

#### **COUNTY OF SAN MATEO**

Inter-Departmental Correspondence
District Attorney



**Date:** March 8, 2013

Board Meeting Date: April 9, 2013

Special Notice / Hearing: None Vote Required: 4/5ths

**To:** Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Stephen M. Wagstaffe, District Attorney

**Subject:** Appropriation Transfer Request to fund insurance fraud cases

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt a Resolution authorizing an Appropriation Transfer Request in the amount of \$85,154, recognizing and appropriating unanticipated revenues from the Worker's Compensation Insurance Fraud (\$63,280), Auto Insurance Fraud (\$15,185) and Consumer Protection Program (\$6,689) trust funds for the investigation and prosecution of insurance fraud cases.

## **BACKGROUND**:

Since 1994, the District Attorney's Office Automobile Insurance Fraud Program and Workers' Compensation Insurance Fraud Program have been funded by grant monies applied for and received from the State of California as administered through the California Department of Insurance. The same has been true of the Life and Annuity Consumer Protection Program, which has been funded since 2011. The Fraud Unit is composed of two full-time and two part-time District Attorney Inspectors, one full-time Deputy District Attorney and one half-time Paralegal. They investigate and prosecute workers' compensation, automobile and life insurance fraud perpetrated in the County of San Mateo.

#### **DISCUSSION:**

In Fiscal Year 2011-2012, the Fraud Unit of the District Attorney's Office experienced savings in the Worker's Compensation, Automobile Insurance and Life and Annuity Consumer Protection fraud programs in the amounts of \$63,280, \$15,185 and \$6,689 respectively. The California Department of Insurance approved the carry-over of this money to FY 2012-2013 to help cover salaries, benefits, operating expenses and the purchase of equipment. Therefore, the aforementioned funds were transferred to the Workers' Compensation, Automobile Insurance and Life and Annuity Consumer Protection Programs' Trust Funds respectively at the end of FY2011-2012. The District Attorney's Office is seeking an Appropriation Transfer Request (ATR) to properly fund

these programs and be able to effectively investigate and prosecute insurance fraud cases perpetrated in San Mateo County.

Approval of the ATR contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Safe Community by prosecuting perpetrators of fraud and making them accountable for restitution to the victims of insurance fraud.

# **FISCAL IMPACT:**

The Appropriation Transfer Request will transfer one-time funds in the amount of \$63,280 from the Workers Compensation Insurance Fraud Program, \$15,185 from the Automobile Insurance Fraud Program, and \$6,689 from the Life and Annuity Consumer Protection Program's state aid to the Workers' Compensation Insurance Fraud Program's (25131) salaries and benefits, services and supplies, other charges, and fixed assets; Automobile Insurance Fraud Program's (25132) salaries and benefits and fixed assets; and Life and Annuity Consumer Protection Program's (25133) salaries and benefits for the investigation and prosecution of insurance fraud cases by the District Attorney's Office. There is no additional Net County Cost associated with this request.