



**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-Coroner
Department No.: 032
For Agenda Of: June 25, 2024
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: 4/5

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Bill Brown, Sheriff-Coroner (805-681-4290) *Bill Brown*
Director *UNDERSHIFT*
Contact Info: Joe Schmidt, Lieutenant (805-692-5752)
SUBJECT: Acceptance of Eotech Night Vision Donated from the Wood-Claeyssens Foundation

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: CEO Budget

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve, ratify, and authorize the Sheriff to accept 21 Eotech BinoNV night vision binoculars valued at \$247,508.64, donated to the Sheriff's Office from the Wood-Claeyssens Foundation through the Special Enforcement Team (SET) Support Foundation;
- b) Approve Budget Revision Request BJE #0009692 to increase appropriations of \$247,508.64 in Sheriff General Fund for capital asset equipment funded by a donation from the Wood Claeyssens Foundation through the SET Support Foundation; and
- c) Determine that the above actions are government funding mechanisms or other government fiscal activities, which do not involve any commitment to any specific project that may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment and are therefore not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to section 15378(b)(4) of the CEQA Guidelines.

Summary Text:

This item is before your Board to approve the acceptance of 21 Eotech night vision binoculars from the Wood-Claeyssens Foundation through the SET Support Foundation, with a value of \$247,508.64, to be used by the Sheriff's SET in responding to critical incidents.

Background:

The Santa Barbara County SET is a collateral team of deputy Sheriffs responsible for high-risk tactical law enforcement operations. SET responds to critical incidents during darkness and low light conditions, such as barricaded suspects, hostage rescue, and high-risk warrant service. Night vision capabilities greatly increase SET’s ability to provide lifesaving services during these critical incidents. Clandestine movement under the cover of darkness allow SET members to rapidly rescue victims and apprehend suspects, thereby de-escalating a potentially violent encounter from occurring.

In April 2011, SET received 25 units of PVS-14 monocular night vision systems. This “single tube” design was used by SET members on numerous tactical operations, including several panga boat operations where drug smuggling suspects were apprehended while hiding under the cover of darkness. The PVS-14s provided many years of night vision training and operational use. After 13 years of usage, the PVS-14s are reaching the end of their service life. Additionally, the single tube design limits an operator’s peripheral view under night vision.

In 2024, the SET Support Foundation, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, was awarded a grant for 21 Eotech BinoNV night vision “dual tube” binoculars from the Wood-Claeyssens Foundation. These Eotech systems are a lightweight, cutting-edge night vision goggle that offer improved depth perception than single tube designs, making them the preferred system for navigating on foot or by vehicle during darkness. The dual tube design greatly increases peripheral vision resulting in improved situational awareness and threat identification. The SET Support Foundation is awarding the binoculars to the Sheriff’s Office, for specific use by SET members.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: No; recommend approval of Budget Revision Request #0009692.

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	\$	\$ 0	
State			
Federal			
Fees			
Other: Donation	\$ 247,508.64		\$ 247,508.64
Total	\$ 247,508.64	\$ 0	\$ 247,508.64

Narrative: The Wood-Claeyssens Foundation recently provided a donation to the SET Support Foundation of 21 sets of Eotech BinoNV night vision binoculars (valued at \$247,508.64). In turn, the SET Support Foundation is donating the binoculars to the Sheriff’s Office, for specific use by SET members. There are no maintenance costs associated with the binoculars other than periodic replacement of one (1) AA battery per binocular. Budget Revision Request #0009692 increases appropriations of \$247,508.64 in Sheriff

General Fund for capital asset equipment funded by a donation from the Wood-Claeysens Foundation through the SET Support Foundation.

Special Instructions:

Please send two copies of the minute order, one to Lieutenant Joe Schmidt and the other to Chief Financial Officer Hope Vasquez, Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Office.

Attachments:

Attachment A: Invoice from Safeware, Inc.

Attachment B: Budget Revision Request BJE-0009692

Authored by:

Joe Schmidt, Lieutenant
Santa Barbara County Sheriff-Coroner
Special Enforcement Team