



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: May 7, 2024
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Director: John T. Savrnoch, District Attorney; (805) 568-2308
Contact Info Michael Soderman, Chief Financial & Administrative Officer; (805) 568-2303
SUBJECT: Grant Agreement with California Victim Compensation Board (CalVCB) for Victim Claims Verification Services for Fiscal Years 2024 - 2027

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: N/A

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and adopt a Resolution authorizing the District Attorney or designee to execute Agreement No. S24-015 with the California Victim Compensation Board (CalVCB) to accept and expend the Victim Claims Verification Services grant funds for the period of July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027 in the total amount of \$915,867, or \$305,289 per fiscal year; and
- b) Determine that the above recommended action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378(b)(4), because it consists 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.

Summary Text:

This Agreement provides a total grant award of \$915,867, or \$305,289 per fiscal year, which will be allocated over a three-year period from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027. This grant award will continue to fund two existing Victim Compensation Claims Specialist positions to ensure that victims obtain financial recovery of losses experienced as a result of a violent crime.

Background:

Since 1987, the Santa Barbara County District Attorney has contracted with CalVCB, formerly the California Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board, to verify claims for victims of crime and

obtain reimbursement for losses suffered as a result of serious crimes. Victim Compensation Claims Specialists determine whether applicants meet State eligibility requirements for the Victims of Crime Program. The Specialists then verify whether the filed claims include all necessary documentation regarding the crime, and determine whether the services are crime-related. Specialists also recommend the award or denial of victim compensation claims directly to CalVCB, thereby expediting the claim payment process. This long-term agreement with CalVCB enhances the services provided by the District Attorney’s Victim-Witness Assistance Program to victims of violent crime.

Performance Measures:

Production and performance expectations are set by CalVCB. These expectations include maintaining an average error rate of 10% or less on data entered into the CalVCB database, as well as achieving a minimum 5% Quality Assurance standard for each work item completed. In 2023, staff assigned to this grant processed 454 applications, and 100% of these applications met the quality assurance standard set forth by CalVCB.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes. Revenues and appropriations are included in the current budget and will be included in recommended future budgets. No local cash match is required.

Fiscal Analysis:

<u>Funding Sources</u>	<u>Current FY Cost:</u>	<u>Annualized On-going Cost:</u>	<u>Total One-Time Project Cost</u>
General Fund			
State	\$ 305,289	\$ 305,289	
Federal			
Fees			
Other:			
Total	\$ 305,289	\$ 305,289	\$ -

Two (2) FTE Victim Compensation Claims Specialists continue to be assigned through this grant, with one in Santa Barbara and one in Santa Maria. The total award from CalVCB is \$915,867, which will be allocated over a three-year period. The program budget is \$305,289 per fiscal year. This includes \$277,685 in Salaries and Employee Benefits costs, and \$27,604 in overhead associated with this program. Program expenses and revenues are budgeted in the Fiscal Year 2024-25 Recommended budget.

Key Contract Risks:

The District Attorney has been awarded this grant annually for the past 37 years, and has successfully passed every audit since the original award in 1987. There is minimal risk to the County.

Staffing Impacts:

The salaries and benefits for two (2) FTE Victim Compensation Claims Specialists have been funded through this grant award since the grant’s initiation in 1987. The award continues to fund these existing positions for the next three fiscal years.

Special Instructions:

Please return one (1) Minute Order and one (1) copy of the Resolution to John DeAlba, DA Department Business Specialist.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Board Resolution

Attachment B: Grant Agreement No. S24-015

Authored by:

John DeAlba, Department Business Specialist; (805) 568-2434