

Upcoming Council Agenda Items

Memorandum



DATE: May 15, 2009

TO: Members of Public Safety Committee

SUBJECT: El Centro Community Service Program

Since 1984, the Dallas Police Department has had a contract with El Centro of the Dallas County Community College to place authorized Police Department training in El Centro Community Service Program. As delineated in this contract, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in coordination with the Dallas County Community College District Community Service Program will fund basic training for Dallas Police Department recruits (regular and reserve) and in-service training for Dallas Police Department veteran personnel.

Payments received from El Centro College will be used by the Police Department for instructional and administrative costs to include instructional equipment, instructional aids, instructional printing, instructional staff development, student supplies, operational equipment and other supplies in support of the academy training program. All expenditures by the Police Department shall be approved by El Centro College and the Chief of Police or his designee.

In exchange for its participation, the City will be paid \$26.00 for each certifiable instructional hour. In addition to the \$26.00 per instructional hour, the City will be paid quarterly for instructional support, which includes instructional equipment, instructional aids, and student supplies and staff development for certified instructors at a rate of \$15.00 for each certifiable instructional hour supported by certified class rosters.

The 2007-2009 El Centro Contract will expire on August 31, 2009. The new 2009-2011 El Centro Contract will be for the two-year period of September 1, 2009 through August 31, 2011 for an amount not to exceed \$475,000.

The Dallas Police Department is seeking the support and recommendation of the Public Safety Committee in gaining approval from the City Council to authorize renewal of the contract with El Centro College.

This item has been placed on the agenda for May 27, 2009, City Council Meeting



Ryan S. Evans
First Assistant City Manager

Memorandum



DATE: May 15, 2009

TO: Members of the Public Safety Committee

SUBJECT: Dallas Police Department Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program

The Dallas Police Department and The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (ATF) have a continuing partnership in the National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN). Under the NIBIN program the ATF administers automated ballistic imaging technology for NIBIN federal, state and local law enforcement agency partners. The NIBIN program allows partners to enter digital images of the markings made on spent cartridge casings (ammunition) recovered from a crime scene or a crime gun test fire. The images are then correlated against earlier entries via electronic image comparison. If a high – confidence candidate for a match emerges, the original evidence is compared via microscope to confirm the match or NIBIN “hit”. This is important because by searching an automated environment, whether locally, regionally, or nationally, NIBIN partners like Dallas are able to discover links between crimes more quickly. This includes links that would never have been identified without the technology. The NIBIN Program makes it easier to search for investigative links in information across jurisdictional boundaries.

The Dallas Police Department implemented the NIBIN program in February 2004, as part of the Project Safe Neighborhood Program. In October 2005 the Dallas Police Department was awarded \$95,000.00 through the Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program. These funds were used for a part-time Firearms Forensic Examiner and the purchase of current Data Acquisition Station, Comparison Microscope and application to the American Society of Crime Lab Directors (ASCLD) for accreditation of the Dallas Police Department’s Firearms Laboratory. Due to purchasing procedures the Paul Coverdell Grant was not utilized until January 2007. Since January 2007 the Dallas Police Department’s NIBIN Team has acquisitioned 9805 cartridge casing images and made over 287 “hits”. A recent NIBIN “Hit” was highlighted by ATF for linking two armed robberies in a Dallas investigation.

The U. S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, National Institute of Justice is seeking applications for funding under the fiscal year (FY) 2009 Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grants Program. It is currently open for applications through May 29, 2009; up to \$125,000 is available for this competitive grant which does not require matching funds. If awarded, this grant would enhance the Dallas Police Department’s current NIBIN Program. NIBIN has developed into an effective crime-fighting tool for numerous law enforcement agencies across the country.

The Paul Coverdell Forensic Grant can be used for, is but not limited to the following:

- Part-time Forensic Examiner to assist with the confirmation of “hits”. (Currently our Firearms Forensic Examiner must travel to another laboratory to have a “hit” confirmed by another Firearms Forensic Examiner).
- Training for certification in acquisitioning cartridge casings through ATF.
- Continuing Education Training for Firearms Forensic Examiner and employees
- Annual certification exams
- Reference books
- Firearms tools
- Annual Calibration and Certification for equipment
- Ammunition for crime guns
- Accreditation fees for lab accreditation
- Equipment upgrades
- Computer upgrades

Approval to apply for the Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvement Grant is scheduled for formal council action on June 10, 2009.



Ryan S. Evans
First Assistant City Manager

Memorandum



DATE: May 15, 2009

TO: Members of the Public Safety Committee

SUBJECT: Local Agreement with the Denton County Criminal District Attorney for Equitable Sharing of Money Forfeited in the case of *The State of Texas v. \$27,470.00 Current Money of the United States*, Cause No. 2009-50077-367

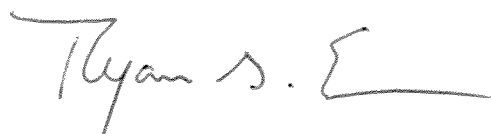
The Dallas Police Department and the Denton County District Attorney are seeking approval from the Public Safety Committee to place the proposed agreement on the agenda for City Council action. This Agreement is for the equitable sharing of assets forfeited in the case of *The State of Texas v. \$27,470.00 Current Money of the United States*, Cause No. 2009-50077-367, regarding forfeiture of \$27,470.00 seized pursuant to Chapter 59 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure.

On February 19, 2009, Dallas Police Vice Detectives executed a search warrant at a residence in Carrollton, Denton County, Texas related to an investigation of Engaging in Organized Criminal Activity – Aggravated Promotion of Prostitution. Among the items seized as a result of that search was \$27,470.00 in U.S. Currency.

Chapter 59 of the Texas Code of Criminal Procedure authorizes “Local Agreements” between the attorney representing the State and law enforcement agencies to effect the disposition of contraband forfeited to the State. Any forfeiture case in which assets are seized in Denton County by the Dallas Police Department must be filed through the Denton County Criminal District Attorney’s Office. If no “Local Agreement” exists, the forfeited contraband is given totally to the State of Texas.

The agreement authorized a sharing of the awarded contraband with the City receiving two-thirds (66.66%) and the Denton County Criminal District Attorney one-third (33.33%) of the money seized and forfeited. The court costs and litigation expense related to this case will be paid by the City.

This agreement applies only to the case of *The State of Texas v. \$27,470.00 Current Money of the United States*, Cause No. 2009-50077-367.



Ryan S. Evans
First Assistant City Manager