



**District Attorney
COUNTY OF TULARE
AGENDA ITEM**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ALLEN ISHIDA
District One
PETE VANDER POEL
District Two
PHILLIP A. COX
District Three
J. STEVEN WORTHLEY
District Four
MIKE ENNIS
District Five

AGENDA DATE: September 10, 2013

Public Hearing Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Scheduled Public Hearing w/Clerk	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Published Notice Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Advertised Published Notice	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Meet & Confer Required	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Electronic file(s) has been sent	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
Budget Transfer (Aud 308) attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Personnel Resolution attached	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Agreements are attached and signature line for Chairman is marked with tab(s)/flag(s)	Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	N/A	<input type="checkbox"/>
CONTACT PERSON: Jennifer Lightfoot PHONE: 636-5473				

SUBJECT: Approve an Agreement with the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services.

REQUEST(S):
That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve the Grant Award Agreement with the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services for the Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program in the amount of \$125,000, with a \$31,250 match, for the period of October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014.
2. Authorize the Chairman to sign the Grant Award Face Sheet and the Certification of Assurance of Compliance.
3. Authorize the County Administrative Officer or his designee to sign the Certification of Assurance of Compliance.
4. Approve the necessary budget adjustment per the attached AUD 308 for the Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program (4/5ths vote required).

SUMMARY:
The California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES), formerly known as Cal EMA, issued a Request for Proposals for the Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program (UV Program) for fiscal year 2013/2014. Tulare County has received this grant for the last three years and is submitting a renewal application.

The purpose of the UV Program is to enhance the safety of unserved/underserved victims of crime in Tulare County. The program funds Victim Witness Workers (also called advocates) dedicated to the Spanish-only speaking and elderly populations,

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which are determined to be the underserved victims in Tulare County. Advocates coordinate direct services among local agencies, while implementing an outreach awareness program to teach the underserved population ways to avoid becoming a victim of crime, and make them aware of services available to them.

There is a great need for our services to these underserved populations. Census estimates for 2010 reveal that 60% of the County population is Hispanic, and 45.8% speak a language other than English. It is essential that advocates are bilingual in English and Spanish to effectively serve this program population.

Census estimates also show that nearly 1 in 10 (9.4%) Tulare County residents are in the "elder" category (65 and older). And according to estimates by Consumer Action, a consumer education and advocacy group, while seniors 60 and older make up 15 percent of the U.S. population, they account for roughly 30 percent of fraud victims. In fiscal year 2012/2103, elder abuse victims were related to their perpetrator in over 60% of the cases our Office handled. These cases are complex, as abusers and their victims are often dependent on one another for financial assistance, housing, and other support.

The UV Program will provide victims with mandated services such as crisis intervention, court support, case status and update, assistance in filing for benefits from the Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board, and orientation to the criminal justice system.

Outreach will include educational presentations for the public and other victim services providers. In order to increase program awareness, as well as knowledge about victims' rights and services available, staff will network with other agencies and service providers, and attend interagency meetings, health fairs, and related events. Outreaching to our rural populations is crucial, as they often experience barriers to accessing victims' services.

The UV Program will include the dedication of three full time Victim/Witness Workers, two of which will be bilingual in English and Spanish.

The grant period will be October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014. Monies for this grant are provided through Federal Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) funds.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING:

The funding for the program was included in the District Attorney's FY 2013/2014 budget as \$116,420 in grant funds with a \$29,105 match. However, the grant award was higher than anticipated. The attached AUD 308 requests revenue and expenditure increases totaling \$8,580. There will be an additional \$2,145 in Net County Cost.

LINKAGE TO THE COUNTY OF TULARE STRATEGIC BUSINESS PLAN:

The County's five-year Strategic Business Plan and Management System include Safety and Security initiatives to provide for the safety and security of the public.

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Continued grant funding from CalEMA helps to fulfill this initiative. Through the Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program, dedicated staff will provide services to victims of crime, including supportive services throughout the criminal justice proceedings, and by connecting them with financial assistance through the Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board.

ADMINISTRATIVE SIGN-OFF:

Dan Underwood
Assistant District Attorney

Cc: Auditor-Controller
County Counsel
County Administrative Office (2)

Attachments: 1) Grant Award Face Sheet
2) Certification of Assurance of Compliance - VOCA
3) AUD 308

**BEFORE THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF TULARE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

IN THE MATTER OF APPROVE AN)
AGREEMENT WITH THE CALIFORNIA) Resolution No. _____
GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMEREGECNY) Agreement No. _____
SERVICES.)

UPON MOTION OF SUPERVISOR _____, SECONDED BY
SUPERVISOR _____, THE FOLLOWING WAS ADOPTED BY THE
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, AT AN OFFICIAL MEETING HELD _____
_____, BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

ATTEST: JEAN M. ROUSSEAU
COUNTY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER/
CLERK, BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

BY: _____
Deputy Clerk

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