



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 9, 2011  
Placement: Administrative  
Estimated Tme:  
Continued Item: No  
If Yes, date from:  
Vote Required: Majority

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**TO:** Board of Supervisors

**FROM:** Department: Joyce Dudley, District Attorney, x2308  
Contact Info: Megan Rheinschild, Victim Witness Program Manager, x2408

**SUBJECT:** Contract for Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) Coordinator

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**County Counsel Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Auditor-Controller Concurrence**

As to form: Yes

**Other Concurrence:** Risk Management; HR

**Recommended Actions:**

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

Approve a Professional Services Contract with Jessica Paredes as Coordinator for the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART), effective upon Board approval through June 30, 2012 in the amount of \$67,925.

**Summary Text:**

The Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) is a countywide multi-disciplinary effort focused on providing services to both child and adult sexual assault victims. In January of 2008, the District Attorney's Office assumed administrative oversight of the SART program with the addition of a Contract position due to the complexity of the services and the existence of three County wide sites.

**Background:** The Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) program, a collaborative effort initiated in 1986, now involves 20 participating agencies, departments and hospitals dedicated to ensuring that both adult and child sexual abuse survivors receive comprehensive services. The concept of this program has been to provide multi-disciplinary services and design facilities that can promptly and sensitively treat victims of sexual assault or abuse. The facilities are equipped to enable the multi disciplinary team to conduct thorough medical-legal examinations, provide on site treatment, emotional support, advocacy, and counseling referrals for victims and their families. The SART partners actively participate in case review consultation to ensure victims are provided with comprehensive medical, legal and social

services. The stakeholders participate in monthly and bi-annual meetings to address organizational issues.

Over its 24 years, the scope of this collaborative effort has evolved from a single site adjacent to Cottage Hospital to additional facilities in Lompoc and Santa Maria that can offer safe, child friendly locations to accommodate medical exams, forensic interviews and related services. Each of the facilities is owned by the local hospital, providing safe and comfortable settings. These efforts have been a result of a public and private partnership to locate and furnish sites that offer victims more prompt and responsive services countywide. This has significantly improved the ability of the North County law enforcement agencies to respond to victims of sexual assault in their local communities, avoiding extensive time transporting victims to the South County or out of county to access medical facilities and services. Most importantly, timely response to victims of sexual assault through a coordinated multi-disciplinary forensic legal model insures effective and efficient legal outcomes. Ultimately this achieves the primary goal of SART, to facilitate the recovery of adult and child sexual assault victims and their family members.

The SART Coordinator is responsible for managing the day to day responsibilities, including:

- manage incoming referrals from law enforcement or child welfare services
- maintain the Nurse Examiners' schedule in collaboration with the Public Health Department
- coordinate with CALM staff to schedule forensic interviewers in South County and North County
- communicate with the referring agencies and service providers to ensure that all supportive services are readily available to victims
- Track cases in an automated database and coordinate the monthly case review meetings to keep members informed about the progress of the cases and assure survivors and their families receive the full range of services needed.

The District Attorney's Office assumes administrative oversight of the SART program and Coordinator. As a County Department, the District Attorney's Office has access to the organizational infrastructure needed to manage countywide services and associated fiscal oversight. Under the leadership of District Attorney Joyce Dudley, the District Attorney's Office continues to provide the countywide leadership role needed to coordinate the SART program, with centralized administrative responsibilities. The Victim Witness Program Manager has taken on program oversight responsibilities, and has extensive experience managing grant programs. SART is currently under review for National Accreditation through the National Children's Alliance (NCA) which if successful, will raise the National status of the program and also reap financial and technical assistance benefits.

**Performance Measure:**

Increasing the organizational capacity and infrastructure of the SART program will enable the program to schedule and conduct medical examinations and forensic interviews in all three SART sites.

**Fiscal Analysis:**

<b>Funding Sources</b>	<b>Current FY Cost:</b>	<b>Annualized On-going Cost:</b>	<b>Total One-Time Project Cost</b>
General Fund			
State			
Federal			
Fees			
Other:	\$ 71,500.00	\$ 67,925.00	
Total	\$ 71,500.00	\$ 67,925.00	\$ -

**Narrative:**

The costs in the above table include \$50,452 in salary expenses and \$14,026 in benefits which include Retirement costs and FICA. Operating costs total \$3,447 and include training and mileage for countywide travel to the three sites. This position is financed via a per capita contribution from each of the SART Law Enforcement partners.

**Staffing Impacts:**

**Legal Positions:**

1 Contractor on Payroll

**Special Instructions:**

Please return executed agreement to Kimbra McCarthy, DA Administrative Director

**Attachments:**

Contract between County of Santa Barbara and Ms. Jessica Paredes

**Authored by:**

Megan Rheinschild, Victim Witness Program Manager

**cc:** Human Resources