

COUNTY OF SAN MATEO Inter-Departmental Correspondence District Attorney



Date: September 8, 2014 Board Meeting Date: October 21, 2014 Special Notice / Hearing: None Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Stephen M. Wagstaffe

**Subject:** Grant Award Agreements with the State of California, Department of Insurance for the Life and Annuity Consumer Protection Program

## **RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt a Resolution:

- A) Ratifying the District Attorney's grant application and executed agreement with the California Department of Insurance for the Life and Annuity Consumer Protection Program Grant for the term of July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015; and
- B) Authorizing the District Attorney to submit annual grant applications and execute similar agreements with the California Department of Insurance for the Life and Annuity Protection Program for FY2015-2016 and FY2016-2017.

## BACKGROUND:

The County has received funding for the Life and Annuity Consumer Protection Program (LACPP) since 2011 from the California Department of Insurance (DOI). DOI requires the County Board of Supervisors to approve the application and executed agreement for grant funds for the Life and Annuity Consumer Protection Program. The District Attorney has already submitted an application and executed an agreement for the grant funds for the period of July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2017. The District Attorney seeks Board ratification of the FY2014-2015 application and grant agreement. Because the DOI requires a new application and executed agreement each year, for the sake of efficiency, the District Attorney seeks Board approval to submit a grant application and execute a grant award agreement for FY2015-2016 and FY2016-2017.

## DISCUSSION:

The LACPP was established through AB2316 and went into effect in January 2005 as California Insurance Code Section 10127.17. The LACPP establishes a fund to be used exclusively for protecting consumers of life insurance and annuity products in the State of California, by both the California Department of Insurance and local district attorneys.

Under the direction of the Insurance Commissioner, the DOI administers the LACPP and the distribution of funds to district attorneys for the investigation and prosecution of life insurance and annuity financial abuse by insurance licensees or persons holding themselves out to be insurance licensees, and for other projects beneficial to insurance consumers, such as community outreach. Life and annuity fraud is often perpetrated against senior citizens and, as such, there will be an emphasis on outreach to this segment of our population.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the Resolution as to form.

Approval of the Resolution contributes to the Shared Vision of 2025 of a Healthy Community by protecting our citizens, especially our seniors, from predatory insurance licensees and those purporting to be licensees.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

The funding requested from DOI for fiscal year 2014-15 is \$47,700. The funds have been included in the District Attorney's Office FY2014-15 Recommended Budget. Funds will be included in future budgets. There is no Net County Cost associated with accepting this grant funding.