



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: October 16, 2018
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: 4/5ths

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Sheriff Bill Brown
Director(s)
Contact Info: Sgt. James Zbinden ext. 4173

SUBJECT: Transfer of Ownership of Retired Sheriff's Canine

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors

a. Approve the retirement and transfer of ownership of Sheriff's Canine, "Dougie," to Senior Deputy Dennis Thomas for the sum of One Dollar; and

b. Determine that this action is exempt from California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 15378(b)(5), which exempts organizational or administrative activities of governments that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes to the environment.

Summary Text:

Canine "Dougie" was placed into service with the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office on February 1, 2012, when he was approximately 3 years old. Dougie was assigned to two other handlers prior to his last partner, Senior Deputy Dennis Thomas. During his entire career, Dougie has worked solely as a Narcotics Detection canine assigned to the Special Investigations Bureau.

Dogie has worked as a Narcotics Detection canine for the past six and a half years. Dougie's handler, Senior Deputy Dennis Thomas recently transferred to another assignment. Due to the fact that Dougie is now 9 years old, it would not be in the best interests of the canine or the agency to train and assign him to yet another handler. Based on collaboration between Senior Deputy Thomas, the Sheriff's K9 Unit,

and Sheriff's Command Staff, it was decided that Dougie has reached the end of his law enforcement service life. He was officially retired on August 15, 2018.

Senior Deputy Dennis Thomas has requested permission to purchase Dougie. Senior Deputy Thomas will take on the responsibility for the care and associated costs related to Dougie's health.

Background:

The Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office is responsible for the care and feeding of departmental canines. The department is also liable for the actions of the canines. Once sold to the handler, these responsibilities rest with the new owner.

The handlers historically purchase retired canines. Senior Deputy Thomas has expressed an interest in purchasing Dougie and he will execute a standard release and indemnification agreement, approved as to form by County Counsel.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No

Fiscal Analysis:

Narrative: The Special Investigations Bureau will no longer have a Narcotics Detection K9 solely assigned to their bureau however, there is no other change in programs or service levels. Other existing canine units will cover the detection of narcotics vacated by the retirement of Dougie. Our agency recently acquired another narcotics detection canine of the same breed who is currently assigned to the Santa Barbara Main Jail.

Special Instructions:

Please forward a copy of the minute order to the Sheriff's Department, Attn: Sgt. James Zbinden

Attachments:

Hold harmless, indemnification, and transfer agreement.

Authored by:

James Zbinden, Sergeant, Sheriff's Department. ext. 4173