



City Council Report

Date: September 20, 2021
To: City Council
Through: John Pombier, Assistant City Manager
From: Ken Cost, Police Chief
Michael Bellows, Commander
Subject: State of Arizona Office of the Attorney General – FY 2022 Victims' Rights Program (Citywide)

Purpose and Recommendation

The City of Mesa Police Department is respectfully requesting the Mesa City Council approve and authorize the City Manager or his designee to enter into an Award Agreement with the State of Arizona Office of Attorney General to accept \$35,522 in grant funds from the FY 2022 Victims' Rights Program, which will be used for salaries and benefits of two Victim Notification Clerks at the Police Department's Mesa Family Advocacy Center.

Background

The Mesa Family Advocacy Center has been the recipient of Victims' Rights Program monies on a yearly basis since 2000. Historically, these monies have been utilized to fund a portion of the personnel costs associated with two full-time Victim Notification Clerk positions.

Discussion

The Victim Notification Clerks perform duties as outlined by Arizona State Statutes. The clerks are responsible for contacting crime victims to provide victims' rights and request/waiver procedure information. Their responsibilities also include the provision of information to victims regarding arrest, initial appearances, releases, and release conditions.

Alternatives

If this Agreement is declined, the Mesa Police Department will not be able to fund the salaries of the Victim Notification Clerks. Because the services provided by the Victim Notification Clerks are required by Arizona Revised Statutes, the duties would be assigned to other personnel.

Fiscal Impact

The award amount is \$35,522, the FY 2021/2022 projected budget expense for the two positions is \$122,382. In addition to the Victims' Rights Program grant the City of Mesa anticipates receiving a Victims of Crime Act grant which may cover \$55,850 of these personnel expenses. The City of Mesa will be fiscally responsible for the difference, \$31,010 which is available in the Police Department's operating budget. The Office of the Attorney General will distribute funds quarterly.

Coordinated With

The City of Mesa Police Department recommends the approval of the Award Agreement with the State of Arizona, Office of the Attorney General for the FY 2022 Victims' Rights Program.