STATE OF ILLINOIS)
)SS
COUNTY OF KANE)

<u>AFFIDAVIT</u>

RE: Resolution authorizing the hiring of civilian fingerprint analysts Julie Smith and Gina Minetti as contractual consultants for the purpose of fingerprint analysis and identification for the Aurora Police Department.

I, Cmdr. John A. Fichtel, #941, Aurora Police Department, being duly sworn on oath do hereby state:

- 1. That for all crimes occurring in Aurora (DuPage County Excluded), the Aurora Police Department has formerly submitted fingerprint evidence to the Illinois State Police's Joliet Crime Lab for analysis and identification.
- 2. That due to overstretched resources and heavy caseloads, it currently takes approximately 12 months for the Joliet Crime Lab to process and return fingerprint evidence from crime scenes submitted for AFIS comparison.
- 3. That the citizens of Aurora suffered needless victimization at the hands of criminals, often times felons, who remained unidentified and free to continue their criminal pursuits while fingerprint evidence that could link them to previous crimes was awaiting processing by the Joliet Crime Lab.
- 4. That this continued victimization has monetary costs as well as psychological costs that negatively impact the quality of life of Aurora's citizenry.
- 5. That in order to better serve the public by combating crime and removing criminals from the streets of Aurora at the earliest possible opportunity, the Department developed its own complete fingerprint capability to include lifting fingerprints, submitting them through AFIS, making identifications, and being able to testify in court to those identifications.
- 6. That in order to establish this complete fingerprint capability, on December 22, 2009 the City Council authorized the purchase of equipment from the NEC Corporation of America that will interface with the AFIS system used by the State's Bureau of Identification (B of I).
- 7. That in order to be able to make use of the above-mentioned NEC equipment, the services of fingerprint analysts are needed.

- 8. That after research into the current best practices in the field, the Department learned that two fingerprint analysts are needed one to make an identification, and another to confirm the identification.
- 9. That after an extensive staff study, the Department determined that the quickest and most cost effective way of acquiring the services of fingerprint analysts is to hire two already trained and certified analysts as contractual consultants.
- 10. That Julie Smith and Gina Minetti are trained and certified fingerprint analysts who formerly worked at the Joliet Crime Lab and each have years of experience in this field, and who presented themselves to the Department as being willing to serve as contractual consultants for the purpose of fingerprint analysis and identification.
- 11. That Julie Smith and Gina Minetti have previously signed contracts to perform this work for the Police Department during December of 2010, February through December 2011, the full calendar year of 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017 to present day. During this time Julie Smith and Gina Minetti proved themselves to be highly competent and knowledgeable in this field, and have been able to meet all of their job requirements and expectations. They have been assigned 1,200 cases, have compared 4,000 fingerprint lifts and have made 1,000 identifications from those fingerprint lifts.
- 12. That it is the desire of the Department to renew the contracts of Julie Smith and Gina Minetti for 2018 and 2019, and that those contracts have already been reviewed and approved by Human Resources Department.
- 13. That Julie Smith and Gina Minetti have already passed the requisite background check for such employment at the Department, and that Julie Smith and Gina Minetti have secured the professional liability insurance required by the City for such contract work.

Further affiant sayeth not.

Cmdr. John A. Fichtel #941 Investigative Services Bureau

Aurora Police Department

Subscribed and sworn to before me

Substitute and sworm to below the

this 2 nd day of Now MBIER, 2017

Notary Public

OFFICIAL SEAL
WILLIAM G HULL III
NOTARY PUBLIC - STATE OF ILLINOIS
MY COMMISSION EXPIRES:04/25/21