



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

Date: November 17, 2006
To: Public Safety & Regulatory Services Committee
Referral to: Ways & Means/Budget Committee
Subject: Mutual Aid Agreement – City Attorney's Office

Recommendation: That the City Council authorize the City Attorney to enter into "Mutual Assistance Agreement" with the St. Paul City Attorney's Office.

Previous Directives: None

Prepared by: Jay M. Heffern, City Attorney Phone: 673-3272

Approved by: _____
Jay M. Heffern
City Attorney

Presented by: Jay M. Heffern

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

- No financial impact (If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information).
 Action requires an appropriation increase to the _____ Capital Budget or _____ Operating Budget.
 Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase.
 Action requires use of contingency or reserves.
 Business Plan: _____ Action is within the plan. _____ Action requires a change to plan.
 Other financial impact (Explain):
 Request provided to department's finance contact when provided to the Committee Coordinator.

Community Impact

Neighborhood Notification
City Goal(s):
Comprehensive Plan
Zoning Code
Other

Background/Supporting Information

The City of Minneapolis' Emergency Plan, Annex M, provides in part: "The Minneapolis City Attorney shall enter into a 'Mutual Assistance Agreement' with the St. Paul City Attorney's Office so that adequate legal resources are available to the City in the event of a disaster." The mutual aid agreement between the Minneapolis and St. Paul City Attorney's Offices will be modeled on similar mutual aid agreements previously entered into by the City for police and fire assistance. Such an agreement is authorized by Minn. Stat. § 471.59.

The purpose of a mutual assistance agreement is to augment available legal resources in the event of a disaster. The agreement would outline a procedure for requesting assistance and responding to such requests. The City Council and the City Attorney would retain the authority to recall such assistance when it is in the best interest of the City to do so.