



CITY OF LONG BEACH

R-28

POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Jim McDonnell
Chief of Police

July 6, 2010

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the City Manager to execute a three-year agreement, and two one-year amendments, with WomenShelter of Long Beach (WSLB) to accommodate an advocate at the Long Beach Police Department (LBPB) Public Safety Building (PSB) to provide comprehensive services to victims of domestic violence. (Citywide)

DISCUSSION

The WSLB provides comprehensive services including counseling, confidential shelter, and court assistance to victims of domestic violence. WSLB has a Long Beach-based office with 21 full-time, four part-time, and five on-call employees that service the Long Beach area. WSLB is a not-for-profit organization funded by public and private contributions. The LBPB and WSLB have worked as collaborative partners since 1999 to provide emergency response/services to victims of domestic violence.

To further this collaborative partnership, LBPB is requesting approval to execute an agreement to locate a WSLB domestic violence advocate on-site at the PSB. Having an advocate on-site provides many advantages. LBPB Detectives would have the ability to immediately engage the advocate to provide the victim any available services, including temporary confidential housing, restraining order preparation, or counseling. Another advantage is the ability of the on-site advocate to obtain access to police reports, limiting the need to send state-protected confidential documents off-site, reducing the risk of loss or damage to these documents. Advocates would also be available 24 hours, seven days a week, for emergency response to domestic violence incidents. LBPB and WSLB have an excellent working relationship and work closely in providing extensive services to victims of domestic violence. Having a domestic violence advocate on-site at the Police Department enhances this collaborative relationship and provides victims enhanced services and safety.

This letter was reviewed by Deputy City Attorney Gary Anderson on April 20, 2010 and Budget and Performance Management Manager David Wodynski on May 4, 2010.

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TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action on this matter is requested on July 6, 2010 to enter into the requested agreement and provide enhanced services to victims of domestic violence.

FISCAL IMPACT

WSLB will pay the fully loaded costs of the advocate. The advocate will use office space and have landline telephone access at the PSB workspace. WSLB will provide their own office furniture and computer equipment, including internet access. LBPD will absorb all costs associated with landline telephone access, office space, and utilities within its current General Fund (GP) appropriation.

SUGGESTED ACTION:

Approve recommendation.

Respectfully submitted,



JIM McDONNELL
CHIEF OF POLICE

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APPROVED:



PATRICK H. WEST
CITY MANAGER