



COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
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TO: Wesley Prater, Chair
Ways and Means Committee

THROUGH: Robert Guenzel
County Administrator

FROM: Brian L. Mackie
Prosecuting Attorney

SUBJECT: 2004/2005 Victim Witness Contract

DATE: August 4, 2004

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED:

The Office of the Prosecuting Attorney has completed an application for a contract for continuation of the Victim Witness Program Funding October 1, 2004, through September 30, 2005. I recommend that your Board approve the contract for funding with the Crime Victim Services Commission of Michigan in the amount of \$157,500.

BACKGROUND:

The Victim/Witness unit of the Prosecuting Attorney's office renders services to approximately 3,000 victims each year. The Prosecutor's office has received funding under the Crime Victims Act since 1985. The unit is also responsible for making all arrangements for witnesses that are required to testify in criminal prosecutions.

DISCUSSION:

The Crime Victim Rights Act provides mandatory rights for victims of crime to participate in and be notified of all court proceedings in which they were the victims. The Victim/Witness unit contacts victims of crime to notify them of their rights during the criminal justice process. The unit also acts as a liaison between the assistant prosecutors, law enforcement probation department, and community agencies that offer a cadre of services to persons under duress. The unit helps victims understand their role in the criminal justice system. In addition the unit (advocates) attend court proceedings with victims to be a support and contact person for their needs during the court/trial process.

IMPACT ON HUMAN RESOURCES:

NONE.

IMPACT ON BUDGET:

NONE. The revenue and expense for this program are already included in the General Fund 2004 & 2005 budgets.

IMPACT ON INDIRECT COSTS:

NONE

IMPACT ON OTHER COUNTY DEPARTMENTS:

There is no impact on other county departments.

CONFORMITY TO COUNTY POLICIES:

This request conforms to county policy.

ATTACHMENTS / APPENDICES:

Application.

A RESOLUTION RATIFYING THE SIGNATURE OF THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR ON A CONTRACT WITH THE MICHIGAN CRIME VICTIM SERVICES COMMISSION FOR THE OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2004 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2005 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$157,500;

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

August 4, 2004

WHEREAS, for the past 19 years the Prosecuting Attorney's Office has operated a program under the Michigan CRIME VICTIM SERVICES COMMISSION to serve victims of crime under the Crime Victims Rights Act of 1985.

WHEREAS, the Prosecuting Attorney has been awarded a grant agreement from the Crime Victim Services Commission to operate a program for victims of crime and witnesses who testify in criminal court cases for the State Fiscal Year of 2004/2005; and

WHEREAS, the application supports the program at the current funding level; and

WHEREAS, the contract authorizes reimbursement of expenditures up to a total of \$157,500; and

WHEREAS, this matter has been reviewed by the Finance Department, Human Resources Department, the Administrator's Office and the Ways and Means Committee

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners hereby ratifies the signature of the County Administrator on the contract with the Michigan Crime Victim Services Commission for the continuation of the Victim/Witness program in the Office of Prosecuting Attorney for the period October 1, 2004 through September 30, 2005, in the amount of \$157,500, as attached;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Commissioners hereby takes the following actions contingent upon receipt of the grant award in conformity with the application:

1. Authorizing the County Administrator to sign the Notice of Grant Award
2. Authorizing the County Administrator to sign delegate contracts upon review and approval of Corporation Counsel, to be filed with the County Clerk.