

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING WASHTENAW COUNTY TO MAINTAIN A SEPARATE SET OF FUNDS FOR LAWNET'S FORFEITURE PROCEEDS, AND DELEGATING AUTHORITY TO APPROVE LAWNET EXPENDITURES TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR.

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

September 20, 2000

WHEREAS, in 1970 the Washtenaw County Sheriff, Ann Arbor Police Department, Ypsilanti Police Department and Michigan State Police formed a multijurisdictional task force to combat drug offenses; and

WHEREAS, in 1981 the Livingston County Sheriff's Department joined the task force and it was renamed the Livingston and Washtenaw Narcotics Enforcement Team ("LAWNET"); and

WHEREAS, in 1989 the Jackson County Sheriff and the Jackson Police Department joined LAWNET; and

WHEREAS, LAWNET has now grown to over thirty-five (35) sworn and support personnel to investigate narcotics offenses, auto theft and gang crimes; and

WHEREAS, under Michigan law, cash, vehicles and other tangible items may be forfeited if involved in the commission of certain crimes with the proceeds being used to fund further law enforcement activities such as LAWNET; and

WHEREAS, Michigan law requires that one of the governmental entities that participates in LAWNET handle the receipt of forfeiture proceeds and approve expenditures to LAWNET; and

WHEREAS, LAWNET has requested that Washtenaw County maintain a set of funds for forfeiture proceeds and to provide oversight on such expenditures; and

WHEREAS, due to the expected number of expenditure requests from LAWNET for payments from the account it would be more efficient for the County Administrator to approve or deny such requests; and

WHEREAS, this matter has been reviewed by Corporation Counsel, Human Resources, Finance, the County Administrator's office and the Ways & Means Committee

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby approves the creation of a separate set of funds to house adjudicated forfeiture funds and non-forfeiture funds generated by LAWNET activities.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners designates the County Administrator as the individual responsible for approving or denying such expenditure requests from LAWNET.