Thursday, October 28, 2010

Police RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION

Item No. 31

Subject: Authorize negotiation and execution of an agreement between the City of Austin and the Center for Child Protection, in the amount of \$99,396, to fund reimbursement for two family advocate positions to provide enhanced interview and support services related to child protection.

Amount and Source of Funding: Funding in the amount of \$99,396 is available in the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Operating Budget of the Austin Police Department.

Fiscal Note: A fiscal note is not required.

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

The Center for Child Protection was incorporated in 1989 as a children's advocacy center that would help streamline the investigation and prosecution of child abuse cases in Austin/Travis County. The core service provided at the Center is the forensic interview, in which specially trained staff interview alleged child victims to determine the facts surrounding a case of abuse. In 1999, Travis County and the City of Austin declared the Center as the "sole provider" of forensic interviews with alleged child victims. Family advocates are assigned to a case at the point of forensic interview and stay with the family for months and sometimes years as the case travels through the justice system.

The funding for these positions was added to the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Austin Police Department operating budget in order to expand the services currently provided. This agreement shall cover the period which began October 1, 2010 though the period ending September 30, 2011.