both, STOP HERE and circle SHORT TIA at the top of the form.

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