

Letter of Understanding

Public Prosecution Service of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, hereinafter referred to as “MPF CABA”,

and

Gordon Thomas Honeywell Government Affairs,

hereinafter referred to as “GTH-GA”

1. Background:

Whereas the Constitution of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires and the Public Prosecution Service Organic Law No. 1,903 assign to the MPF CABA the role to promote, within its territorial and legal jurisdictions, the judicial action in defense of legality and the general interests of society, pursue the normal provision of the judicial service, and seek the social interest fulfillment before the courts.

Whereas, in this regard and by means of AGO Decision No. 30/2021, the MPF CABA approved its 2020-2024 Strategic Plan, whose strategic objectives include the strengthening of both intra and inter-institutional relations within the framework of a dynamic network with different actors (5.2), promoting the coordination not only between the agency’s areas, but also with other government branches at the National, Provincial, Municipal and local levels, as well as with private institutions and civil society organizations.

Whereas, to this end, the MPF CABA favors the collaboration between both domestic and foreign entities and organizations by means of mutual dialogue, assistance and cooperation.

Whereas, for its part, the GTH-GA, was founded in the year 1987, for the purpose of working in close collaboration with government officials. From 1999 onwards, GTH-GA’s cooperation started to include DNA forensics laboratories, criminal investigation institutions, and the DNA industry. Today, GTH-GA has reached global recognition for its expertise in the development of criminal-law policies, legislation, laws, and protocols for DNA forensics databases.

In the Latin-American region, there has been progress in terms of legislation and the implementation of databases. In addition, public debates on the protection of fundamental rights and constitutional frameworks have been encouraged. In this regard, GTH-GA launched the project “*Forensics Justice: DNA Latin America*”.

GTH-GA and the “*Forensics Justice: DNA Latin America*” project present to the MPF CABA their intention of establishing a working relationship for the implementation of technical assistance regarding the creation and regulation of a criminal DNA database.

Whereas, after holding initial meetings, both parties agree to formally establish their working relationship.

Through this Letter of Understanding, the MPF CABA and the GTH-GA agree to work jointly towards their common objectives for the implementation of a DNA database, for criminal-investigation purposes and with the aim of strengthening the scientific and legal framework supporting said database.

2. Agreements

Consequently, the GTH-GA and the MPF CABA meet to approve and adhere to the following actions:

2.1 The GTH-GA shall collaborate with the MPF CABA:

- a.** Providing technical advice, training, education, recommendations, and expertise related to DNA analysis and the establishment and operation of DNA databases.
- b.** Making legal and public policy recommendations related to the establishment and functioning of DNA databases.
- c.** Providing support and ad hoc services for the implementation of cooperation in the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires.

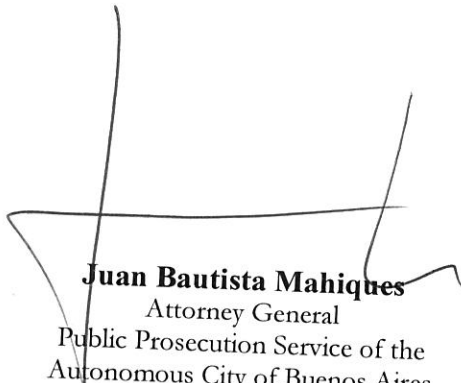
2.2 The MPF CABA shall support GTH-GA's cooperation to:


- a.** Establish, maintain, and operate a DNA database for human identification purposes and for promoting the creation of a criminal DNA database in accordance with the relevant legal provisions and/or the corresponding judicial authorizations.
 - b.** Manage the DNA database for human identification purposes separately from the criminal DNA database, following international standards and best practices on privacy, data protection, and human rights, within the limits as established in legislation currently in force.
 - c.** Coordinate with other provincial, national, and international institutions those actions that allow the development of the DNA database for criminal investigation purposes.
- 3.** The MPF CABA appoints its Center of Judicial Investigations (CIJ) as its representative in charge of working on the cooperation and implementation of the objectives of this Letter of Understanding. The representative appointed by the CIJ shall attend the meetings of the scientific and legal working teams integrated by the MPF CABA and the GTH-GA, and shall oversee all working tasks regarding said teams that may be necessary to establish.
 - 4.** Both parties, by mutual consent, may amend, modify or strengthen this Letter of Understanding through a specific collaboration agreement.

5. Either party may unilaterally terminate this agreement, by notifying the other party 30 days in advance.
6. Both parties agree that the object of this Letter of Understanding is to establish and guide in general the criteria applied to their working relationship. In addition, both parties agree that this Letter of Understanding is not meant to have a legally binding effect nor to establish an agreement for the mutual supply of goods and services under any law.
7. The official version of this Letter of Understanding to be used due to interpretation issues shall be the English version. The Spanish version should be added.
8. This Letter of Understanding shall enter into force the day after its signature and its validity shall remain for an indefinite period.

Each entity appearing herein, represented by its authorized legal agent and its legal representative, agrees to all of the abovementioned provisions in this Letter of Understanding. Each party signs two different copies of the English and Spanish versions so that all parties may keep an original copy of both versions. Both copies are valid as originals.

Signed in the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, Argentine Republic, on August 13th, year two thousand twenty four.


Juan Bautista Mahiques
Attorney General
Public Prosecution Service of the
Autonomous City of Buenos Aires


Tim Schellberg
President
Gordon Thomas Honeywell
Government Affairs

