



Request for City Council Committee Action from the City Attorney's Office

Date: February 20, 2013

To: Honorable Betsy Hodges, Chair, Ways and Means/Budget Committee

Subject: Authorization to Accept a VAWA STOP Grant Award to address Violence Against Women and to enter into Grant Agreement with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Office of Justice Programs

Recommendation: That the Minneapolis City Attorney's Office be authorized to accept a grant in the amount of \$123,726.00 from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Office of Justice Programs and that the proper City officials be authorized to execute a grant agreement with the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Office of Justice Programs for \$123,726.00.

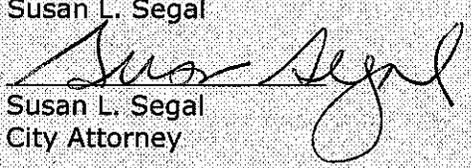
Previous Directives: None

Department Information

Prepared by: Susan L. Segal

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Approved by:


Susan L. Segal
City Attorney

Presenters in Committee: Susan L. Segal, City Attorney

Financial Impact

- Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase to the CAO Operating Budget (01300-1400100), in the amount of \$123,726.00 for the period January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2014.

Community Impact

- Supports Public Safety

Supporting Information

The City of Minneapolis has been awarded a grant from the State of Minnesota Office of Justice Programs to support the work of the Minneapolis Police Department, The City Attorney's Office and our domestic advocacy partners. Specifically, the grant will allow funding for the following initiatives:

- Develop an **"on-call" domestic violence response team** – With State VAWA grant funding, we will implement an "on-call" domestic violence response team: domestic

violence investigators in the MPD will vary their schedules to include non-traditional hours – evenings and weekends – paired with an advocate from DAP, Casa de Esperanza or Asian Women United. This will allow a more immediate response by the investigators and advocates to crimes when they happen, not the next day or following Monday. This should improve victim safety with quicker safety planning, improve cooperation of victims and improve investigation outcomes and prosecution results.

- **No Contact Order Compliance and Welfare Checks:** The VAWA grant funding will allow us to continue the pilot program of having officers, paired with advocates, perform “knock and talks” to check on victim well-being and compliance by offenders with domestic abuse no contact orders. This initiative has been beneficial for victim safety and has improved victim cooperation with prosecutions.

The term of the grant and grant agreement is for two years. \$87,931.00 is available from January 1, 2013 through June 30, 2014 and \$35,795.00 is available from July 1, 2013 through December 31, 2014.