



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: 10-13-2009  
Placement: Administrative  
Estimated Tme:  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: 4/5

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department Sheriff Bill Brown  
Director(s)  
Contact Info: Commander Laz Salinas, ext. 4385

**SUBJECT: Donation of UH-1N Helicopter to the Sheriff's Department.**

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: N/A

**Other Concurrence:** N/A

As to form: N/A

**Recommended Actions:**

That the Board of Supervisors:

- 1) Accept one (1) UH-1N twin engine helicopter donated from the 1033 Federal Law Enforcement Support Office to be used for drug interdiction, counter-terrorism, search and rescue and tactical team insertions for law enforcement personnel county-wide.
- 2) Approve Budget Revision #2008059 shifting \$36,000 of existing budgeted funds to cover the cost of flight operations for the remainder of FY2009-2010.

**Summary Text:**

The 1033 Federal Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO) has presented to the Sheriff's Department a UH-1N, twin engine helicopter, serial number 31627. This helicopter will augment the two smaller helicopters in use by the Sheriff's aviation unit. Capabilities provided by this dual engine medium sized helicopter include transport of up to seven passengers for deploying search and rescue teams and law enforcement tactical teams during counter drug and counter terrorism operations. The two smaller helicopters currently operated by the Sheriff's Department are not capable of performing these missions due to size limitations. The dual engine helicopter also provides an extra margin (over single engine helicopters) of safety for crew and passengers during water or night back county search and rescue missions utilizing a hoist which will be attached to this helicopter. This helicopter also has the ability to perform fire suppression and personnel transport missions once a request is made from local fire agencies and appropriate certifications are obtained.

**Background:**

The 1033 LESO program makes military helicopters available to front line Law Enforcement agencies free of charge for the purpose of providing aviation platforms suited for drug interdiction and counter terrorism operations. The helicopter has no flight restrictions other than that it must be operated by a front line law enforcement agency. The 1033 LESO program has provided the Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department two smaller OH-58 observation helicopters during the past fifteen years. The Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department is the first law enforcement agency in the nation to receive a UH-1N twin engine helicopter for front line law enforcement use. Per US Government documentation, the value of this helicopter exceeds \$6.5 million dollars.

**Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:**

Budgeted: No

**Fiscal Analysis:**

Narrative:

It is anticipated that the operation of this helicopter will cost \$36,000 for FY2009-2010. Budget revision #2008059 shifts funds from within the Sheriff Department budget to cover the costs. This presumes 75 hours of flight operation at \$326 per hour for fuel and lubricants. Additional appropriations are added to maintenance and insurance to cover anticipated costs. In order to place this helicopter in service, training of pilots must be contracted through a private contractor. The department has a certified flight instructor available at a cost of \$5,000 to train one pilot. The funds for training will come from existing training funds allocated to the Sheriff's aviation unit. Additional equipment to enhance this helicopter or expand mission capabilities are expected to come from private donations. There is no additional cost to the General Fund.

**Attachments:**

Budget Revision Request #2008059

**Authored by:**

Commander Laz Salinas, Sheriff's Department. Ext. 4385

Douglas Martin, CFO, Sheriff's Department. Ext 4293

**cc:**