



## DOUGLAS COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

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**G. Craig Weinaug**  
County Administrator

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MEMO TO: Board of County Commissioners  
FROM: Robert Bieniecki, Criminal Justice Coordinator  
SUBJECT: Law Enforcement Contact Study  
DATE: September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018

Over the past two years, the Criminal Justice Coordinating Council (CJCC) has invested time researching the topic of disproportionate minority contact in Douglas County's criminal justice system. As a result, the CJCC has recommended that a study be conducted to determine the level of disproportionate minority contact.

After reviewing possibilities of who could conduct such a study, the CJCC has recommended a team from Northeastern University. The team consists of Dr. Jack McDevitt and Dr. Amy Farrell from Northeastern University in Boston, MA and Dr. Janice Iwama from American University in Washington, D.C.

The team will provide technical assistance to all of the law enforcement agencies in Douglas County to develop and implement a program for documenting traffic and pedestrian stops. They will also analyze the data to determine if any disproportionalities exist and provide related recommendations.

The study is expected to take two years to complete. Upon completion, Douglas County Law Enforcement agencies will have a data collection and analysis program in place for ongoing use.

Douglas County would be the lead agency for this project. The total cost of the project is \$175,000. The Cities of Lawrence, Eudora, Baldwin and the University of Kansas have committed to participating in the study. An inter-local agreement for shared cost is currently being reviewed by legal counsel and will be forwarded upon completion. The proposed cost share is; Douglas County - \$84,016.50, City of Lawrence - \$84,016.50, City of Eudora - \$2,883, City of Baldwin - \$2,269 and the University of Kansas - \$1,815

Please find the contract and applicable related documents attached.

Staff recommendation:

*“Consider a motion to approve executing a contract with Northeastern University to provide consulting services to Douglas County to study Law Enforcement contact and create a data collection program for ongoing data collection and analysis.”*