WASHOE COUNTY

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STAFF REPORT
BOARD MEETING DATE: May 13, 2054

DATE: April 4, 2025

TO: Board of County Commissioners

FROM: Victoria Jakubowski, Fiscal Compliance Officer, District Attorney
775-325-6710, vjakubowski@da.washoecounty.gov

THROUGH: Christopher Hicks

SUBJECT: Recommendation to accept a renewed Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant to the District Attorney's Office in the amount of [$200,417.65; $66,805.88 in-kind match], from the State of Nevada Attorney General's Office to provide funding for a Deputy District Attorney III retroactive from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 And, if approved, direct Finance to reimburse the General Fund through a cross-fund transfer of [$129,922.50] for personnel expenditures incurred in FY24, to make necessary budget amendments and retroactively authorize the District Attorney or his designees to sign the grant agreement. (All commission districts)

SUMMARY

The District Attorney's Office has received funding from the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant to the District Attorney's Office from the State of Nevada Attorney General's Office. This continued funding will pay for a Deputy District Attorney who specializes sexual assault and human trafficking cases.

The Washoe Board of County Commissioners must accept grant awards, and must approve amendments to the adopted fiscal year budget and direct the Comptroller's Office to make the necessary budget amendments.

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

PREVIOUS ACTION

On March 26, 2024, the Board accepted a renewed Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant to the District Attorney's Office in the amount of [$95,206; $34,219 required match], from the State of Nevada Attorney General's Office to provide funding for a Deputy District Attorney III retroactive from July 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

On June 23, 2023, the Board accepted a renewed Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant to the District Attorney's Office in the amount of [$217,864; $74,930 required

AGENDA ITEM # _____

match], from the State of Nevada Attorney General's Office to provide funding for a Deputy District Attorney III retroactive from July 1, 2022 through June 30, 2023.

The Board has accepted VAWA funding for this positon since 2020.

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BACKGROUND

Prosecution of human trafficking and sexual assault cases require specialized knowledge, abilities, and relationship skills. It is impractical for all Deputy District Attorneys with full caseloads to devote the necessary time and attention required for these specialized types of cases. The prosecutor needs to have strong relationships with law enforcement, experts, and the victims. This prosecutor will provide pre-arrest legal advice, screen cases, litigate and present cases to juries in Human Trafficking and other sex-crime cases.

This grant is continued funding for Deputy District Attorney III position #70000121.

Award is retroactive to January 1, 2024 – the grantor did not return the completed award documents until late in the fiscal year. Staffing issues also led to the delayed BCC submission.

GRANT AWARD SUMMARY

Project/Program Name: Humand Trafficking and Sexual Assault Prosecutor

Scope of the Project: Deputy District Attorney dedicated to human trafficking, sexual assault, and sexual abuse cases

Benefit to Washoe County Residents: Prosecution of sexual assault, human trafficking and related cases.

On-Going Program Support: Seek General Funds or grants

Award Amount: $200,417.65

Grant Period: January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024

Funding Source: U.S. Department of Justice; Office on Violence Against Women

Pass Through Entity: Nevada Office of the Attorney General

Assistance Listing #/CFDA: 16.588

Grant ID Number: 2024-VAWA-39

Match Amount and Type: $66,805.88 in-kind

Sub-Awards and Contracts: *n/a*

FISCAL IMPACT

Should the board accept this grant award and approve these amendments, the FY25 District Attorney's Office adopted budget will be increased by $188,164.80 in both revenues and expenditures in the following accounts:

A cross-fund transfer of [$129,922.50] will also need to be processed to reimburse the General Fund for expenses incurred in FY24

Budget Amendment:

Fund/Function	Cost Object & Description	G/L Account & Description	Amount
Other Restricted Fund (270)/ Judicial	IO-12517 VAWA CY24	431100-Federal Grants	$ 188,164.8

Other Restricted Fund (270)/ Judicial	IO-12517 VAWA CY24	701412-Salary Adjustment	$39,602.54
Other Restricted Fund (270)/ Judicial	IO-12517 VAWA CY24	705360-Benefit Adjustment	18,639.76
Other Restricted Fund (270)/ Judicial	IO-12517 VAWA CY24	811001-Transfer to General	129,922.50
General Fund (100)/Judical	CC-106100 Criminal Division	622270-TF Other Restricted	129,922.50

Cross-Fund Transfer:

Other Restricted Fund (270)/ Judicial	IO-12517 VAWA CY24	811001-Transfer to General	129,922.50
General Fund (100)/Judical	CC-106100 Criminal Division	622270-TF Other Restricted	129,922.50

Match is required in the amount of $66.805.88 using Cost Center 106100 personnel (Deputy District Attorney who performs a similar function).

Indirect costs are included in the grant budget [$12,252.85]. No amendment is necessary for the indirect revenue.

As this award funds personnel, if grant funding is reduced or eliminated, the position hours will be reduced and/or the positions abolished accordingly, unless additional funding is secured.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners accept a renewed Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant to the District Attorney's Office in the amount of [$200,417.65; $66,805.88 in-kind match], from the State of Nevada Attorney General's Office to provide funding for a Deputy District Attorney III retroactive from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 And, if approved, direct Finance to reimburse the General Fund through a cross-fund transfer of [$129,922.50] for personnel expenditures incurred in FY24, to make necessary budget amendments and retroactively authorize the District Attorney or his designees to sign the grant agreement.

POSSIBLE MOTION

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be: "move to accept a renewed Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) grant to the District Attorney's Office in the amount of [$200,417.65; $66,805.88 in-kind match], from the State of Nevada Attorney General's Office to provide funding for a Deputy District Attorney III retroactive from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2024 And, if approved, direct Finance to reimburse the General Fund through a cross-fund transfer of [$129,922.50] for personnel expenditures incurred in FY24, to make necessary budget amendments and retroactively authorize the District Attorney or his designees to sign the grant agreement."