



A Tradition of Stewardship
A Commitment to Service

Agenda Date: 2/26/2019

Agenda Placement: 6E

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Kim Henderson for JOHN ROBERTSON JR. - Sheriff-Coroner
Sheriff

REPORT BY: Rollie Soria, Staff Services Analyst I - 707-259-8307

SUBJECT: Fixed Asset Purchase: SWAT Under-the-Door Camera

RECOMMENDATION

Sheriff requests approval for the following actions related to the purchase of a capital asset for use by the Sheriff's Office Specialized Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team:

1. Approval of Budget Transfer No. SHE004, moving \$10,766 from the Law Enforcement Supplies appropriations to the Equipment appropriations within the Sheriff's budget with offsetting revenue from the Sheriff's RASCLEAP special revenue fund (4/5 vote required);
2. Establish a capital asset in the amount of \$10,766 for a Zistos Under-the-Door surveillance camera; and
3. Requests a waiver of competitive bidding requirements and sole source award for the purchase of a Zistos Under-the-Door surveillance camera from Curtis Blue Line, West Sacramento, CA, for a total of \$10,766.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Sheriff is requesting to purchase a Zistos under-the-door surveillance camera system for the SWAT Team for use in critical incidents. This equipment will greatly increase officer safety during critical incident response, allowing SWAT Team members to view the interior of a room from a covert safe distance. Approval of today's actions will move appropriations within the Sheriff's budget and will establish a capital asset for the purchase of the under-the-door camera system. Offsetting revenue to purchase this camera will come from the Rural and Small County Local Law Enforcement Assistance Program special revenue funds (RASCLEAP).

Curtis Blue Line is not a local vendor, but is the only California authorized dealer of the Zistos under-the-door surveillance camera system.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	No
What is the revenue source?	Rural and Small County Local Enforcement Assistance Program special revenue funds.
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary?	Discretionary
Discretionary Justification:	This item is discretionary in that there is no mandate to purchase an under-the-door surveillance camera for the department's SWAT Team. The SWAT Team currently does not have an under-the-door camera system for use in critical incident response, such as one involving an armed individual barricaded in a home, office, or other structure. Since they do not have this equipment in their inventory, SWAT team members are forced to approach a door and enter an unknown room in a more conventional manner that is both risky and dangerous. The Zistos under-the-door camera surveillance system would allow SWAT team members to survey a room from a safe distance and identify dangers that lie inside of it before entering.
Is the general fund affected?	No
Future fiscal impact:	None
Consequences if not approved:	If not approved, the SWAT Team will not have an under-the-door camera to utilize when responding to critical incidents, placing team members in risky situations and the public in unnecessary danger.
Additional Information:	

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

The Sheriff's Office SWAT Team is utilized in critical incidents to minimize dangers to the public, employees, and suspects. A "critical incident" refers to hostage situations, armed barricaded subjects, sniper situations, and other incidents that present a high degree of danger to life and/or property, search and rescues, crowd control events and any event requiring response of specially trained personnel to resolve a situation.

The SWAT Team is comprised of 10-20 deputies, who are trained in the use of the following skills: anti-sniper tactics, crowd control, disaster assistance, methods of capturing armed and barricaded suspects, hostage rescue, search & rescue, and special weapons. Team members are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Today's increasing demand for law enforcement to quickly respond to critical incidents in a safe and peaceful manner has encouraged the development and application of special tools such as the under-the-door camera system. The Sheriff's Office proposes to purchase a Zistos Under-the-Door surveillance camera system, which will enable the SWAT Team to approach and conduct safe video surveillance of a room from a position of cover

during critical incident response. The camera system used extensively by SWAT teams throughout the world is comprised of a special flat profile camera, 8' pole, video monitor, & audio equipment. The flat profile of the Zistos camera allows the user to slip it under any door from a safe distance of 8', giving them a forward view of the interior of a room. This interior view can alert the user to any dangers, such as how many subjects or weapons that may be inside. The visual and audio information provided by the camera allows the SWAT Team to make a sound tactical decision before making entry into the room, thereby reducing the overall risk involved.

Currently, the Sheriff's Office SWAT Team does not have this type of specialized surveillance camera in their equipment inventory that allows them to see into a room before making entry. The lack of this under-the-door camera can place the SWAT Team in riskier situations, putting the public and any possible suspects involved at greater risk.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Susan Kuss