



COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO

AGENDA ITEM

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

GREG COX
First District

DIANNE JACOB
Second District

DAVE ROBERTS
Third District

RON ROBERTS
Fourth District

BILL HORN
Fifth District

DATE: February 2, 2016

02

TO: Board of Supervisors

SUBJECT: DISTRICT ATTORNEY – REQUEST TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT GRANT FUNDS, AUTHORIZATION TO EXECUTE AGREEMENTS AND RELATED DOCUMENTS FOR THE UNSERVED/UNDERSERVED VICTIM ADVOCACY AND OUTREACH PROGRAM, AND ACCEPT VICTIM/WITNESS ASSISTANCE GRANT FUNDING AUGMENTATION (DISTRICTS: ALL)

Overview

This is a request to authorize the District Attorney to submit a grant application for the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) Unserviced/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach grant (UV) for the project period of April 1, 2016, through March 31, 2017 and, if awarded, to accept the grant funding (\$175,000) and authorize the execution of all required or related grant documents. The purpose of this program is to provide direct services to victims of violent crime in vulnerable, underserved populations.

This is also a request to authorize the District Attorney to accept revenue in the estimated amount of \$662,474 from Cal OES, which will augment the current Victim/Witness Assistance grant award of \$1,541,556 for a new grant total of \$2,204,030. This request will support the District Attorney's Victim Services Division, which serves citizens who have been the victims or witnesses of crime. The grant period for the Victim/Witness Assistance Program is from July 1, 2015, through June 30, 2016.

Lastly, today's request seeks authorization for the District Attorney to apply for, accept, and execute all required or related grant documents in subsequent years provided there are no material changes to the revenue terms and funding levels, including agreements for the financial administration and distribution of funds where necessary to carry out the purposes of the program, and any annual extensions, amendments, and/or revisions thereof that do not materially impact or alter the services or funding.

Recommendation(s)

DISTRICT ATTORNEY

1. Waive Board Policy B-29, Fees, Grants, Revenue Contracts – Department Responsibility for Cost Recovery, which requires full cost recovery for grants.

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2. Authorize the District Attorney’s Office (DAO) to apply for and, if awarded, accept the estimated amount of \$175,000 in grant funds for the project period of April 1, 2016, through March 31, 2017 from the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services for the Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program.
3. Authorize the DAO to apply for and accept funding from the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program) in subsequent years provided there are no material changes to the terms and funding levels.
4. Authorize the DAO and/or her designee in this year and subsequent years to execute all required or related grant documents, including agreements for the financial administration and distribution of funds where necessary to carry out the purposes of the program, and any annual extensions, amendments, and/or revisions thereto that do not materially impact either the program or funding levels of the Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program.
5. Approve and authorize the DAO to accept additional grant funding in the estimated amount of \$662,474 from the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services Victim/Witness Assistance Grant. This augments the existing grant award through June 30, 2016, for a new estimated total award of \$2,204,030.

Fiscal Impact

Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program

Funds for this request are partially included in the Fiscal Year 2015-17 Operational Plan for the District Attorney. If approved, this request will result in costs of \$52,500 and revenue of \$43,750 in Fiscal Year 2015-16, and costs of \$157,500 and revenue of \$131,250 in Fiscal Year 2016-17. The funding source is State of California Office of Emergency Services (\$175,000) and General Purpose Revenue (\$43,750). The grant has a match requirement of \$43,750 that will be satisfied by in-kind salaries and benefits. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

Victim/Witness Assistance Program

Funds for this request are partially included in the Fiscal Year 2015-17 Operational Plan for the District Attorney’s Office. If approved and grant augmentation funds are received, this request will result in estimated Fiscal Year 2015-16 costs and revenue of \$662,474. The funding source is the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services. If authorized, the District Attorney will return to the Board to appropriate funding for this program as necessary. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

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Business Impact Statement

N/A

Advisory Board Statement

N/A

Background

Underserved/Unserviced Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program (UV)

The purpose of the UV Program (formerly Elder Abuse Advocacy and Outreach Program) is to provide mandatory and optional services as authorized by the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) of 1984 (42 U.S.C. §10601, et seq.), including crisis intervention, counseling, community referrals, and assistance with the criminal justice system to elder and dependent adult victims. The District Attorney’s Office has provided these services since 1999. The grant currently provides funding for 2.5 staff years. The estimated grant award from the State of California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) of Federal Victims Of Crime Act funding for Fiscal Year 2015-16 is \$175,000, with a required match of \$43,750, for a total project cost of \$218,750.

