

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY BOARD AGENDA LETTER



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Agenda Number:
Prepared on: 10/26/05
Department Name: District Attorney
Department No.: 021
Agenda Date: 11/15/05
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time:
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Thomas W. Sneddon, Jr.
District Attorney

STAFF CONTACT: Marnie B. Pinsker
District Attorney Assistant Director, x2304

SUBJECT: Adoption of Resolution Authorizing the District Attorney to renew the State Agreement for the Domestic Violence Prosecution Grant Program

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Adopt a Resolution authorizing the District Attorney's Office to execute its agreement with the State Department of Justice for the Domestic Violence Prosecution Grant program in the amount of \$66,523 with a 20% Santa Barbara County General Fund match of \$13,305 for FY 05-06.

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendation(s) are primarily aligned with Goal No.2, A Safe and Healthy Community in Which to Live, Work and Visit.

Executive Summary and Discussion:

The Spousal Abuser Vertical Prosecution Project has been operational since January 1995 and is partially financed through a grant administered by the State Department of Justice. Consistent with the legislative guidelines of the Battered Women Protection Act, a team consisting of a full-time prosecutor, half-time investigator and half-time victim advocate in the Santa Barbara Office is dedicated to vertical prosecution of domestic violence. This unit has been effective in helping victims to overcome their fear of the criminal justice system and encourage cooperation with the prosecution efforts. This has increased the conviction and sentencing of offenders, whose probation terms include follow up court appearances to ensure compliance with mandated counseling to reduce future domestic violence incidents. The unit will continue to vertically prosecute domestic violence cases, which have consistently totaled roughly 350 cases filed annually.

Mandates and Service Levels:

Renewal of the Domestic Violence Prosecution Unit in Santa Barbara will sustain efforts to aggressively prosecute domestic violence offenders.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

State funding in the amount of \$66,523 and the 20% match of \$13,305 are contained in the FY 05-06 budget. This program is included in the Criminal Operations cost center of the District Attorney's budget (021-1001)

1 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

2 STATE OF CALIFORNIA

3 _____)
4 IN THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZING THE) RESOLUTION NO. 2005-
5 DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE TO)
6 APPLY FOR PARTIAL FUNDING OF THE)
7 SPOUSAL ABUSER PROSECUTION PROGRAM)

8 WHEREAS, the County of Santa Barbara desires to undertake a project designated as the Santa
9 Barbara County Spousal Abuser Prosecution Program to be funded, in part, from funds made available
10 through Chapter 140, 1984 statutes (Battered Women's Protection Act of 1994) administered by the
11 Department of Justice (hereinafter referred to as DOJ);

12 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the District Attorney of Santa Barbara County is
13 authorized on behalf of the County of Santa Barbara, Board of Supervisors to execute the Grant Award
14 Agreement and minor modifications for the Spousal Abuse Prosecution Program;

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District Attorney agrees to provide all matching funds,
16 equaling 20% of Grant for said project (including any amendment thereof) under the Program consistent
17 with the funding terms and conditions of DOJ, and that the cash match will be appropriated as required.

18 IT IS AGREED that any liability arising out of the performance of this Grant Award Agreement,
19 including civil court actions for damages, shall be the responsibility of the District Attorney and the
20 authorizing agency. The State of California and DOJ disclaim responsibility for any such liability.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that grant funds received hereunder shall not be used to supplant
22 expenditures controlled by this body.

23 PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Supervisors of the County of Santa
24 Barbara, State of California, this _____ day of November, 2005, by the following votes:

25 AYES:
26 NOES:
27 ABSENT:
28 COUNTY OF SANTA BARBARA

BY: _____
Chair, Board of Supervisors

Approved as to form
Auditor-Controller

ATTEST:
CLERK OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Approved as to form
County Counsel

BY: _____