

# 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: June 23, 2015

Placement: Administrative

**Estimated Tme:** 

Continued Item:  $N_O$ 

If Yes, date from:

Vote Required: Majority

**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

<u>County Counsel Concurrence</u>
<u>Auditor-Controller Concurrence</u>

As to form: Yes As to form: Yes

## **Other Concurrence:**

As to form: Human Resources, Risk Management

#### **Recommended Actions:**

It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute a Professional Services Contract with Guadalupe Ibarra as Coordinator for the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART), for the period of June 23, 2015 through June 30, 2016, in the amount of \$50,000 and,
- b) Determine that the above 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:**

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 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 29 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. 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:

- Coordinate, monitor and evaluate the operational activities of the SART Program.
- Manage incoming forensic interview referrals from law enforcement or child welfare services.
- Provide personnel and technical support to team members including equipment support and policy/procedural guidance.
- Facilitate and communicate with the referring agencies and service providers to ensure that supportive services are readily available to victims.
- Track case data, evaluate service delivery and coordinate the monthly case review meetings and annual policy meetings.
- Prepare and submit grant applications and reports.

The District Attorney assumes administrative oversight of the SART program and Coordinator. As a County Department, the District Attorney 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 continues to provide the countywide leadership role needed to coordinate the SART program, with centralized administrative responsibilities. The Victim Witness Program Manager has program oversight responsibilities, and has extensive experience managing grant programs. SART is accredited through the National Children's Alliance (NCA) which signifies compliance with rigorous National Standards and has afforded the program access to technical and financial assistance.

#### **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:**

Funding Sources	Curr	ent FY Cost:	Annualized On-going Cost:	<u>Total One-Time</u> <u>Project Cost</u>
General Fund				
State				
Federal				
Fees				
Other:	\$	50,000.00		
Total	\$	50,000.00	\$ -	\$ -

#### Narrative:

The costs in the above table include \$36,100 in salary expenses and \$13,900 in benefits which include Retirement costs and FICA. This position is financed via a per capita contribution from each of the SART Law Enforcement partners.

## **Key Contract Risks:**

The District Attorney has administered this program since 2008. There is minimal risk to the County.

## **Staffing Impacts:**

1 Contractor on Payroll

#### **Special Instructions:**

Please return one fully executed agreement to Kerry Bierman, DA Administrative Director

## **Attachments:**

Contract between County of Santa Barbara and Ms. Guadalupe Ibarra

## **Authored by:**

Megan Rheinschild, Victim Witness Program Manager

cc: Human Resources