



MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item No. 3(O)(18)(A)

TO: Honorable Chairperson Barbara
Carey-Shuler, Ed.D and Members,
Board of County Commissioners

DATE: April 13, 2004

FROM: George M. Burgess
County Manager

SUBJECT: Application for Federal Funds for
MDPD's Less-Lethal Technologies
Study

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board approve the attached resolution authorizing the County Manager to apply for \$691,683 in federal funds from the United States Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice, available under the FY 2004 Less-Lethal Technologies program to support the Miami-Dade Police Department's (MDPD) Less-Lethal Technologies Study. The resolution additionally authorizes the County Manager to receive, expend, and execute contracts, agreements and necessary amendments to the grant application. The grant period covers from October 1, 2004 through September 30, 2006. The grant does not require any matching local or in-kind funds.

BACKGROUND

The United States Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice, under the Less-Lethal Technologies program has made funds available to law enforcement agencies to conduct a research study involving the Advanced Taser Less-Lethal Weapon. The purpose of the study is to acquire and analyze empirical data on the deployment of the Advanced Taser during Use of Force (nature of the force applied and the nature of the injuries sustained) incidents against persons within one MDPD district. The program will demonstrate the potential benefits of less-lethal technology (Advanced Taser) for police when utilizing force to neutralize aggressive behavior.

The requested funds, in the amount of \$691,683, will be utilized to cover personnel salaries including fringe benefits, travel, computers, equipment and necessary supplies to develop a 24-month, four-phase research program. Specifically, \$223,830 of the total grant amount will be used to purchase 200 Advanced Tasers (\$850 per Taser), cartridges, and training equipment. Another \$27,000 of the total grant amount will be used to establish a partnership with a local university and use two consultants to assist in the data gathering and analyzing for the Less-Lethal Technologies Study.

MDPD has already begun evaluating the use of Advanced Tasers. On March 20, 2003, the Director of MDPD approved the issuance of the Advanced Tasers for uniformed police sergeants and on June 9, 2003, MDPD initiated a preliminary 3-month test and evaluation period of the Advanced Taser. The initial purchase of 72 Tasers was issued among the police uniformed sergeants assigned to the nine district stations within MDPD. The sergeants were certified as

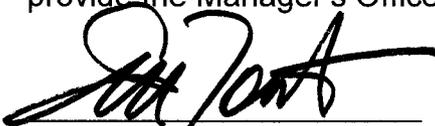
Taser Users by instructors assigned to MDPD's Training Bureau, Physical Skills Unit. The Taser was used in 33 incidents in three different modes as a means of neutralizing subject aggression.

During the 3-month evaluation period of the Advanced Taser, MDPD realized that the results of the test were being affected by the fact that Tasers were only issued to police sergeants. In most cases, officers responded first to aggressive subjects and resorted to previous training to subdue the subject. Therefore, the evaluation could not be accurately analyzed. Additionally, since the Tasers were distributed to all nine district stations for the 3-month test and evaluation period, the data could not be accurately collected.

For the purposes of this grant, the MDPD Northside District was chosen to conduct the research study involving the Advanced Taser. It was chosen because the majority of calls for service in the district are volatile or in-progress and require immediate police action. In addition, the Northside District, because of its density, has more officers per square mile giving the evaluator a better assessment of the study. In order to gather accurate data, it is imperative that all shifts within one district are used so that the subject of the study is not altered.

On October 10, 2003, MDPD approved the issuance of the Advanced Tasers to all sworn personnel. In addition, the Miami-Dade County Community Relations Board (CRB) endorsed the use of the Advanced Taser by MDPD. A letter dated January 23, 2004, addressed to the U.S. Department of Justice and submitted as an attachment of the Less-Lethal Technologies Grant, further endorsed the proposed study as "an environment of cooperation between the academic community, grass roots community organizations, and the Miami-Dade Police Department."

The grant will be monitored by the Training Bureau, Physical Skills Unit, where the training and equipment will be distributed to uniformed police officers at the Northside District. MDPD will provide the Manager's Office and Board the results of this study.



Susanne M. Torriente
Assistant County Manager



MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

TO: Hon. Chairperson Barbara Carey-Shuler, Ed.D.
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: April 13, 2004

FROM: Robert A. Ginsburg
County Attorney

SUBJECT: Agenda Item No. 3(O)(18)(A)

Please note any items checked.

- "4-Day Rule" ("3-Day Rule" for committees) applicable if raised
- 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- Budget required
- Statement of fiscal impact required
- Bid waiver requiring County Manager's written recommendation
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Manager's report for public hearing
- Housekeeping item (no policy decision required)
- No committee review

Approved _____ Mayor
Veto _____
Override _____

Agenda Item No. 3(O)(18)(A)
4-13-04

RESOLUTION NO. _____

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY MANAGER'S ACTION IN APPLYING FOR FEDERAL FUNDS FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE, AVAILABLE UNDER THE LESS-LETHAL TECHNOLOGIES PROGRAM, FISCAL YEAR 2004, TO SUPPORT THE MIAMI-DADE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S LESS-LETHAL TECHNOLOGIES STUDY; AND AUTHORIZES THE COUNTY MANAGER TO RECEIVE, EXPEND, AND EXECUTE CONTRACTS, AGREEMENTS, AND NECESSARY AMENDMENTS TO THE APPLICATION

WHEREAS, this Board desires to accomplish the purposes outlined in the accompanying memorandum, a copy of which is incorporated herein by reference,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this Board approves the County Manager's action in applying for federal funds from the United States Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice, available under the Less-Lethal Technologies program, fiscal year 2004, in the amount of \$691,683, to support the Miami-Dade Police Department's Less-Lethal Technologies Study, in substantially the form of the grant application attached hereto and made a part hereof, authorizes the County Manager to receive, expend, and execute such contracts and agreements as required, following their approval by the County Attorney's Office; to expend any and all monies received for the purposes and as described in the application; to receive and expend additional funds should they become available, and to file and execute any necessary amendments to the application for and on behalf of Miami-Dade County, Florida.

