



WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: July 20, 2021

DATE: Thursday, July 15, 2021

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Phil Jones, Captain, Investigations
(775) 321-4912; pjones@washoecounty.us

THROUGH: Darin Balaam, Sheriff

SUBJECT: Recommendation to authorize the purchase of gift cards for emergency victim services such as food, clothing and toiletries for a grand total not to exceed \$65,950 of the total \$397,309 previously accepted grant funds as authorized in the FY 2020 Law Enforcement-Based Victim Specialist Program Purpose Area 2: Mid-sized Agencies award from the Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime grant. (All Commission Districts.)

SUMMARY

This grant from the Department of Justice, Office of Victims of Crime to support a Victim Witness Advocate was previously accepted by the Board. Funds will be used to fund 1 FTE Victim Witness Advocate, operating expenses, conference attendance and travel as well as victim services expenses for 3 years. The Sheriff's Office often times provides emergency victim services for food and clothing and toiletries in the form of gift cards, such as Walmart, Raley's, or Target gift cards and gas cards from gas stations such as Maverick. These will be utilized and tracked by the Victim Advocate.

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

PREVIOUS ACTION

On December 15, 2020, the Board of County Commissioners approved Item #14, grant funding of \$397,309.00 from the Office for Victims of Crime grant.

BACKGROUND

Grant funds are to be utilized by Washoe County Sheriff's Office to support one additional FTE Victim Witness Advocate to enhance and increase the capability of the Domestic Violence Unit, training, and supplies for victims.

This grant was previously accepted by the Board. Nothing about how the funds will be used has changed. The Sheriff's Office simply requests that for emergency victim

services such as meals, clothing and gas, gift cards are able to be utilized and will be tracked by Victim Advocate.

FISCAL IMPACT

No fiscal impact. Funds are budgeted within grant internal order 11781-711212 and 11781-710500.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners authorize the purchase of gift cards for emergency victim services such as food, clothing and toiletries for a grand total not to exceed \$65,950 of the total \$397,309 previously accepted grant funds as authorized in the FY 2020 Law Enforcement-Based Victim Specialist Program Purpose Area 2: Mid-sized Agencies award from the Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime grant.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "Move to authorize the purchase of gift cards for emergency victim services such as food, clothing and toiletries for a grand total not to exceed \$65,950 of the total \$397,309 previously accepted grant funds as authorized in the FY 2020 Law Enforcement-Based Victim Specialist Program Purpose Area 2: Mid-sized Agencies award from the Department of Justice, Office for Victims of Crime grant."