



A Tradition of Stewardship
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Agenda Date: 2/26/2019

Agenda Placement: 6F

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: Investigations/ NSIB Forensic Recovery Computer

RECOMMENDATION

Sheriff requests approval for the following actions related to the purchase of a capital asset for use by the Sheriff's Office Investigations Bureau and the Napa Special Investigations Bureau (NSIB):

1. Approval of Budget Transfer No. SHE005, moving \$7,306 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); and
2. Establish a capital asset in the amount of \$7,306 for a dedicated Forensic Recovery Computer with Retina 5K Display from Apple, Inc.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Sheriff is requesting to purchase a Forensic Recovery Computer with Retina 5K Display for use by the Sheriff's Office Investigations Bureau and the Napa Special Investigations Bureau (NSIB). The computer will be used in conjunction with the law enforcement investigations software called Cellebrite, allowing the Investigations Bureau and NSIB to conduct examinations of electronic data devices in a timely and efficient manner. The data extracted from these devices is critical in most criminal prosecutions.

Approval of today's actions will move appropriations within the Sheriff's budget and will establish a capital asset for the purchase of the Forensics Recovery Computer with Retina 5K Display. Offsetting revenue to purchase this computer will come from the Sheriff's Rural and Small County Law Enforcement Assistance Program (RASCLEAP) special revenue funds.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	No
What is the revenue source?	Rural and Small County Local Law 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 a new Forensics Recovery Computer with Retina 5K Display for the department's Investigations Bureau and NSIB. However, the current computer used by Investigations and NSIB for digital forensics investigations is eight years old and obsolete. The 2010 Apple iMac only has the minimum specifications to run the primary law enforcement investigations software called Cellebrite, which makes data extraction from electronic devices time consuming and inefficient. Depending on the type of device, it can take up to 24 hours to complete a data extraction. A new Forensics Recovery Computer could potentially cut extraction times in half, making the whole investigative/ data analysis process more efficient for Investigations and NSIB.
Is the general fund affected?	No
Future fiscal impact:	None
Consequences if not approved:	If not approved, the Sheriff's Office would not purchase a new Forensics Recovery Computer with Retina 5K display and establish it as a fixed asset. The Investigations Bureau and NSIB would continue to use their 2010 iMac computer to slowly and inefficiently extract data from electronic devices, preventing them from performing other day-to-day investigative duties. In addition, the limitations of the current computer has caused issues with the Cellebrite software updates, causing further delays in the extraction of important data contained on the electronic devices being examined. It should be noted that without this device data a large portion of corroborating evidence would not be available in building cases for criminal prosecution.

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 Investigations Bureau is responsible for conducting criminal investigations and operation of the crime lab. The Investigations Bureau is comprised of a Lieutenant, Detective Sergeant, and 7 Detectives. Detectives assigned to Investigations perform followup investigations and provide support to uniformed personnel on cases that are resource intensive, such as; child abuse, kidnapping, murder, computer crimes, and sexual abuse.

The Napa Special Investigations Bureau's (NSIB) primary mission is to diminish the availability and illegal use, sales and manufacturing of drugs in the City of Napa, St. Helena, Calistoga, American Canyon, Yountville, and the County of Napa and to apprehend the responsible offenders, thereby increasing public safety. A corollary mission of NSIB is to diminish the commission of major crimes within the county.

To aid in their investigative duties, both bureaus currently utilize a 2010 iMac computer with the investigative software Cellebrite to extract digital evidence from confiscated electronic devices for forensic examination. In 2018, Investigations and NSIB conducted approximately 200 data extractions from electronic devices. The data extracted is critical to most criminal prosecutions. Due to the age of this computer, it can take up to 24 hours to conduct a full data extraction (not including the time required to examine the data).

The Sheriff's Office has researched forensic computer systems to replace the 2010 iMac, and the most suitable replacement is the current iMac Pro with Retina 5K Display. The iMac Pro is the most stable platform to run the Cellebrite software during the long continuous device extraction times. Window's based systems running the Cellebrite software were found to malfunction during the data extraction process, causing a restart of the extraction.

The Sheriff's Office is requesting approval to establish a fixed asset purchase of a new Forensics Recovery Computer with Retina 5K Display. A new system would operate at 3 times the speed and the connection to electronic devices would be 10 times faster. It is estimated that the new Forensics Recovery Computer could cut extraction times in half, creating more efficiency in day-to-day tasks. In addition, the operating system of the new Forensics Recovery Computer will eliminate issues with the Cellebrite software updates that are currently hindering the 2010 system being used today.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Susan Kuss