DANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Administration Services Division Interoffice Memorandum

DATE:

March 2, 2015

TO:

Supervisor Jeff Pertl, Chairperson

FROM:

Sheriff David J. Mahoney

RE:

2015 WEMS Grant Funds to Purchase New Protective Helmets

The attached letter is reference Dane County Board resolution 2014 RES-483.





DANE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

JEFF HOOK, Chief Deputy (608) 284-6167

TIMOTHY F. RITTER Captain, Administration Services (608) 284-6175 JANICE L. TETZLAFF Captain, Support Services (608) 284-6186

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March 2, 2015

Supervisor Jeff Pertl, Chairperson Dane County Personnel and Finance Committee 210 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd. Madison, WI 53703

RE: Grant Funds for Sheriff's Office Tactical Team

Dear Chairman Pertl:

Please accept this letter of support as my recommendation for Dane County to accept 2015 WEMS grant funds to purchase new protective helmets for deputies assigned to our Tactical Response Team (TRT). Deputies assigned to the TRT are required to respond to our most dangerous, high-risk situations. Dane County's TRT responds to situations that include armed and barricaded subjects, the execution of high-risk search warrants, and other situations requiring equipment and training beyond what most "routine" police calls for service involve.

Recently, our team was activated when we were contacted by detectives from the Chicago Police Department and informed that a suspect in a recent Chicago homicide was in a local hotel. Chicago PD obtained an arrest warrant for the suspect who had committed an execution-style killing of his victim. The weapon was not recovered at the scene of the crime. Our TRT responded and safely evacuated occupied hotel rooms close to the suspect. The TRT subsequently apprehended the suspect safely in the hotel.

In another recent activation, the Fitchburg Police Department requested TRT assistance in executing a "no-knock" search warrant for a suspect wanted in a string of armed robberies in Madison and Fitchburg. The suspect in this case was taken into custody without incident.

The Dane County Sheriff's Office Tactical Response Team plans on replacing their outdated protective helmets with new, state-of-the-art helmets. The helmet style we have selected is the Airframe model, which is based on a two-piece design that affords team members an additional eight square inches of ballistic protection and provides for passive ventilation. The helmets are approximately 20% lighter than the outgoing models. The lighter weight reduces fatigue, allowing team members to be more alert for longer periods of time. The helmets are more comfortable and interface with our hearing protection. They also feature accessory rails that accommodate our Contour high-definition helmet cameras, and various lights and other accessories.

It is essential that our deputies who are risking their lives in these critical situations have the best protection possible. Having this opportunity to provide needed equipment for my staff through grant funding makes good sense for all of us in Dane County.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact me.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

David J. Mahoney
Sheriff of Dane County

cc: Supervisor Sheila Stubbs