



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

Date: May 06, 2004
To: Ways & Means/Budget Committee
Referral to: None

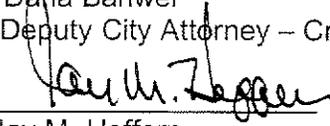
Subject: Community Prosecution

Recommendation: That the City Council accept a grant in the amount of \$150,000 from the United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance, for community prosecution; that the City Council authorize the proper City officials to execute the necessary grant documents; and that the City Council authorize the establishment of one grant-funded FTE Assistant City Attorney I position, and one grant-funded .5 FTE Paralegal position in the City Attorney's Office; and increase the City Attorney's appropriation by \$150,000.

Previous Directives: None

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Approved by: 
Jay M. Heffern
City Attorney

Presenter in Committee: Jay M. Heffern, City Attorney

Financial Impact (Check those that apply)

- No financial impact - or - Action is within current department budget.
(If checked, go directly to Background/Supporting Information)
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Capital Budget
- Action requires an appropriation increase to the Operating Budget
- Action provides increased revenue for appropriation increase
- Action requires use of contingency or reserves
- Other financial impact (Explain):
- Request provided to the Budget Office when provided to the Committee Coordinator

Community Impact:

City Goals: Build Community – Increase safety and confidence in the City of Minneapolis through effective and efficient law enforcement and prosecution and criminal justice system reform.

Build community – Strengthen the participation of all citizens, including children, in the economic and civic life of the community.

Background/Supporting Information

The United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance has awarded the City a \$150,000 grant to continue its strategies for community prosecution. The City was previously awarded a \$75,000 grant to develop community prosecution strategies. This grant continues the planning grant, and ends on November 30, 2005.

Under this grant, the Minneapolis City Attorney's Office will continue its community prosecution efforts begun under the planning grant by expanding its Community Attorney program into the second police precinct. The goal of this project is to create a more innovative, holistic criminal justice process that addresses the multiple challenges currently impacting both the community and livability crime offenders. The objectives of the project are as follows: 1) enhance coordination between the City Attorney's Office and other criminal justice stakeholders to improve efficiency and reduce livability crime in Minneapolis; 2) engage Key business and community leaders in target police precincts; 3) establish relationships with social service providers to increase referrals to services to address mental illness, chemical dependency and homelessness; and 4) track the effectiveness of the project. The City Attorney's Office intends to hire a full-time attorney and a half-time paralegal.