



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: June 23, 2009
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: Select_Continued
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Select_Vote

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: District Attorney Name & Phone: Christie Stanley, x2308
Contact Info: Name & Phone: Marnie Pinsker, x2304

SUBJECT: **Adoption of Resolution Authorizing the District Attorney to renew Agreement with the State Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board that provides emergency funds for crime victims through June, 2011.**

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Adopt a Resolution authorizing the District Attorney to extend an Agreement with the State Victim Compensation & Government Claims Board that provides expedited payment of funeral/burial expenses, crime scene clean-up and emergency domestic violence and sexual assault relocation expenses, effective July 1, 2009 though June 30, 2011.

Summary Text:

Since FY 87-88, the District Attorney has contracted with the Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board (VCGCB) to verify claims for victims of crime to obtain reimbursement for losses suffered as a result of a serious crime. Effective January 1999, the State VCGCB established an agreement with Santa Barbara County which enabled the District Attorney's Victim Witness Assistance Program to provide immediate payment of a victim's funeral/burial expense through a County Trust Account. This has alleviated the family's financial stress often created by the sudden death of a relative, when providers are unable to wait for payment of a victim's bills until Victim Compensation Program reimbursement claims are paid. Effective July 2000, this effort was expanded to provide domestic violence victims with emergency funds for relocation expenses, consistent with passage of AB 606. With the passage of AB 1019 effective January 2002, the County was given additional authority to reimburse eligible crime victims for crime scene clean up and emergency relocation expenses emanating from a sexual assault.

Through this agreement, the Victim Witness Assistance Program Claims Staff process eligible claims and authorize immediate payment of approved victim's funeral and burial expenses, crime scene clean-up, domestic

violence or sexual assault relocation expenses from the local Trust Account directly to the service provider and/or the victim. Victims of Crime Compensation Claims staff process claims with VCGCB to replenish the revolving Trust Account. Claims are evaluated per Statutes and Regulations and claims do not exceed the amounts authorized in State Statute. This program has been an important service to victims and is recommended for continuation.

Background:

Performance Measure:

Obtain restitution orders in 85% of the cases with a named defendant when a VVC claim has been filed, which replenishes the State financing source for these services.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this agreement, as the Trust Account is replenished as expenses are paid.

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:
0

FTEs:
0

Special Instructions:

Please return executed copy of resolution to Marnie Pinsker, DA Administrative Director

Attachments: Board Resolutions

Authored by: Marnie Pinsker, DA Administrative Director