Thursday, January 27, 2011

Police RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 22

Subject: Authorize the negotiation and execution of an Interlocal Agreement between the City of Austin and Travis County for the City to reimburse Travis County for Austin/Travis County Family Violence Protection Team related expenditures in an amount not to exceed \$699,507.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding is available from the U.S. Department of Justice, office on Violence Against Women, Community-Defined Solutions to Violence Against Women Program for the project period of October 1, 2010 to September 30, 2012.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is not required.

For More Information: Patti Robinson, Assistant Chief / 974-5030

Prior Council Action: September 13, 2010 - City Council accepted the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 budget which included grant funding for this program.

The City of Austin Community-Defined Solutions to Violence Against Women Program approved grant budget includes funding for six County positions and overtime for County Constables.

Funding for this program will include the following grant-funded positions:

TRAVIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE (TCSO)

Victim Counselor

The counselor will work directly with police detectives to follow-up on reported incidents of family violence and stalking. In the initial visit, develop a safety plan and refer the victim to additional support services.

TSCSO Detective

The Detective will investigate family violence cases that fall within the county's jurisdiction and provide assistance to the smaller municipalities in implementing "pro-arrest" protocols and improved techniques for collecting evidence. The detective will also prepare/update a domestic violence curriculum and train victim services and law enforcement personnel throughout the service area of the FVPT, as well as in neighboring jurisdictions.

TRAVIS COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

Protective Order Attorney

The Protective Order Assistant County Attorney will implement a comprehensive program for civil enforcement of protective orders, and file and prosecute contempt cases for violations of the orders.

Intake Prosecuting Attorney

The Intake Prosecuting Attorney who will be located at the Team 20 hours per week to staff misdemeanor cases with law enforcement officers and meet with victims who appear at the Team seeking protective orders.

TRAVIS COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE Assistant District Attorney (Intake)

The Assistant District Attorney will prepare felony domestic violence cases for presentation to the Grand Jury for indictment.

Assistant District Attorney (Strangulation)

The Assistant District Attorney will prepare felony strangulation cases for presentation to the Grand Jury for indictment.

TRAVIS COUNTY CONSTABLE PRECINCT 5

Precinct 5 Constables will serve Temporary Ex Parte Protective Orders represented by the Travis County Attorney's Office. After serving each protective order, the constables will either leave the premises or escort the applicant from the residence should the respondent refuse to leave. The overtime rate charged by the County will be consistent with the actual rate received by the sworn personnel assigned to the investigations.