RECOMMENDATION

Director of Health and Human Services requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign Amendment No. 1 to Agreement No. 7075 with Michael Shetka, LCSW, increasing the amount by $5,000 for a new annual maximum of $45,000 to provide mandated conservatorship investigation services to clients of the Mental Health Program.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Michael Shetka performs required investigations for temporary, Murphy or permanent conservatorships when the County's other contracted provider is unavailable. Services provided under the contract include consultation, client interviews, medical and psychiatric review of records, report preparation and court appearances, as necessary. Approval of the amendment will increase the maximum dollar amount due to an increase in utilization this fiscal year.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? Yes
Is it currently budgeted? Yes
Where is it budgeted? Mental Health
Is it Mandatory or Discretionary? Discretionary
Discretionary Justification: Approval of the requested action is discretionary in that there is no mandate to
have this agreement. However, the County is mandated to provide conservatorship investigation services for clients who are gravely disabled due to a mental illness. The costs of these mandated services are funded by Realignment dollars up to the amount available and then by County General Funds in the Mental Health budget.

Is the general fund affected? Yes

Future fiscal impact: Although the agreement terminates June 30, 2010, it contains a provision for automatic annual renewal, which allows the County to continue these services into the next fiscal year. Appropriations are included in the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 requested budget.

Consequences if not approved: If the recommended amendment is not approved, the County will be unable to compensate the contractor for additional conservatorship investigation services this fiscal year.

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

Welfare and Institutions Code (WIC) Sections 5350 and 5352 require the County to provide an officer to investigate requests for temporary, permanent and Murphy conservatorships. Per WIC Code Sections 5350-5371, an officer is needed to: 1) investigate requests for conservatorship of mentally ill persons thought by their caretakers to be gravely disabled, and 2) provide recommendations to the Court as to whether conservatorship is needed. Conservatorship investigations are necessary to provide the Courts with the comprehensive information they need to make critical decisions regarding mentally ill persons’ need for conservatorship. These investigations are also necessary to ensure individualized treatment, supervision and placement for mentally ill persons unwilling or incapable of accepting treatment voluntarily.

Approval of the amendment will increase the maximum dollar amount to reimburse the contractor for the additional temporary conservatorship investigation services provided this fiscal year. Michael Shetka is a local vendor.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve
Reviewed By: Karen Collins