



# WASHOE COUNTY

Integrity Communication Service  
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## STAFF REPORT

**BOARD MEETING DATE:** November 28, 2017

CM/ACM \_\_\_\_\_  
Finance \_\_\_\_\_  
DA \_\_\_\_\_  
Risk Mgt \_\_\_\_\_  
HR \_\_\_\_\_  
Other \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** Wednesday, November 8, 2017

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Victoria Jakubowski, Fiscal Compliance Officer, District Attorney's Office,  
325-6710 vjakubowski@da.washoecounty.us

**THROUGH:** Christopher J. Hicks, District Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Approve to accept an additional Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) grant to the District Attorney's Office in the amount of \$50,000 (\$12,500 required match), from the State Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) to provide victim services through the Victim Witness Assistance Center; retroactive from September 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. Direct the Comptroller to make the necessary budget amendments. (All commission districts)

### SUMMARY

The District Attorney's Office received an additional a grant through the State of Nevada – Victims of Crime Act (VOCA). This grant is called “Victims’ of Crime Act sub-grant” and will provide \$50,000 for fiscal year 2017-2018. The purpose of the grant is to provide victim services through the Washoe County District Attorney’s Office Victim Witness Assistance Center. The funding would provide our office with the ability to provide short term emergency housing and emergency supplies (such as clothing, toiletries, and household goods) to these victims until their relocation funds are approved by Victims of Crime or they are able to find a safe place to reside on their own or with family.

This grant is retroactive. Notice of sub-grant award was delayed coming from the grantor and this meeting date was the first available.

County Strategic Objective supported by this item: Safe, secure and healthy communities

### PREVIOUS ACTION

On September 26, 2017 the commission accepted a Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) grant to the District Attorney’s Office in the amount of \$50,000 (\$12,500 required match), from the State Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) to provide counseling services at the Washoe County Child Advocacy Center and supplies related to the program; retroactive from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018.

The Board has accepted VOCA grants on behalf of the District Attorney’s Office since 2003.

**AGENDA ITEM #** \_\_\_\_\_

## **BACKGROUND**

The District Attorney's Office maintains a Victim-Witness Assistance Center (VWAC), which focuses on victim services for those in Washoe County. This center serves over 40,000 victims and witnesses annually with subpoenas, travel arrangements, scheduling of pre-trial appearances, and other victim services. The five victim advocates of the District Attorney's Office work diligently to ensure that our victims are educated about the process of the criminal justice system to include accompanying them to court appearances, providing referrals to various support and community organizations, assist victims in obtaining counseling, medical and dental care, protective services, psychiatric services, child care, food, clothing and related services. Our advocates also help our traumatized victims with assistance in preparing victim impact statements and collaborate with other professional and community service providers to meet victim's needs. Our advocates also maintain communication and continue to support victims through times of appeals, parole hearings, or post-conviction hearings.

Over the last two years, our office has become increasingly aware of a gap in short term housing and emergency supplies in crimes of domestic violence, sexual assault, child abuse, and underserved victims of violent crimes. Many of these victims (and their families) have become displaced from their homes due to reasons surrounding the crime. Our office works diligently to help the victims complete Victims of Crime applications; however, there is typically an immediate need for short term housing and emergency supplies, such as toiletries, a change of clothes, transportation, and food.

## **GRANT AWARD SUMMARY**

**Project/Program Name:** Victim-Witness Assistance Center

**Scope of the Project:** Emergency victim services

**Benefit to Washoe County Residents:** Enhance victim services in Washoe County with a focus on the victims of domestic violence, abuse, and sexual assault.

**On-Going Program Support:** Continue to seek General Fund, grants and donations

**Award Amount:** \$50,000.00

**Grant Period:** September 1, 2017 to June 30, 2018

**Funding Source:** US Dept. of Justice – Office of Justice Programs

**Pass Through Entity:** Nevada State Division of Child and Family Services

**CFDA Number:** 16.575

**Grant ID Number:** 2016-VA-GX-0076 / 16575-16-063

**Match Amount and Type:** \$12,500 - General Fund (CC 106100)

**Sub-Awards and Contracts:** No sub-awards  
Procurements will be processed in accordance with 2 CFR  
Part 200

**FISCAL IMPACT**

Should the board accept this grant award and approve these amendments, the adopted budget will be increased by \$50,000 in both revenues and expenditures in the following accounts:

<b>Cost Object</b>	<b>G/L Account</b>	<b>Amount</b>
IO 10594	431100	\$50,000.00
IO 10594	710300	\$50,000.00

The required match of \$12,500 will be met through General Fund expenditures in Cost Center 106100 in the form of a portion of the salary and benefits paid to the Coordinator DA Domestic Violence Early Intervention Team (DA Investigator JJ Stallings).

Grant funds shall be reported to grantor monthly and drawn as a reimbursement.

Grantor does not allow for indirect cost recovery.

**RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners accept an additional Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) grant to the District Attorney's Office in the amount of \$50,000 (\$12,500 required match), from the State Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) to provide victim services through the Victim Witness Assistance Center; retroactive from September 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. Direct the Comptroller to make the necessary budget amendments.

**POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to accept an additional Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) grant to the District Attorney's Office in the amount of \$50,000 (\$12,500 required match), from the State Division of Child and Family Services (DCFS) to provide victim services through the Victim Witness Assistance Center; retroactive from September 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018. Direct the Comptroller to make the necessary budget amendments."