



**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: District Attorney
Department No.: 021
For Agenda Of: August 22, 2017
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director Joyce E. Dudley, District Attorney, 568-2308
Contact Info: Kerry Bierman, Chief Financial & Administrative Officer, x2304
SUBJECT: Agreement for Services of Contractor on Payroll for the Department of Insurance
Fraud Program for Fiscal Year 2017-2018

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Human Resources, Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute an Agreement for Services of Contractor on Payroll with Rodney Hutto as a Deputy District Attorney I for the California Department of Insurance Fraud Program for the period of August 28, 2017 through June 30, 2018, in an amount not to exceed \$86,415.00; and
- b) Determine that the above action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4), because it consists of government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities, which do not involve any commitment to any specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment.

Summary Text:

The Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office works diligently to investigate allegations of fraud and arrest offenders, prosecute violators, and seek restitution for funds lost through fraudulent claims or business practices. The District Attorney receives grant funding through the California Department of Insurance Fraud Division to administer these programs. In addition to the part-time lead attorney who works on such cases countywide, the District Attorney hired one Deputy District Attorney - Contractor on Payroll to perform a variety of specialized tasks and duties specific to insurance fraud for a limited period of time. Ms. Hutto will replace the previous Contractor on Payroll, who retired in June 2017.

Background:

Insurance fraud is a community and statewide issue which impacts industry, employers, the medical profession, insurance companies, employees and local businesses. There is a direct correlation between insurance fraud and increases in insurance premiums. Fraud results in higher insurance premiums for all employers which, in turn, are passed onto the consumer through an increase in costs of goods and services we use every day. These factors led the Santa Barbara County District Attorney's Office to develop the Insurance Fraud Program, which brings together local businesses, the California Department of Insurance, and the District Attorney to fight insurance fraud in Santa Barbara County. The long-term goal of this initiative is to reduce insurance fraud in Santa Barbara County through crime prevention and deterrence via a combination of community education and the criminal prosecution of fraud cases.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes. Revenues and appropriations are included in current and future budgets.

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	\$ 86,415.00	\$ 86,415.00	
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ 86,415.00	\$ 86,415.00	\$ -

Contract expenses for the Insurance Fraud Program include \$86,415 in salary and benefit costs. The Deputy District Attorney position is fully-funded by California Department of Insurance grant funds.

Key Contract Risks:

The District Attorney received a grant award for Fiscal Year 2017 - 2018 from the Department of Insurance for the Insurance Fraud Protection program. There is minimal risk to the County.

Staffing Impacts:

There are no additional staffing impacts. Ms. Hutto will be filling an existing 1.0 FTE COP Deputy District Attorney I position that was vacated due to retirement in June 2017.

Special Instructions:

Please return one (1) fully-executed copy of the Agreement to Nicole Acosta, DA Business Specialist.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Agreement for Services of Contractor on Payroll

Authored by:

Nicole Acosta, Department Business Specialist (x2413)

cc:

Human Resources