

COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR
220 NORTH MAIN STREET, P.O. BOX 8645
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MEMORANDUM

TO: Jeff Irwin, Chair
Ways and Means Committee

THROUGH: Robert Guenzel
County Administrator

FROM: Brian L. Mackie
Prosecuting Attorney

SUBJECT: 2005-2006 Victim Rights Contract

DATE: September 21, 2005

BOARD ACTION REQUESTED

The Office of the Prosecuting Attorney has completed an application for a contract for continuation of the Victim/Witness program funding for the period October 1, 2005 to September 30, 2006. I recommend that your Board approve the contract for funding with the Michigan Department of Community Health 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 V/R 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's advocates attend court proceedings with victims to be a support and contact person for their needs during the court/trial process.

IMPACT ON PERSONNEL

NONE

IMPACT ON BUDGET

NONE. The revenue and expense for this program are already included in the General Fund 2006 budget.

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 DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH CRIME VICTIM SERVICES COMMISSION FOR THE OFFICE OF THE PROSECUTING ATTORNEY FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2005 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2006 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$157,500; AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN THE NOTICE OF GRANT AWARD; AND AUTHORIZING THE ADMINISTRATOR TO SIGN THE DELEGATE CONTRACTS

WASHTENAW COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

October 5, 2005

WHEREAS, for the past 20 years the Prosecuting Attorney's Office has operated a program under the Michigan Crime Victim Service Commission to serve victims of crime under the Crime Victims Rights Act of 1985; and

WHEREAS, the Prosecuting Attorney has been awarded a grant 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 2005-2006; and

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

WHEREAS, the contract authorizes expenditures which total \$157,500; and

WHEREAS, the revenue is included in the County's 2006 general fund budget; 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, 2005 through September 30, 2006, 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.