



Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: ID 21-535 **Version:** 1 **Name:**

Type: Action Item **Status:** Agenda Ready

File created: 4/7/2021 **In control:** City Council

On agenda: 4/29/2021 **Final action:**

Title: Actions pertaining to the 2021 Law Enforcement Specialized Unit Program:
1. Authorize acceptance of \$203,143 in grant funding from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services' Law Enforcement Specialized Unit Program to the Fresno Police Department
2. Approve a Memorandum of Understanding with the Marjaree Mason Center

Sponsors: Police Department

Indexes:

Code sections:

Attachments: 1. Grant Agreement, 2. MOU Agreement with Marjaree Mason Center

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
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REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL

April 28, 2021

FROM: PACO BALDERRAMA, Chief of Police
Police Department

BY: PATRICK FARMER, Deputy Police Chief
Investigations Division

SUBJECT

Actions pertaining to the 2021 Law Enforcement Specialized Unit Program:

1. Authorize acceptance of \$203,143 in grant funding from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services' Law Enforcement Specialized Unit Program to the Fresno Police Department
2. Approve a Memorandum of Understanding with the Marjaree Mason Center

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that Council approve acceptance of \$203,143 in grant funding from the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) Law Enforcement Specialized Unit (LE) Program for the Fresno Police Department's Domestic Violence (DV) Unit within the Family Justice Bureau (Domestic Violence grant); approve a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Marjaree Mason Center (MMC) as identified in the LE Program grant agreement; and authorize the Chief of Police to enter into and execute the agreements, amendments, extensions and modifications and all

required documents. The grant funds have been budgeted in the FY 2022 budget.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The City of Fresno has been awarded grant funds of \$203,143 from CalOES to augment the current capabilities of the DV Unit. The grant period is from January 1, 2021, to December 31, 2021. The goal of the LE Program grant is to work in partnership with the MMC for the purpose of providing maximum available assistance for victims of domestic violence and their children within the City of Fresno. The program will allow for the addition of two victim advocates. This will meet the need for immediate response to victims and their families and provide resources to them as soon as law enforcement is notified of the incident. The grant funds will be used to fund the additional victim advocates and enhance the DV Unit by addressing violence against victims through investigation, immediate response, immediate victim advocacy, and training for law enforcement officers.

BACKGROUND

The Domestic Violence grant will allow us to expand our current capacity in response to victims and their children. With this funding, we are requesting to add two additional domestic violence victim advocates. With two additional advocates the City will allow advocate coverage for evening hours and weekends. The advocates will be assigned to the field and respond with patrol officers to calls for service related to domestic violence. By creating this quick response, victims will feel as though they have instantaneous help and reassurance that law enforcement cares and is doing everything possible to support them. Additionally, victims of domestic violence and their children will have immediate resources available through the MMC, such as emergency housing, provided crisis intervention, advocacy, support groups, counseling, legal advocacy, 24-hour crisis hotline, survival skills, legal options classes, and referrals. This grant program will allow us to expand our capabilities as an agency to reach out to all victims and ensure that services are offered and encouraged for all victims.

The MOU with the MMC has been reviewed and approved by the City Attorney's Office.

ENVIRONMENTAL FINDINGS

This is not a "project" for the purposes of CEQA, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15378.

LOCAL PREFERENCE

Local preference was not considered because accepting grant funds does not include a bid or award of a construction or service contract.

FISCAL IMPACT

There will be no net impact to the general fund. The grant provides full cost recovery for all operations, training and supplies for this program. Advocates hired by the Marjaree Mason Center are contracted for the one-year performance period of the grant. At the conclusion, they will return to MMC to work on other projects. Expenses will be claimed and reimbursed on a quarterly basis. This funding will enable the Fresno Police Department to enhance its current capabilities and response to victims of domestic violence within the City of Fresno.

Attachment: Grant Agreement
MOU Agreement with Marjaree Mason Center