

TAB 7



City of Palmetto Agenda Item

Meeting Date

1/23/12

Presenter: Chief Wells

Department: Police Department

Title: Reallocation of 2010 JAG Grant #2010-DJ-BX1407 to purchase 5 in-car video cameras

In December of 2006, the Palmetto Police Department began installing an integrated all in-one mobile video recording and mobile data solution (COBAN Technologies) into its patrol vehicles. Up to this time, Palmetto officers did not have any type of mobile CAD or field reporting. The next year, additional identical units were purchased, equipping all patrol units with an integrated MDT/ mobile video solution. Because of budget constraints, none of the field supervisor (sergeant) vehicles could be equipped.

The installation of these units into the Department's patrol cars was a dramatic step forward for agency patrol capability. Officers were able to dramatically increase the amount of time that they spent in the field by bringing limited report writing and many important criminal justice data bases to their vehicles, as well as giving each vehicle assigned to a patrol officer audio and video recording capabilities. A few years ago, through a BJA grant, the Department was able to upgrade its reporting and CAD software to dramatically increase this capability, making total in the field reporting, CAD dispatching, and FCIC/NCIC capabilities in these cars possible.

Over the course of these in-car technology improvements, two drawbacks emerged. The first was that the Department was unable to budget equipping the field supervisors (sergeants) with any type of MDT or video solution in their vehicles. This forces these field supervisors to spend additional time in the station approving and routing reports. It also limits the amount of CAD dispatching that can be done, since the sergeants have no way of monitoring their squads in the field using the CAD. The second drawback was from the hardware itself. The integrated video and MDT solution has become problematic over the years. If either a camera or the CPU/MDT portion of the system goes down, the entire unit is non-functional.

To address these drawbacks, last spring the Palmetto Police Department asked to and was approved to modify our 2010 Edward Byrne Community Recovery Allocation Grant (2010-DJ-BX-1407) and to use the 2011 Edward Byrne Community Recovery Allocation Grant (2011-DJ-BX-2706) to purchase four mobile laptops, one mobile video camera, installation, and the necessary software to install at the mobile laptops and the necessary software into the four field supervisor (sergeant) cars. Allocating these grant awards in this manner would have gone a long way towards taking care of the above issues with our Agency's field reporting and supervision. Unfortunately, we could only afford to give one of the four sergeant vehicles a video recording system.

Over the past few months, our Agency has been able to use local resources and budget for upgrades and hardware to alleviate many of the problems that I mentioned above. We have have put in place service agreements to support and have repaired all of our existing in-car MDT/ Mobile Video units. Through a CRA allocation, we were able to purchase enough mobile laptops to equip seven cars, freeing up COBAN units to equip the sergeant vehicles. Unfortunately, the laptop-equipped vehicles will be without in-car video recording. We would like permission to modify the use of the previously approved 2010 Edward Byrne Community Recovery Allocation Grant (2010-DJ-BX-1407) to purchase five mobile video cameras and supporting hardware to ensure that at least some of the laptop-equipped cars maintain field audio and video recording capabilities.

The breakdown of the expenses is as follows:

2010 Allocation Grant #2010-DJ-BX1407	
5 In-Car Video Systems @ \$5475.00 each	\$27,375.00
Portion of Installation	225.00
Total for Grant	\$27,600.00

Budgeted Amount:	\$27,600	Budget Page No(s):		Available Amount:	\$27,600	Expenditure Amount:	\$27,600
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Additional Budgetary Information: Will require budget admendment to reallocate funds. This will be brought back at the next Commission meeting.

Funding Source(s):		Sufficient Funds Available:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Budget Amendment Required:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Source:	
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**City Attorney
Reviewed:**

- Yes
- No
- N/A

**Advisory Board
Recommendation:**

- For
- Against
- X N/A

**Consistent
With:**

- Yes
- No
- N/A

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**Potential
Motion/
Direction
Requested:**

Motion to approve reallocating \$27,600 from the 2010 JAG grant allocation #2010-DJBX1407 to purchase five mobile video cameras and supporting hardware.
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Staff Contact:

Chief Wells		
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Attachments:

None