Victim/Witness Assistance Program (VWAP)

The Victim/Witness Assistance Program (VWAP) provides a comprehensive assistance program for victims and witnesses of crime. The program is designed to provide mandatory and optional comprehensive services for victims of crime as mandated by California Penal Code Section 13835. The VWAP provides and helps arrange for services to meet the fiscal, emotional, and informational needs of crime victims thereby allowing for a faster and more complete recovery from the effects of crime. The program seeks to reduce the trauma and improve the treatment that victims receive in the wake of a crime, since all too often citizens who become involved with the criminal justice system, either as victims or witnesses, are further victimized by the system. These VWAP services have been provided by the District Attorney since 1980.

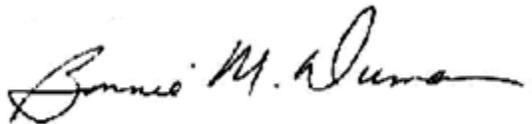
In October 2015, Cal OES notified all participating counties in the state that they would receive a one-time allocation to augment the grant program. The one-time allocation San Diego County FY 2015-16 is an estimated \$662,474. This financial assistance is integral to ongoing VWAP services providing direct assistance to help victims achieve a more rapid and complete recovery from the effects of crime.

Linkage to the County of San Diego Strategic Plan

Today’s proposed actions support the Safe Communities and Operational Excellence Strategic Initiatives of the County of San Diego’s 2016-2021 Strategic Plan by using and pursuing revenue funds to support vital public safety services to the County and its residents.

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Respectfully submitted,



BONNIE M. DUMANIS
District Attorney

ATTACHMENT(S)
N/A

AGENDA ITEM INFORMATION SHEET

REQUIRES FOUR VOTES: Yes No

WRITTEN DISCLOSURE PER COUNTY CHARTER SECTION 1000.1 REQUIRED
 Yes No

PREVIOUS RELEVANT BOARD ACTIONS:

July 10, 2012 (2) ,approved Applications for State of California Emergency Management Agency Grants;
June 22, 2010 (5), approved applications for State of California Emergency Management Agency Grants;
April 21, 2009 (2), approved applications for State of California Emergency Management Agency Grants;
April 22, 2008 (4), approved the Victim/Witness Assistance Program Grant.

BOARD POLICIES APPLICABLE:

B-29, Fees, Grants, Revenue Contracts – Department responsibility for cost recovery, which requires full cost recovery for revenue contracts.

BOARD POLICY STATEMENTS:

A waiver of Board Policy B-29 Department responsibility for cost recovery is requested for for required matching funds in the amount of \$43,750. These costs will be funded by existing general purpose revenue included in the Fiscal Year 2015-17 Operational Plan in the District Attorney’s Office. The benefits of the District Attorney’s participation in this program outweigh the unreimbursed costs. The District Attorney also certifies that the partially-funded program in this request is worthy of County funds in the absence of external funding.

MANDATORY COMPLIANCE:

N/A

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ORACLE AWARD NUMBER(S) AND CONTRACT AND/OR REQUISITION NUMBER(S):

Oracle Award Number - 1003477; 118107

ORIGINATING DEPARTMENT: District Attorney

OTHER CONCURRENCES(S): N/A

CONTACT PERSON(S):

Briana Walvatne
Name
(619) 531-3082
Phone
Briana.Walvatne@sdca.org
E-mail

Ginger Coleman
Name
(619) 685-6695
Phone
Ginger.Coleman@sdca.org
E-mail