



COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT

AGENDA ITEM NO.

C-20

For the meeting of: May 5, 2015

Date: April 8, 2015
To: Board of Supervisors
From: Michael T. Downey, Sheriff
Subject: Supplemental Budget Request for Upgrade to Computer Voice Stress Analyzer (4/5 vote required)

RECOMMENDATION(S):

That the Board of Supervisors:

Approve a supplemental budget in Budget Unit 221 Sheriff's Operations allow for replacement of the Computer Voice Stress Analyzer (4/5 vote required).

Table with 4 columns: Revenue, Code, Program Name, Amount. Rows include SAFE Program (\$13,500) and Fixed Assets - Computers (\$13,500).

SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Sexual Assault Felony Enforcement (SAFE) Grant

Prepared by Norma S. Lorenzo, Deputy Director Sheriff Admin

CAO Approval Cheryl D. Mynster

REVIEW: Auditor NA County Counsel Human Resources Other

TYPE OF ITEM: X Consent Departmental Public Hearing Other

PREVIOUS ACTION/REFERRAL: Board Order No. Meeting of:

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF HUMBOLDT
Upon motion of Supervisor Lovelace
Seconded by Supervisor Bass
Ayes Sundberg, Lovelace, Fennell, Bohn, Bass
Nays
Abstain
Absent
And carried by those members present, the Board hereby approves the recommended action contained in this report.

Dated: May 5, 2015
By: Kathy Hayes, Clerk of the Board

DISCUSSION:

Humboldt County utilizes a Computer Voice Stress Analyzer (CVSA®) as an effective tool in all investigative situations such as homicide, sex crimes, robbery, white collar crimes, and internal affairs investigations, as well as pre-employment examinations for background investigators. The system has also proven itself a very reliable tool for verifying statements of witnesses, denials of suspects, and for determining the validity of allegations made against police officers.

The CVSA records, quantifies and analyzes frequency changes in the human voice. During the CVSA examination process, the instrument identifies vocal stress related to specific issues under investigation. It has been established that consequence-based stress can be detected in the human voice using the CVSA, which can be directly correlated to truth and deception. The CVSA has a remarkably low error rate (less than ½%), has no inconclusive results, and far surpasses the validity and reliability of the old polygraph.

A state-of-the-art computer processes these voice frequencies and graphically displays a picture of the voice patterns. The CVSA® is not restricted to "yes" and "no" answers and is able to analyze accurately, tape recordings of unstructured conversations.

Introduced into the law enforcement community in 1988, the original analog CVSA® became an instant success at every agency that purchased it, solving crimes that, in some cases, had languished for years (cold cases). In other cases, individuals that were either untestable or had been called "inconclusive" on the old polygraph agreed to take a CVSA® exam and subsequently confessed to their crimes. With such results, it wasn't long before word-of-mouth spread the CVSA®'s reputation like wild-fire in the law enforcement community. Today's CVSA® has been digitized and incorporated into a powerful multi-functional notebook computer. The latest version of the CVSA® enjoys the reputation of being the most effective investigative tool to be introduced into the law enforcement community within the past three decades.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

A supplemental budget in the amount of \$13,500 is requested to allow for the purchase of a new CVSA® computer. CVSA® computers and training are available only through NITV Federal Services, as evidenced in the sole-source documentation attached (Attachment 1). Purchase of the computer includes training for two CVSA users at the California Highway Patrol training site in Sacramento, as well as, the end-user software licensing agreement.

The Sexual Assault Felony Enforcement (SAFE) program is a multi-jurisdictional, collaborative effort focused on PC290 (registered sex offender) sweeps, monitoring and surveillance with the primary focus on reducing non-compliance rates. SAFE funding is generally allocated for overtime and equipment to support Deputies assigned to SAFE activities. In fiscal year 2014-15 the Sheriff's Office budgeted \$15,000 to be spent on this year's program, however, the department has been notified of unspent funds from a prior year that were not taken into account during budget preparation. All costs have been pre-approved and are reimbursable by the SAFE Grant.

This purchase meets the Board of Supervisors Strategic Framework Plan goal of providing community-appropriate levels of service by seeking outside funding sources to benefit Humboldt County needs.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

None

ALTERNATIVES TO STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Board could deny the request to approve the supplemental budget, however, this is not recommended as grant funding to purchase the new CVSA may not be available in the future.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment 1 NITV Federal Services LLC Sole Source Vendor

ATTACHMENT 1

NITV Federal Services LLC Sole Source Vendor
for Computer Voice Stress Analyzer



FEDERAL SERVICES

January 1, 2015

Dear Customer,

Please be advised that the National Institute for Truth Verification Federal Service (NFS) is the **sole source** for the Computer Voice Stress Analyzer® II (CVSA®II) and its training programs.

The NFS is the exclusive manufacturer/distributor of both the CVSA®/CVSA®II and has no other US distributors. The CVSA®II incorporates two US Patents: US Patent Number 7,321,855 "*Method for Quantifying Psychological Stress Levels Using Voice Pattern Samples,*" and US Patent Number 7,571,101 "*Quantifying Psychological Stress Levels Using Voice Patterns.*" NFS is the only US Voice Stress Analysis (VSA) manufacturer holding patents for its VSA technologies. The FACT® Scoring System is only offered by the NFS, and can precisely classify and quantify stress in the human voice and evaluate CVSA examination charts as Deceptive or Non-Deceptive with an accuracy level greater than 98% (false positive rates are less than 0.3%). Additionally, the CVSA is an approved GSA item for use by all US Federal Agencies, has been approved by the US Federal Court System, and is used by approximately 2,000 US and International Law Enforcement Agencies as well as elements of the US Military and other US Federal Agencies.

For more information please visit our company website at www.cvsai.com ..

Sincerely,

James A. Kane
Executive Director