

# 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:** July 17, 2003  
**Department Name:** PHD  
**Department No.:** 041  
**Agenda Date:** August 12, 2003  
**Placement:** Administrative  
**Estimate Time:**  
**Continued Item:** NO  
**If Yes, date from:**

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Roger Heroux, Director  
Public Health Department

**STAFF CONTACT:** Todd P. Talbert (681-4913)  
Program Administrator

**SUBJECT:** Bioterrorism Preparedness Agreement for Professional Services and Personnel  
Resolution in the Public Health Department

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## **Recommendation(s):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Request the Chair of the Board of Supervisors sign the enclosed Certification Against Supplanting for the Santa Barbara Public Health Preparedness and Response to Bioterrorism Program.
2. Request the Board of Supervisors authorize the Director of Public Health to sign any subsequent Certifications Against Supplanting, which will be a component of future reporting requirements.

## **Alignment with Board Strategic Plan:**

The recommendation is primarily aligned with Goal No. 2 to ensure a safe and healthy community in which to live, work, and visit.

## **Executive Summary and Discussion:**

In response to the heightened threat of bioterrorism, Congress authorized funding through the Public Health and Social Services Emergency Fund (Section 319 of the Public Health Services Act, 42 U.S.C. 247d) to support countering potential biological threats to the civilian population. This funding was provided under the Department of Defense and Emergency Supplemental Appropriations for Recovery from and Response to Terrorist Attacks on the United States Act, 2002 (Public Law 107-117). The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) also made funding available to local health jurisdictions for public health preparedness and response to bioterrorism, infectious disease, and other public health threats and emergencies. These federal dollars are being administered to local jurisdictions through the California State Department of Health Services

October 15, 2002, the Public Health Department (PHD) submitted its preparedness plan to the California Department of Health Services. In December 2002, the Board authorized the Director of Public Health to sign the *Local Public Health Preparedness and Response to Bioterrorism Program Application for Funding* in the amount of \$449,444 for the period July 1, 2002 to June 30, 2003.

As outlined in the preparedness plan submitted last October, the PHD has been administering activities within six (6) separate Focus Areas defined by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Each Focus Area has its own requirements, and has been funded with monies that cannot be used to replace or supplant existing funding. The differing Focus Areas are listed below:

Focus Area A: Local Preparedness Planning and Readiness Assessment

Focus Area B: Surveillance and Epidemiology Capacity

Focus Area C: Biologic Laboratory Capacity

Focus Area E: Health Alert Network/Communications and Information Technology

Focus Area F: Risk Communication and Health Information Dissemination

Focus Area G: Education and Training

Recommendation One: The California Department of Health Services received a progress report from the PHD on June 20, 2003, and is now requesting that all health jurisdictions submit a Certification Against Supplanting as a part of its reporting requirements. Division 101, Chapter 3, Article 6, Part 3, Section 101315(d) of the Health and Safety Code, requires the Chair of the Board of Supervisors or the Mayor of a city certify that appropriated monies have not been used to supplant funding for existing levels of service. In Santa Barbara County, all appropriated monies were used for new staff, equipment, or additional program services. No supplantation of existing levels of program service has occurred.

Thus, the State requires that the Chair of the Board sign the enclosed Certification Against Supplanting for Public Health Preparedness and Response to Bioterrorism Fiscal Year 2002-03.

Recommendation Two: The California Department of Health Services will require future Certifications Against Supplanting as a routine part of its reporting requirements. Delegating authority to the Director of the Public Health Department will assist with efficient progress reporting to the State.

Signing the enclosed certification, and allowing the Director of the Public Health Department to sign future Certifications Against Supplanting, will allow the Public Health Department to complete its reporting as required.

**Mandates and Service Levels:**

Though this is not a mandated program, the Health and Safety Code 101040 lends authority to the Health Officer to take preventive measures that may be necessary to protect the public.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Approval of these actions will not increase the Public Health Department's General Fund Contribution.

There is no fiscal or facilities impact associated with the execution of the Certification Against Supplanting.

**Special Instructions:**

Please return the original copy of the Certification Against Supplanting to:

Todd Talbert  
Public Health Department  
Community Health Division  
300 N. San Antonio Road  
Santa Barbara, CA 93110