

Memorandum

MIAMI-DADE
COUNTY

DATE: June 10, 2010

HPSI

Agenda Item No. 7A

TO: Honorable Chairman Dennis C. Moss
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

FROM: George M. Burgess
County Manager



SUBJECT: Report of Proposed Expenditures for the Law Enforcement Trust Fund

The Law Enforcement Trust Fund (LETf) for Miami-Dade County was established by the Board of County Commissioners (Board) and must be used for law enforcement purposes which are not budgeted. Allowable purposes may include: to defray costs of protracted or complex investigations; to provide additional technical equipment or expertise; to provide matching funds to obtain federal grants; or for other law enforcement purposes. The funds are administered in compliance with Miami-Dade Police Department (MDPD) policies, statutory requirements and federal guidelines.

LETf consists of seized monies and the proceeds from the sale of certain forfeited property received from both Federal Asset Sharing and State Forfeiture Cases. LETf is funded by three different sources: the State LETf fund, governed by Florida Statutes Sections 932.701 through 932.706; and two federal funds from the US Department of Justice and the US Treasury, governed by the Federal Guidelines from the US Department of Treasury Executive Office for Asset Forfeiture. The funds are referred to as Asset Sharing as several entities may participate in the investigation along with the MDPD and the forfeiture assets are shared based upon each agency's participation in the investigation, in accordance with asset sharing requirements and guidelines. There are no matching requirements.

The allocation of LETf funds adheres to a process as part of the MDPD standard operating procedures. Department entities submit LETf Project requests to the MDPD LETf Committee Chairperson. The requests are reviewed by personnel in the Fiscal Administration Bureau to ensure compliance with LETf requirements. The LETf Committee reviews those requests which meet program requirements and recommends selected projects for funding. The recommendations are reviewed by the Police Legal Bureau for legal sufficiency and a report is prepared by the Fiscal Administration Bureau. The revenue and expenditures are documented in the County budget ordinance and are routinely reported in the Department's fiscal reports. The package is certified by the Director prior to the report being presented to the Board for approval per Florida Statute Section 932.7055 (5) (b).

The following are the proposed asset sharing expenditures for FY2009/2010 or until completion of the project.

PROPOSED ASSET SHARING EXPENDITURES (Law Enforcement Trust Fund)

1. **Community Affairs Bureau Countywide Gun Bounty Program \$200,000**
The LETf project will support the continuation of this successful program in partnership between the Miami-Dade Police Department and Crime Stoppers of Miami-Dade County. The program purpose is to confiscate guns possessed illegally. The tipster (caller) initiates contact by calling Miami-Dade Crime Stoppers at (305) 471 - 8477. At this time, the tipster provides detailed information regarding the specific location of the gun and the subject in possession of that gun. The call is subsequently dispatched as a priority call to that location. If the offender is arrested, the tipster is eligible for a \$1,000 reward. The tipster will in turn use the code initially assigned by Crime

Stoppers to collect their reward. Since the program's inception in 2007 through May 2010, the program has confiscated 430 guns which have led to 262 arrests. In addition, the gun tips have led detectives to links in other major crimes such as homicides, robberies, burglaries, and narcotics. Funds are used for advertising, program materials, brochures, rewards and other related program expenses. Funds will be provided from State Asset Sharing Funds (Crime Prevention Programs).

- 2. Violent Crime Initiative** **\$3,000,000**
The LETF project will support an initiative aimed at combating violent crime, especially gun violence throughout Miami-Dade County. These crimes are a great concern for the entire community and the visitors who come here each day. The project will provide the resources to allocate and deploy personnel based on identified crimes, neighborhoods, and other intelligence information. This initiative will support increased personnel for these targeted enforcement operations. The project is a proactive response to these serious violent crimes to provide for the public safety of our citizens and visitors. The overall project will be closely monitored by the Department's executive team, including the Director, Assistant Directors and Chief Financial Officer. Funds will be provided from Asset Sharing Funds as follows: State (Complex Investigations) \$600,000, Justice \$1,800,000, Treasury \$600,000.
- 3. Specialized Equipment** **\$ 35,000**
The LETF project will support the purchase of specialized equipment. This equipment will enhance tactical abilities. Funds will be provided from Justice Asset Sharing Funds.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

PROPOSED JUSTICE ASSET SHARING EXPENDITURES	\$1,835,000
PROPOSED STATE ASSET SHARING EXPENDITURES	\$ 800,000
PROPOSED TREASURY ASSET SHARING EXPENDITURES	\$ 600,000
Total Recommended Amount	\$3,235,000

I, James K. Loftus, Director of the Miami-Dade Police Department, do hereby certify that the aforementioned request for expenditures from the Law Enforcement Trust Fund complies with the provision of Section 932.7055, Florida Statutes and applicable guidelines related to equitable sharing of federal assets.



JAMES K. LOFTUS
Director



DATE