The foregoing resolution was offered by Commissioner _____, who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner _____ and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

Dr. Barbara Carey-Shuler, Chairperson	
Katy Sorenson, Vice-Chairperson	
Bruno A. Barreiro	Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Betty T. Ferguson	Sally A. Heyman
Joe A. Martinez	Jimmy L. Morales
Dennis C. Moss	Dorrin D. Rolle
Natacha Seijas	Rebeca Sosa
Sen. Javier D. Souto	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 13th day of April, 2004. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA
BY ITS BOARD OF COUNTY
COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

Approved by County Attorney as
to form and legal sufficiency. KBD

Kenneth B. Drucker

By: _____
Deputy Clerk



FY 2004 Less-Lethal Technologies Solicitation 2004-90209-
FL-IJ



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[Correspondence](#)

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Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project		
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE LESS-LETHAL TECHNOLOGIES GRANT, FISCAL YEARS 2004-2006		
Areas Affected by Project		
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FLORIDA		
Proposed Project		
	*Start Date	October/ 01/ 2004
	*End Date	September/ 30/ 2006
*Congressional Districts of		
	Project	Congressional District 17, FL
*Estimated Funding		
Federal		\$691683.00
Applicant		\$0.00
State		\$0.00
Local		\$0.00
Other		\$0.00
Program Income		\$0.00
TOTAL		\$691683.00

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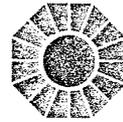
APPLICATION FOR FEDERAL ASSISTANCE	2. DATE SUBMITTED January 26, 2004	Applicant Identifier
1. TYPE OF SUBMISSION Application Non-Construction	3. DATE RECEIVED BY STATE	State Application Identifier
	4. DATE RECEIVED BY FEDERAL AGENCY	Federal Identifier
5. APPLICANT INFORMATION		
Legal Name Miami Dade County	Organizational Unit Miami Dade Police Department	
Address 9105 N.W. 25th Street Miami, Florida 33172-1500	Name and telephone number of the person to be contacted on matters involving this application Ferrer, Alfredo (305) 471-3384	
6. EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER (EIN) 59-6000573	7. TYPE OF APPLICANT County	
8. TYPE OF APPLICATION New	9. NAME OF FEDERAL AGENCY National Institute of Justice	
10. CATALOG OF FEDERAL DOMESTIC ASSISTANCE NUMBER: 16.560 CFDA TITLE: CRIME JUST R & D PROJ	11. DESCRIPTIVE TITLE OF APPLICANT'S PROJECT MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF JUSTICE LESS-LETHAL TECHNOLOGIES GRANT, FISCAL YEARS 2004-2006	
12. AREAS AFFECTED BY PROJECT MIAMI-DADE COUNTY FLORIDA		
13. PROPOSED PROJECT Start Date: October 01, 2004 End Date: September 30, 2006	14. CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS OF a. Applicant b. Project FL17	
15. ESTIMATED FUNDING	16. IS APPLICATION SUBJECT TO REVIEW BY STATE EXECUTIVE ORDER 12372 PROCESS?	
Federal	\$691,683	Program is not covered by E.O. 12372
Applicant	\$0	
State	\$0	

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Local	\$0	17. IS THE APPLICANT DELINQUENT ON ANY FEDERAL DEBT? N
Other	\$0	
Program Income	\$0	
TOTAL	\$691,683	
18. TO THE BEST OF MY KNOWLEDGE AND BELIEF, ALL DATA IN THIS APPLICATION PREAPPLICATION ARE TRUE AND CORRECT, THE DOCUMENT HAS BEEN DULY AUTHORIZED BY GOVERNING BODY OF THE APPLICANT AND THE APPLICANT WILL COMPLY WITH THE ATTACHED ASSURANCES IF THE ASSISTANCE IS REQUIRED.		

Close Window

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STEPHEN P. CLARK CENTER

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY RELATIONS
111 N.W. 1st STREET, SUITE 615
MIAMI, FLORIDA 33128-1968
(305) 375-5730
FAX: (305) 375-5270

January 23, 2004

Larry D. Capp, Ph.D.
Executive Director

Xiomara Casado
Assistant Director

U.S. Department of Justice
Office of Justice Programs
National Institute of Justice

RE: Less-Lethal Technologies, Fiscal Year 2004

Dear Sir/Madam:

I am writing to offer the support of Miami-Dade County Community Relations Board's (CRB). This Miami-Dade Police Department's application for the U. S. Department of Justice, National Institute of Justice Less-Lethal Technologies Grant is one that the Community Relations Board finds as a very useful strategy. The fact that this grant will provide a critical resource for the research and evaluation of the Advanced TASER as an alternative to deadly force used by uniform patrol officers is vital to our community.

The Community Relations Board understands the proposed research project will provide an environment of cooperation and communication between the Academic Community, Grass Roots Community Organizations and Miami-Dade Police Department using new technology as an alternative means to deadly force used by uniform patrol officers.

I respectfully encourage you to give every consideration to funding this proposal. Please contact me at (305) 375-5730, if you have any questions or require additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Pedro Freyre".

Pedro Freyre, Chair
Miami-Dade County, Community Relations Board