

Resolution #22-0407
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**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF AN INDEPENDENT
CONTRACTOR AGREEMENT WITH NATIONAL MEDICAL SERVICES, INC.
d/b/a NMS LABS FOR THE OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT OF A LOCAL
FORENSIC SERVICES LABORATORY**

WHEREAS, the Winston-Salem Police Department had historically relied upon the North Carolina State Crime Laboratory (formerly the North Carolina SBI Crime Laboratory) for forensic testing until backlogs and operational challenges increased to the point that use of such State Crime Laboratory was no longer efficient or effective; and

WHEREAS, the City entered into a License and Service Agreement in 2014 with the predecessor to National Medical Services, Inc. ("NMS") for the establishment and operation of a forensic laboratory located within the Beaty Public Safety Training and Support Center at 1200 N. Patterson Avenue, under which agreement NMS provided Qualitative Drug Identification testing and toxicology testing to include blood alcohol levels and the presence of controlled substances in blood, for cases investigated by the Winston-Salem Police Department; and

WHEREAS, all approved extensions to said 2014 agreement have been exhausted;
and

WHEREAS, the need for local laboratory services continues; and

WHEREAS, National Medical Services, Inc. is willing and able to continue to provide such services, along with a new service of testing for Hemp/Marijuana Differentiation, under a new contract for an initial term of one (1) year at a cost of \$137,220; and

WHEREAS, said new contract would be eligible for renewal for two (2) additional two-year terms, with any cost increase for a renewal term limited to no more than six percent (6%); and

WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the City and the criminal justice system that such a local forensic laboratory be established.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and the Winston-Salem City Council authorize the execution of an Independent Contractor Agreement with National Medical Services, Inc. d/b/a. NMS Labs, as well as any amendments to said Agreement necessary to effectuate renewals of the Agreement, as outlined above, by the appropriate City officials, upon approval as to form and legality by the City Attorney's Office.