



CITY OF LONG BEACH

C-7

OFFICE OF CITY PROSECUTOR

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July 12, 2005

HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL
City of Long Beach
California

SUBJECT: RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT FUNDING FROM THE CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE SPOUSAL ABUSER PROSECUTION
PROGRAM (SAPP)

DISCUSSION

The Domestic Violence Unit of the Long Beach City Prosecutor's Office prosecutes all misdemeanor crimes between intimates, i.e., spousal abuse, child abuse, and elder abuse. The City Prosecutor's Domestic Violence Unit is committed to the aggressive prosecution of domestic violence crimes to hold abusers accountable for their crimes and thereby improve the quality of life for Long Beach residents.

To continue to meet the challenge of prosecuting these highly complex cases, this City Prosecutor's Office seeks to avail itself of certain grant funds through the California Department of Justice Spousal Abuser Prosecution Program (SAPP). To obtain these grant funds, the city must provide either an in kind match or actual cash funds of 20% of the grant amount. When in place, the grant and matching funds will allow this office to continue funding the position of Domestic Violence Investigator for the 2005-2006 grant period.

Under a SAPP grant, the City Prosecutor's Office has used a Domestic Violence Investigator since January 1997. Successful prosecution of domestic violence cases is highly dependent on thorough investigation. Often victims and or witnesses, who may be emotionally or economically dependent on the abuser, are reluctant participants in the prosecution. Overcoming the difficulties presented by these cases is highly dependent on continuing investigative efforts. The Domestic Violence Investigator obtains victim and witness statements, takes photographs, serves trial subpoenas and sometime provides transportation for victims or witnesses. These efforts result in more convictions and less abuse for our residents.

TIMING CONSIDERATIONS

City Council action on this matter is not time critical.

FISCAL IMPACT

The \$39,509, if awarded, will be used to partially offset the cost of Domestic Violence Investigator(s). The award amount will be deposited into the Misc Grant SR120 Fund and will be included in the City Prosecutor Department FY06 proposed budget.

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IT IS REQUESTED THAT THE CITY COUNCIL:

ADOPT THE ATTACHED RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ACCEPT FUNDING FROM THE SPOUSAL ABUSER PROSECUTION PROGRAM (SAPP) AND EXECUTE ALL CONTRACTS AND DOCUMENTS RELATED TO IT.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tom Reeves". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "T" and "R".

THOMAS M. REEVES
LONG BEACH CITY PROSECUTOR

TMR/mdo