



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
District Attorney



Date: May 30, 2012

Board Meeting Date: June 19, 2012

Special Notice / Hearing: None

Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors
From: Stephen M. Wagstaffe, District Attorney
Subject: Request for Relief of Accountability of Delinquent Accounts

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution authorizing discharge from accountability for collection of civil penalties in the amount of \$62,803.27, relating to consumer fraud judgments.

BACKGROUND:

The District Attorney's Consumer Environmental Unit is responsible for the prosecution of consumer and environmental protection cases and the related collection of fines and judgments ordered by the Court.

The Government Code provides that the County can seek relief from collection efforts for uncollectible accounts by writing off uncollectible debts after collection efforts are unsuccessful. County Administrative Memorandum Number D-10 provides that such accounts be taken to the Board of Supervisors to request relief. Per County policy, we are now submitting our write-off request for fiscal year 2011-12. Attachment A provides a list of the uncollectible accounts and is attached to this memo.

DISCUSSION:

Accounts presented for abandonment for FY 2011-12 fall into two categories, as follows:

- Accounts too small to warrant further collection efforts. Examples include: initial account balances that are too small; and remaining balances on accounts that are too small. The uncollectible fund in these accounts for fiscal year 2011-12 is \$276.00
- Accounts for which the client has no resources to pay. Examples include: the entity is no longer in business or has declared bankruptcy. The uncollectible funds in accounts under \$10,000 total \$19,894.33. The uncollectible funds in accounts over \$10,000 total \$ 42,632.94

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

Approval of the Resolution contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Safe Neighborhoods by allowing the District Attorney's Office to focus its resources and efforts on the investigation and prosecution of crimes.

FISCAL IMPACT:

By virtue of the age and condition of the accounts, there is little or no chance of recovery of the write-offs. The accounts are not included in the amount provided to the Controller as collectible and thus will not affect the County's Financial Statement.