



# COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

For the meeting of: 10/5/2021

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File #: 21-1399

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**To:** Board of Supervisors

**From:** Sheriff

**Agenda Section:** Consent

**SUBJECT:**

Agreement for Aerial Reconnaissance Services with A&P Helicopters, Inc.

**RECOMMENDATION(S):**

That the Board of Supervisors:

1. Approve the Professional Services Agreement between A&P Helicopters, Inc. and the County of Humboldt (Attachment 1) to provide flight services for fiscal years 2021-22 through 2023-24; and
2. Authorize the Chair of the Board and the Sheriff to sign the agreement and all amendments, extensions, or revisions for the term of the agreement, including those with mutually agreed upon annual rate increases.

**SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

Drug Enforcement Administration Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program

**DISCUSSION:**

The Humboldt County Sheriff's Office is responsible for illegal cannabis eradication within the unincorporated areas of the county. Often these efforts take place in extremely rural areas that cannot be reached by road due to fortifications or the natural environment. In order to adequately enforce cannabis laws in these places, aerial reconnaissance is required.

There are no other known providers in this area without an operational fatality in the past five years. Nor are there other providers operating in our area that can perform short hauls of certified employees, or equipment. A&P Helicopters, Inc. has worked reliably with the county for years and has a proven record of safety standards.

**FINANCIAL IMPACT:**

The compensation to A&P Helicopters, Inc. for their services varies based on the service provided. Contractor will submit updated rates annually to Marijuana Eradication Team (MET) Leadership for consideration by Nov. 1 of each year for the following calendar year. Updated rates shall be agreed to by both parties by way of amendment to the agreement. Should the parties not mutually agree on

updated rates, then the contract shall be terminated.

Compensation for contracted services for calendar year 2021 are as follows:

- \$1,250 per flight hour for Marijuana reconnaissance
- \$1,350 per flight hour for Short Haul/Stabo
- \$650 per day for fuel truck if necessary / requested
- \$220 per person overnight if requested

Funding for these services in fiscal year 2021-2022 is budgeted in the amount of \$150,000 through the Domestic Cannabis Eradication/Suppression Program (DCESP) budget 1100-221930. The Department of Justice's Drug Enforcement Administration awards this grant funding to the department annually, on a federal fiscal year cycle. This program requires no matching county funds and fully covers the cost of this contract. Even if these services are used with another program, there will be no additional impact to the General Fund as it will be included in the department's budget. For the duration of this contract funding for these services will have no impact to the General Fund.

STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK:

This action supports your Board's Strategic Framework by facilitating public/private partnerships to solve problems.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None.

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Board could choose not to approve this contract, but that is not advised as this is almost entirely funded by grant revenue and there are currently no other providers that will do this work.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1: Professional Services Agreement between A&P Helicopters, Inc. and the County of Humboldt

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL:

Board Order No.: N/A

Meeting of: N/A

File No.: N/A