



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
District Attorney Office



DATE: October 26, 2011
BOARD MEETING DATE: November 15, 2011
SPECIAL NOTICE/HEARING: None
VOTE REQUIRED: Majority

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors
FROM: Stephen M. Wagstaffe, District Attorney
SUBJECT: Application for Renewal of the Victim/Witness Grant

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution ratifying the District Attorney's:

- A) Submission of a grant application to the Victim/Witness Assistance Program for FY2011-12, for funds administered through the California Emergency Management Agency in the amount of \$380,081; the Net County Cost is \$289,421; and
- B) Execution of the grant award agreement and authorizing him to make any extensions or amendments thereof which do not require commitment of county funds.

BACKGROUND:

In 1974, the County submitted a grant proposal to the California Office of Criminal Justice Planning (OCJP), requesting funds to operate a Victim/Witness Program. The Victim/Witness Program offers comprehensive assistance to victims and witnesses of violent crime. The County has received funding for the program and the Board has authorized the submission of a grant application every year since 1974. The California Emergency Management Agency (Cal EMA) now administers the grant application.

DISCUSSION:

A yearly grant application is required to receive state and federal funds through the state agency designated to administer these grants. Four advocates, one administrative secretary and a manager, who has responsibility for all victim services, staff the Victim/Witness Grant. Two additional advocates staff an Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy & Outreach Grant to serve victims residing in the southern part of the county. Volunteers and/or student interns are utilized to further ensure that all mandatory services are met. The Program received over 3,200 victim referrals from law enforcement agencies in fiscal year 2010-11, and provided services to over 3,300 new victims. Services provided include, but are not limited to, crisis intervention, emergency assistance, resource and referral assistance, claims assistance and court/escort support.

The Program assisted over 800 Domestic Violence victims, over 680 victims of Assault and/or Battery, and over 425 victims of Sexual Assault (adults & children). The Program works collaboratively with the Keller Center, Community Overcoming Relationship Abuse (CORA), Rape Trauma Services (RTS), Children & Family Services, and various other agencies that provide assistance to crime victims.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the Resolution as to form and content.

Approval of this resolution contributes to the Shared Vision of 2025 of a Healthy Community by providing comprehensive assistance to victims of violent crimes residing in San Mateo County.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The state and federal funding awarded for FY 2011-12 is \$380,081. The total expected cost of the program is \$669,502, resulting in a projected net county cost of \$289,421. Funds have been included in the FY 2011-12 Recommended Budget to cover these additional costs.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S:

- A) SUBMISSION OF A GRANT APPLICATION TO THE VICTIM/WITNESS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR FY 2011-12, FOR FUNDS ADMINISTERED THROUGH THE CALIFORNIA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$380,081; THE NET COUNTY COST IS \$289,421; AND**
- B) EXECUTION OF THE GRANT AWARD AGREEMENT AND AUTHORIZING HIM TO MAKE ANY EXTENSIONS OR AMENDMENTS THEREOF WHICH DO NOT REQUIRE COMMITMENT OF COUNTY FUNDS**

RESOLVED, by the Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California, that

WHEREAS, since 1974, the County of San Mateo has applied for and received funding and desires to maintain a project designated the San Mateo County Victim/Witness Assistance Program with program funding derived from State Penalty Assessments and the Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) administered by the California Emergency Management Agency, (herein referred to as Cal EMA), in the amount of \$380,081; and

WHEREAS, it is agreed that the State of California and Cal EMA disclaim any responsibility for any liability, arising out of the performance of this Grant Award Agreement, and that such liability including civil court actions for damages, shall be the responsibility of the grant recipient and the authorizing agency; and

WHEREAS, it is agreed that any grant funds received hereunder shall not be used to supplant expenditures controlled by this body;

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DETERMINED AND ORDERED that the submission of the grant application to Cal EMA and the execution of the Grant Award Agreement by the District Attorney of the County of San Mateo, on behalf of the County of San Mateo, is ratified and the District Attorney is authorized to make any extensions or amendments thereof which do not require commitment of County funds.

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