



City Council Report

Date: July 8, 2021
To: City Council
Through: John Pombier, Assistant City Manager
From: Ken Cost, Police Chief
Kim Meza, Forensic Services Administrator
Subject: Grant Agreement with the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission,
Grant Number DC-22-072 Drug, Gang and Violent Crime Control
Program Grant (Citywide)

Purpose and Recommendation

The City of Mesa Police Department is respectfully requesting that the Mesa City Council approve and authorize the City Manager or his designee to enter into a Grant Agreement with the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission to accept up to \$13,145 from the U.S. Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs and up to \$16,730 in State Funds to be used for overtime and employee related expenses by the Police Department's Forensic Services Division.

Background

Due to COVID-19 the Forensic Services Division implemented social distancing measures which limited analysts' time within the lab to 2 days per week. This limitation increased turnaround times which contributed to a backlog of untested forensic Controlled Substance cases.

Discussion

As an accredited laboratory, the Forensic Services Division was eligible to request funding through The Arizona Criminal Justice Commission Drug, Gang and Violent Crime Control Grant Program. They have been awarded up to \$29,875 specifically for overtime and employee related expenses to reduce the backlog of the Controlled Substance cases.

Alternatives

Decline the funds. If the funds are declined, they will be returned to the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission to be distributed to another forensic crime laboratory.

Fiscal Impact

The program budget amount is \$39,832 which includes a match of \$9,958. These funds are available through the Police Department Budget.

Mesa Police Department personnel will be responsible for submitting invoices to the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission. The Arizona Criminal Justice Commission will remit monies due upon receipt of the invoices.

Coordinated With

The City of Mesa Police Department recommends approval of the Grant Agreement with the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission.