



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: December 6, 2022
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: 4/5

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Bill Brown, Sheriff (805-681-4290)
Director
Contact Info: Joe Schmidt, Lieutenant (805-692-5752)
SUBJECT: Acceptance of Brinc Lemur S Drone Donated from One805

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Select_Concurrence Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve, ratify, and authorize the Sheriff to accept the Brinc Lemur S drone, valued at \$18,017, donated to the Sheriff's Office from One805, a local non-profit;
- b) Approve Budget Revision Request #0008618 to increase appropriations of \$18,017 in Sheriff General Fund for capital asset equipment funded by donation from One805; and
- c) Determine that the above actions are government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities, which do not involve any commitment to any specific project that may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment and are therefore not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to section 15378(b)(4) of the CEQA Guidelines.

Summary Text:

The donated drone will be utilized in the search of interior spaces during critical incidents and natural disasters, where it's deemed unsafe for immediate entry of law enforcement personnel.

The Sheriff's Office has a newly created drone program under the Air Support Unit. Use of the drone program is outlined in Sheriff's Lexipol policy §603 – Unmanned Aerial System (UAS) Operations. The

program currently does not possess any drones; therefore, the Brinc Lemur S would be the first UAS used by the Sheriff’s Office in a specific law enforcement capacity. The Sheriff’s Search & Rescue (SAR) team currently deploys several drones which are used for the search of missing persons. The SAR drones are limited to exterior use only.

Background:

Law enforcement use of drones is a modern approach to improving the safety of the public, deputies, and suspects. Current drone technology allows rapid deployment, tactical support, and real-time information to law enforcement during critical incidents where entry into a structure or contact with a suspect is unsafe. Drones provide law enforcement with an alternative means of intelligence gathering without creating an unnecessary exigency.

On two occasions, the Sheriff’s Special Enforcement Team (SWAT) responded to calls where a suspect was armed and barricaded. At the time, the Sheriff’s Office had no interior drones, so the Santa Maria Police Department (SMPD) was contacted for assistance since they have several drones for interior applications. On both calls, SMPD deployed interior drones which provided intelligence on the suspect’s location. This information led to specific tactics which maximized the safety of the public, deputies, and the suspect. As a result, both suspects were apprehended without incident.

Acceptance of the Brinc Lemur S drone will provide the Sheriff’s Office with a technologically advanced drone for use in our UAS program, thus improving our intelligence gathering capabilities. This drone will be utilized during critical incidents to improve the safety of our communities.

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	\$ -	\$ 1,999.00	
State			
Federal			
Fees			
Other:	\$ 18,017.00		\$ 18,017.00
Total	\$ 18,017.00	\$ 1,999.00	\$ 18,017.00

Narrative: Upfront cost of drone was paid for by One805. A data plan, batteries, and replacement parts will be required for ongoing use of the Brinc Lemur S drone. The vendor offers a data plan for \$1,999/year. This covers the replacement of depleted batteries, broken parts, and a data plan required for the use and transmission of intelligence gathered by the drone.

Special Instructions:

Please send two copies of the minute order, one to Lieutenant Joe Schmidt, and the other to Chief Financial Officer Hope Vasquez, Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Invoice from DSLR Pros (paid by One805)
Attachment B: Budget Revision Request #0008618

Authored by:

Joe Schmidt, Lieutenant
Santa Barbara County Sheriff
Special Enforcement Team