

CONSENT AGENDA
ITEM NO. 11

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
POLICE DEPARTMENT
CITY COUNCIL AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

TO: Sheryl Sculley, City Manager
FROM: Albert A. Ortiz, Chief of Police
SUBJECT: Ordinance Request to Apply for a Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)
DATE: February 16, 2006

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This ordinance authorizes the City Manager, or her designated representative, to make a joint application with Bexar County for a Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) for a City/County project addressing child abuse. It also authorizes an Interlocal Agreement with Bexar County regarding the distribution of the grant funds and designating Bexar County as the grant fiscal agent.

Staff recommends approval.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The funds for the JAG grant are used to support a joint City/County project addressing child abuse. This project was first started with the 2005 JAG grant which was authorized by City Ordinance No. 101732, dated November 17, 2005. It provided \$446,918 to fund one (1) Police Sergeant and two (2) Police Detective Investigator positions along with operational costs to conduct child abuse investigations. The grant became operational in December 2005. The majority of cases investigated are cases where the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services are involved.

The funds for the 2006 JAG grant will be used to continue supporting the joint City/County project addressing child abuse. The purpose of the project is to conduct joint investigations with the Bexar County Sheriff's Office, District Attorney's Office, Bexar County Housing and Human Services Department, Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, Christus Santa Rosa Children's Hospital, and the Alamo Children's Advocacy Center. Additionally, the project will reduce the number of interviews required of a child victim, minimizing the negative impact of the investigation and the re-victimization of the child. The City's portion of the grant will be used to continue to fund one (1) Police Sergeant and two (2) Police Detective Investigator positions to investigate sexual abuse cases involving children. While tasked with the investigation of over twenty-eight (28) different offenses, the Sex Crimes/Family Violence Unit has a large portion of its caseload involving children as victims.

Bexar County will be submitting the single application for the JAG grant on behalf of the City of San Antonio and Bexar County. The grant is for a four (4) year period. The grant start date will be determined when the

grant is awarded. The total joint grant amount for the City and Bexar County is \$638,843. The grant funds are to be split 60% (\$383,306) for the County and 40% (\$255,537) for the City. Last year the grant award was \$1,117,297 also split 60% County and 40% City. Congress reduced total JAG funding by approximately 200 million dollars, thus reducing the amount awarded through this grant. The County will be responsible for submitting the grant application, the administration of the funds including distributing the funds, monitoring the award, submitting reports including performance measures and program assessment data. An Interlocal Agreement has been prepared to designate Bexar County the grant fiscal agent and to delineate procedures to be followed by each agency.

POLICY ANALYSIS

This ordinance continues City Council's policy of seeking intergovernmental financial assistance for City crime prevention and enforcement programs.

FISCAL IMPACT

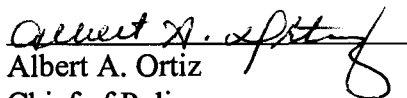
The total joint program budget for the City and Bexar County is \$638,843. The City's portion will be \$255,537. A General Fund cash match is not required.


COORDINATION

This ordinance request has been coordinated with the Finance Department, the City Attorney's Office, the Office of Management and Budget, and External Relations.

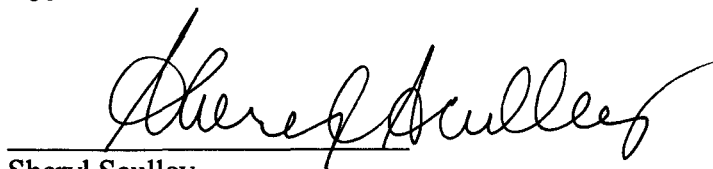
SUPPLEMENTARY COMMENTS

The Discretionary Contracts Disclosure Form is not required.


Albert A. Ortiz
Chief of Police


Erik J. Walsh
Assistant City Manager

Approved for Council Consideration


Sheryl Sculley
City Manager