

Request for City Council Committee Action from the Department of Police

Date: April 19, 2007
To: Public Safety and Regulatory Committee
Referral to: Ways and Means Committee

Subject: MPD Internal Affairs Audit

Recommendation: Accept proposal from Everett Law Firm to conduct outside audit of the MPD Internal Affairs Unit per the recommendations of the Civilian Review Authority Work group and Minneapolis City Council.

Prepared by: Deputy Chief Scott Gerlicher Approved by: Chief Timothy Dolan Presenters in Committee: Deputy Chief Scott Gerlicher
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Reviews

- Permanent Review Committee (PRC): Approval ___ Date _____
- Policy Review Group (PRG): Approval ___ Date _____

Financial Impact

- Action is within the Business Plan
- To be funded from 2007 MPD operating budget

Community Impact

- Civilian Review Work Group recommendations

Supporting Information:

In February of 2006 a Civilian Review Authority (CRA) work group was established by City Council. The workgroup issued several recommendations in a written report submitted to City Council. Among these recommendations was that a review of the MPD Internal Affairs Unit be conducted by an outside independent auditor and that the requests for proposals for the auditor, the respondents to the RFP, and interim and final reports by the auditor be reviewed by the Public Safety and Regulatory Services Committee.

The City adopted this recommendation on May 12th, 2006.

Deputy Chief Scott Gerlicher has been in contact with Council Member Don Samuels, Chair of the Public Safety and Regulatory Services Committee regarding the audit and suggested criteria. Based upon input received the MPD has contacted three outside organizations that are willing to conduct such an audit.

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Each organization contacted is well known and respected locally and nationally and has extensive knowledge of law enforcement, police operations, and specifically internal affairs operations.

The three organizations contacted are: The International Association of Chief's of Police (IACP), the Police Executive Research Forum (PERF), and the Everett Law Firm. The IACP and PERF are national organizations while the Everett Law firm is a local firm which has extensive experience in conducting similar audits and evaluations. William Everett, an attorney, has previous experience working with the City of Minneapolis and has represented the city during discharge proceedings and grievances. He has also worked with the MN Post board which licenses police officers in the State of Minnesota, has previous command experience with the Minnesota DNR Office of Professional Standards and has a full understanding of Minnesota statutes relating to police misconduct investigations and Internal Affairs. Mr. Everett also has experience in training law enforcement organizations on internal investigations and use of force.

Although each organization would be capable of doing an audit of this type, the MPD feels that the Everett Law firm is best suited for this project. We feel that Mr. Everett's knowledge and experience with the City of Minneapolis, knowledge of internal affairs processes and extensive knowledge of Minnesota data practices laws, and overall professional experience would give him and advantage over the other two organizations.

Total cost for this audit is expected to be under \$50,000 and therefore does not require a bidding process per city policy. The MPD requests permission from City Council to enter into an agreement with the Everett Law Firm to conduct the audit and meet the recommendations of the CRA workgroup and City Council.

Funding for the audit would come from the 2007 MPD operating budget.