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CHAIR

**REGIONAL LEADERSHIP COUNCIL**  
NEW YORK REPRESENTATIVE

**Grace Meng**

**Congress of the United States**

**Sixth District, New York**

March 31, 2023

The Honorable Kay Granger  
Chairwoman  
House Committee on Appropriations  
H-307 The Capitol  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Committee on Appropriations  
1036 Longworth House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairwoman Granger and Ranking Member DeLauro,

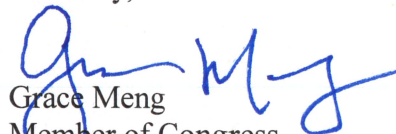
I am requesting funding for Cold Case Unit DNA Testing Upgrades in fiscal year 2024. The entity to receive funding for this project is Queens County District Attorney, located at 125-01 Queens Boulevard, Kew Gardens, NY 11415.

The funding would be used for forensic genetic genealogy, which allows the Queens District Attorney's Cold Case Unit to continue their important work in identifying remains of victims of homicide in all of Queens County. Supplementing Queens District Attorney's grant from the Department of Justice, which funds the identification of perpetrators of crime, these funds will allow the ability to identify the victims and we will be able to repatriate the remains to the families and advance the prosecution in these cases. This would also bring long-awaited closure to Queens families, some of whom have been left without answers for years or even decades. The project is an appropriate use of taxpayer funds because there are more than 200 victims in Queens whose remains are unidentified, many of them connected to homicide cases that cannot adequately be investigated in order for justice to be carried out. This project will allow the Queens District Attorney's Office to work with the FBI to identify the remains of these victims in Queens and provide answers for the families as to where they are and what happened to them.

The project has a Federal nexus because the funding provided is for purposes authorized in section 501 of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 (34 U.S.C. § 10152).

I certify that I have no financial interest in this project, and neither does anyone in my immediate family.

Sincerely,

  
Grace Meng  
Member of Congress

<http://www.meng.house.gov>  
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