

(Insert Letterhead)

04/07/20222

The Honorable Richard Burr  
United States Senate  
217 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

RE: Support for Asheville Police Department Funding Request

Dear Senator Burr:

Our organization is excited to hear about Chief David Zack's request for Community Project Funding. Rapid DNA has an impressive track record thus far in improving community safety while also demonstrating the tremendous potential to improve law enforcement practices and outcomes in the future. We offer our endorsement and respectfully request that you support Riverside County Sheriff's funding request.

We are constantly looking to improve efficiency in our departments both as a responsibility to our taxpayers and to better allocate limited resources. Aside from improving law enforcement outcomes, we see a serious benefit through future increased efficiency. The crime lab constantly faces difficult decisions when allocating resources. They have sexual assault kits, evidence from homicide crime scenes, etc. It is difficult to justify property crime DNA analysis when you have a rape victim waiting for DNA confirmation against her assailant. Rapid DNA helps ease this burden by automating the process for low-complexity DNA samples. The technology will allow the crime lab to better focus its efforts on complex, high-priority casework while police officers can generate scientific investigative leads themselves. Importantly, Rapid DNA can also support improvements in community relationships by removing opportunities for racial or other socio-economic biases to lead investigations. With Rapid DNA, law enforcement will be able to rely on forensic science in generating leads and identifying criminal suspects – while at the same time eliminating the innocent. Criminal investigations benefit public safety benefits and our community benefits.

Rapid DNA will be a valuable tool and our community would benefit from its inclusion in our law enforcement practices. Please let me know if we can do anything else to support this request.

Sincerely,

(Insert Written Signature)

(Insert Name)

(Insert Title)

(Insert Address and Contact Information)