



Agenda Date: 7/11/2006
Agenda Placement: 6A

NAPA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS Board Agenda Letter

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Carol Strobel for Gary Lieberstein - District Attorney
District Attorney
REPORT BY: Gary Lieberstein, District Attorney/Public Administrator, 253-4292
SUBJECT: Out of Country Travel

RECOMMENDATION

District Attorney requests ratification and authorization for the Auditor-Controller to provide reimbursement of travel expenses for three employees of the District Attorney's Child Abduction Unit to attend the Sixth Binational Child Abduction Conference in Ensenada, Mexico, from June 8 - June 10, 2006.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The District Attorney's Child Abduction Unit is responsible for enforcing court orders and the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act.

This training was sponsored by the California Attorney General's Office, the San Diego District Attorney's Office and the Mexican Consulate in San Diego. The conference promotes communication and cooperation between the Mexican and United States authorities assigned to handle child abduction cases.

There are no other alternative locations to attend this particular training. The District Attorney will submit a claim for the entire amount of the training to the State Controller's Office under the SB 90 claiming process.

FISCAL IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact?	Yes
Is it currently budgeted?	Yes
Where is it budgeted?	Travel costs associated with attending the conference total \$2,007.56. In addition, employees were compensated for overtime. The trip consisted of round-trip airfare to San Diego and two nights stay at the conference hotel in Ensenada at a cost of \$139 per night. Bus transportation was provided at no

cost by the Department of Justice from San Diego Airport to Ensenada. The District Attorney will submit a claim for reimbursement for the entire amount of the conference to the State Controller's Office as part of the SB 90 mandated claims process.

Is it Mandatory or Discretionary? Discretionary

Discretionary Justification: This constitutes essential training for the District Attorney's Child Abduction Unit.

Is the general fund affected? No

Future fiscal impact: None.

Consequences if not approved: Communication and cooperation between the Mexican authorities and the Napa County District Attorney's Office will be adversely impacted. Members of the Child Abduction Unit, including the investigator, child recovery assistant and prosecutor will not be properly trained. Lack of proper training and communication could result in improper or insufficient paperwork and court filings leading to the possibility that an abducted child may not be successfully recovered thus placing the abducted child and the relationship with their custodial parent at great risk.

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 District Attorney's Child Abduction Unit is responsible for enforcing court orders and the Uniform Child Custody Jurisdiction and Enforcement Act to locate children who are unlawfully taken by a non-custodial parent. The enforcement of this act requires the District Attorney to locate and retrieve children detained in the United States and in foreign countries.

This training was sponsored by the California Attorney General's Office, the San Diego District Attorney's Office and the Mexican Consulate in San Diego. The conference will promote communication and cooperation between the Mexican and local authorities assigned to handle child abduction cases.

There are no other alternative locations to attend this particular training.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None

CEO Recommendation: Approve

Reviewed By: Helene Franchi