



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
District Attorney



Date: June 8, 2016
Board Meeting Date: July 12, 2016
Special Notice / Hearing: None
Vote Required: Majority

To: Honorable Board of Supervisors

From: Stephen M. Wagstaffe, District Attorney

Subject: Agreement with Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt a Resolution ratifying submission by the District Attorney of a grant application to the Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board for FY 2016-17 through FY 2018-19 for the purpose of funding a Restitution Specialist position.

BACKGROUND:

Beginning in 1997, the State Board of Control, now known as the Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board (VCGCB), agreed to fund a Restitution Specialist position in the San Mateo County District Attorney's Office in order to aid victim restitution and services. The role of the Restitution Specialist is to assist the prosecuting attorney to secure restitution orders in all cases involving a victim who filed a claim with the Board for specific crime-related expenses, as well as assuring the imposition of restitution fines on all convicted offenders. The Board approved an amendment to the Salary Ordinance in December of 1997 and an appropriation transfer request in January 1998 to initiate the program in San Mateo County. Since 1997, the Board has renewed this application every year.

DISCUSSION:

Pursuant to the County's application for funds, the Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board has agreed to pay the County \$78,597 for FY 2016-17. Funding for FY 2017-18 through FY 2018-19 shall be determined annually thereafter. The program supports one Restitution Specialist (paralegal by county classification) who is responsible for coordinating restitution efforts in the District Attorney's Office. This includes notifying Deputy District Attorneys of cases in which restitution needs to be ordered to the VCGCB, tracking the disposition of cases until such restitution has been ordered, and reporting case status to the VCGCB. Approval of the subject resolution will ratify the District Attorney's endorsement of the contract with the Victim Compensation and Government Claims Board for continuance of this program effort.

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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 Community by assisting victims of violent crimes in obtaining restitution.

FISCAL IMPACT:

For FY 2016-17 the total cost of the Restitution Program is \$138,309. The VCGCB contract will fund \$78,597 or 57% and \$59,712 or 43% will be covered by General Fund.