

**SANTA BARBARA COUNTY
BOARD AGENDA LETTER**



Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
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Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Agenda Number:
Prepared on: 5/22/03
Department Name: Public Health
Department No.: 041
Agenda Date: 7/8/03
Placement: Administrative
Estimate Time:
Continued Item: NO
If Yes, date from:

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Roger E. Heroux
Public Health Director

STAFF CONTACT: Alan T. Kasehagen
681-5377

SUBJECT: Salary Resolution Regarding Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Examinations

Recommendation(s):

That the Board of Supervisors:

- A) Adopt the attached Resolution providing Compensation for Unrepresented Medically Trained Staff Performing SART (Sexual Abuse Response Team) Examinations, effective July 7, 2003.
- B) Authorize payment for services provided by the following unrepresented, exempt physicians and nurses for the period March 1, 2003, to July 6, 2003:
 - Francis Malinoff, MD
 - Alma Guerra, RN, PHN
 - Barbie Rozek, RN, PHN

Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:

The recommendation is primarily aligned with Goal No. 2. A Safe and Healthy Community in Which to Live, Work, and Visit, and Goal No. 7. A Community that Fosters the Safety and Well-Being of Families and Children..

Executive Summary and Discussion:

In Fiscal Year 1987-88, the Public Health Department (aka Health Care Services) and the District Attorney's Office established the Sexual Abuse Response Team (SART) in Santa Barbara County. The Public Health Department (PHD) provides medical examinations for sexual assault victims and expert testimony when cases are taken to trial. Unrepresented, exempt physicians and nurses performing SART examinations have received special training for these services, which are outside their regular assignments. Your Board also passed Resolution 88-536 authorizing compensation for after hours SART examinations for one exempt, unrepresented position that was then entitled the Director of Clinical Services. That position was subsequently retitled and reclassified.

The SART examiners are a mixture of specially trained unrepresented, exempt physicians and nurses, some of whom are independent contractors and some of whom are regular County employees. The independent contractors are paid on a “fee per examination” basis and on an hourly basis for follow-up, expert court testimony and administrative time, and a flat standby rate per week. However, there are certain unrepresented, exempt physicians and nurse managers who perform examinations outside their normal work hours and regular scope of practice, i.e., after hours, weekends and holidays, but because of their civil service status cannot be compensated with the same mechanism as independent contractors. Approval of the attached resolution provides a compensation mechanism for sexual assault examinations performed by this staff and meets the requirements of the Auditor-Controller for payment to these staff. Therefore, the attached Resolution regarding Compensation to Medically Trained Unrepresented Staff Performing SART Examinations replaces and updates Resolution 88-536. Your Board is also requested to approve payment for past services from March 1, 2003, to July 6, 2003, as indicated in recommendation number two.

Mandates and Service Levels:

These examinations are mandated to be provided to the victims of sexual assault in the California Penal Code under Section 13823.9. Since 1988, the Sexual Assault Response Team has been operating as a joint venture between the Public Health Department, the District Attorney’s Office, the Department of Social Services, and County and city law enforcement agencies to provide this critical service to victims of sexual assault and abuse.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

This agreement will not increase the use of existing general fund resources to the Public Health Department (PHD). Currently, PHD makes available the specially trained professional medical personnel to provide the mandated examinations. The costs incurred by PHD administering the joint venture program and for compensating the examiners are designed to be reimbursed and covered by the exam fees charged to the partner agencies who request the exams. The adequacy of the fees charged to the partner agencies (local law enforcement) is currently under study, due to the fact that the costs to administer and staff the program have been rising without a commensurate increase in fees. We plan to return to your Board at a future date with a full report and recommendations for program sustainability.

For recommendation number two, the estimated total amount of payment is \$6,500 for the three providers. The reimbursement rates below are the same as those in the attached resolution.

Physician	Registered Nurse	Service	Amount
X		Examination	\$250/Exam
	X	Examination	\$170/Exam
	X	Training/Assisted Exam	\$90/Exam
	X	Administrative Time	\$25/Hour
	X	Standby	\$200/Week

Special Instructions:

Please return a signed copy of the Resolution to Alan T. Kasehagen at PHD Personnel/Payroll.

Concurrence:

Human Resources Department
Auditor-Controller