



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 27, 2023
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director John T. Savrnich, District Attorney, x82308
Contact Info: Michael Soderman, Chief Financial & Administrative Officer,
x82304
SUBJECT: Cal OES County Victim Services Program (XC) Grant Award, Subaward No. XC22 05
0420

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Adopt the Board Resolution approving, ratifying, and authorizing the District Attorney to execute a Grant Agreement with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) accepting the County Victim Services Program grant award for the award period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, in the amount of \$233,112;
- b) Approve and authorize the District Attorney to execute any amendments to the Grant Agreement extending the term thereof through June 30, 2024, or for a supplemental grant award in the amount not to exceed \$50,000, with the concurrence of County Counsel and Auditor-Controller; and
- c) Determine that the above recommended actions are exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4), since they consist 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, and approve the filing of a Notice of Exemption on that basis.

Summary Text:

The County Victim Services (XC) Program provides outreach to victims early on in the criminal justice process and solicits information regarding the victims' losses for restitution determination prior to arraignment. Funding through Cal OES supports 1.95 FTE Victim/Witness Advocates.

Per the Cal OES Grant Agreement, the District Attorney is required to maintain written documentation on file showing authorization by the Board of Supervisors for the District Attorney to sign the Grant Agreement. In order to meet state deadlines and properly receive the grant funding, the District Attorney preliminarily executed the Grant Agreement pending formal authority from the Board of Supervisors. The purpose of this Board Letter is to request that the Board formally authorize the District Attorney to sign the Grant Agreement with Cal OES for the County Victim Services Program grant award for the award period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, in the amount of \$233,112.

Background:

In 2016, Cal OES developed the County Victim Services (XC) grant program. The XC program is designed to provide funding to each of California's 58 counties and the City of Los Angeles to help fill self-identified victim services gaps and/or needs. The District Attorney's Office identified that unmet needs existed specifically for unserved victims of crime in Northern Santa Barbara County. Based on this unmet need, the District Attorney's Office submitted a grant application to Cal OES for the XC program, and was awarded funding. Since July 1, 2016, the District Attorney's XC program has focused on providing services to a population of victims not currently aware of or receiving services. This will continue to be the primary focus of the XC program.

The grant award has fully funded one full-time Victim Advocate position to serve Northern Santa Barbara County since its inception. The Victim Advocates enable early access to critical services for victims of violent crime in Northern Santa Barbara County. One of these Victim Advocates focuses on providing services to the Lompoc area. The ability to receive real-time information immediately following an initial report has allowed this Victim Advocate to improve cross-referrals, and provide services when victims need them the most. This includes immediate crisis intervention, orientation to the criminal justice process, case/investigative status, resource/referral counseling, and emergency financial and victim compensation services.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes. Revenues and expenditures are included in the Fiscal Year 2022-23 Adopted Budget and the 2023-24 Adopted Budget.

Fiscal Analysis:

The grant award reflects one year of program expenses for the period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023. The grant funding spans across two fiscal years. The total project cost is \$233,112 and does not require any local cash match.

The \$233,112 grant funds include \$207,676 in Salaries and Benefits, which funds 1.95 FTE Victim Witness Program Advocates. Also included is \$25,436 in Operating Costs.

Grant Award Schedule			
<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Grant Award Period</u>	<u>Grant Award Amount</u>	
2019 VOCA (Victims of Crime Act)	1/1/23 – 12/31/2023	\$	135,982
2020 VOCA (Victims of Crime Act)	1/1/23 – 12/31/2023	\$	97,130
<i>Total Grant Award</i>		\$	233,112

Key Contract Risks:

There is minimal risk to the County. Funds are reimbursed after program expenses are incurred.

Special Instructions:

The Clerk of the Board shall post the Notice of Exemption upon Board approval. Please return the following items to John DeAlba, DA Department Business Specialist

- a) One (1) Minute Order;
- b) One (1) duplicate original fully-executed Grant Award Resolution;
- c) One (1) copy of the fully-executed Grant Award Resolution; and
- d) One (1) copy of the approved Notice of Exemption.

Attachments:

- a) Board Resolution
- b) XC22 Grant Award
- c) Notice of Exemption

Authored by:

John DeAlba, Department Business Specialist (x82434)