



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

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

Department Name: Sheriff
Department No.: 032
For Agenda Of: April 2, 2019
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: 4/5

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Sheriff's Office Bill Brown, Sheriff-Coroner (Ext. 4290)
Contact Info: Hope Vasquez, CFO (Ext. 4299)
SUBJECT: **Approve Reimbursement Agreements with various Law Enforcement Mutual Aid Responders from the Thomas Fire & 1/9 Debris Flow events**

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions: That the Board of Supervisors:

- a. Approved and authorize the Sheriff to execute Reimbursement Agreements with 35 Law Enforcement Agencies, as listed in Attachment A, totaling \$4,120,933.74 for the Thomas Fire and 1/9 Debris Flow law enforcement aid;
- b. Approve Budget Journal Entry #0006177; and
- c. Determine that the above actions are not a project pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(5), as it is an administrative government activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

The Sheriff's Office received \$3.8 million of Committed Strategic Reserve funds to pay the Thomas Fire and 1/9 Debris Flow Mutual Aid Partners in FY 18-19. The Sheriff's Office accrued 93.75% of the total claims, as the invoices had not been fully vetted by the County or outside cost recovery consultants. However, according to FEMA, 100% of the claims must be paid in order for the County to receive the 93.75% State/Federal share. The recommended action before the Board provides the Sheriff's Office the authority to reimburse 100% of the Mutual

Aid Partner claims and this Budget Journal Entry increases appropriations of \$257,129, or 6.25% of the total Mutual Aid law enforcement claims.

The Sheriff's Office is required to provide security in and around evacuation and disaster areas occurring within the unincorporated areas of the county. Due to the size, scope and duration of the Thomas Fire and the 1/9 Debris Flow evacuations and recovery activities, the Sheriff's Office lacked sufficient resources to effectively provide the necessary levels of security. Therefore, the Sheriff's Office activated and utilized the Law Enforcement Mutual Aid (LEMA) plan and brought in the additional necessary law enforcement resources from both our Operational Area and LEMA Region. In total, 43 law enforcement agencies provided resources toward meeting the noted security needs and this resulted in 35 joint mutual aid claims.

Background:

The Thomas Fire began in Ventura County on December 4, 2017, and shortly thereafter spread to the County of Santa Barbara. The Thomas Fire, until this fire season, was the largest wildfire in the history of California and caused power outages, widespread damage and destruction, extensive smoke and ash, and created hazardous air quality. Mandatory and voluntary evacuations were ordered. Due to the Thomas Fire Emergency, the County of Santa Barbara declared a local emergency which was ratified and re-ratified by the Board of Supervisors as required by California law.

Subsequently, on January 8, 2018, a significant storm was predicted to occur on January 9 that had the potential to threaten life and property in areas adjacent to the recently burned areas of the Thomas Fire along the south coast of Santa Barbara County. The County of Santa Barbara declared an additional local emergency on January 8th in preparation of the storm which was ratified by the Board of Supervisors as required by California law.

On January 9, 2018 the County of Santa Barbara experienced a 200 year rainfall event over one of the recently burned watersheds in the Thomas Fire burn area which caused massive mud and debris flows immediately leading to 23 deaths, further destruction and damage of public and private property, closure of state and local highways and roads, and displacement of residents and businesses.

The President and Governor Brown issued and amended emergency State proclamation and Presidential declarations that consolidated the Thomas Fire and Storm Incidents under one emergency.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund			
State			
Federal			
Fees			
Other:	\$ 257,129.00		\$ 257,129.00
Total	\$ 257,129.00	\$ -	\$ 257,129.00

Narrative:

Budget Journal Entry BJE-0006177 releases Committed Disaster Recovery funds to pay all of the mutual aid agencies. The reimbursement will be paid out of the Sheriff's Office Professional Services, Line Item 7460. There is no impact on the General Fund from this transaction.

Special Instructions:

Clerk of the Board: Please send a certified minute order to:
1) Hope Vasquez, Chief Financial Officer, Sheriff's Office.

Attachments:

Attachment A - Mutual Aid Partners
Attachment B - 35 Memorandum of Agreements
Attachment C - Budget Journal Entry #0006177

Authored by:

Christina Sibley, Fiscal Officer