

Council Meeting
January 23, 2007

Honorable Mayor and Members
of the City Council
City Hall
Torrance, California

Members of the Council

SUBJECT: Police - Appropriation and allocation of Asset Forfeiture funds for the purchase of tactical ballistic vests. Expenditure: \$25,710.46

RECOMMENDATION

The Chief of Police recommends that Council appropriate and allocate Asset Forfeiture funds and authorize a purchase order to Aardvark Tactical, Inc., of Azusa, California, for tactical ballistic vests (FEAP633) for the Vice and Narcotics Division, in the amount of \$25,710.46.

FUNDING

Funding is available in the Asset Forfeiture Vice and Narcotics Special Programs account.

BACKGROUND

The Vice and Narcotics Division is involved in situations that require ballistic protection, such as surveillance and arrest of known violent offenders, and serving warrants that may be high risk operations. Vice and Narcotics officers are currently wearing bullet-resistant vests that are over five years old. Vest manufacturers do not guarantee their vests after five years, and they and the National Institute of Justice recommend that vests be replaced every five years. The vests worn by Vice and Narcotics officers have exceeded their service life and are due for replacement.

ANALYSIS

Vice and Narcotics officers wear a tactical entry vest that has greater ballistic protection and different design features from the vests purchased by the Police Department for normal field use. These vests are worn over clothing and an officer must be able to suit up quickly while seated in a vehicle. Staff evaluated tactical vests

and determined that the Protech Stealth SS Rapid Response vest offers ample protection, is lightweight, and allows officers to suit up quickly.

The Torrance Municipal Code Section 22.3.18 EXCEPTION; SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY PURCHASES, states, " Special opportunity purchases may be made by the City Manager where: a) The City Council finds that a proposed purchase that is subject to this Article is either below the current market price and will result in a significant cost savings to the City, or that the proposed purchase is not more than the current market price, and that significant time will be saved in delivery or installation of the equipment by such a purchase; and b) The City has a current need for the item or items of property to be purchased.

The Purchasing Division requested price quotes for the Protech Stealth SS vest from three qualified vendors.

Vendor	Unit Price	Qty 18 Vests	Sales Tax	Total
Aardvark	\$1,319.50	\$23,751.00	\$1,959.46	\$25,710.46
Adamson	\$1,466.89	\$26,404.02	\$2,178.33	\$28,582.35
Gall's	Declined to quote			

The above unit prices include vest, modular pockets, identification patches, trauma plate, and tactical holster. Aardvark Tactical, Inc., of Azusa, California, offered the lowest quote. The use of asset forfeiture funds is appropriate for this purchase.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN J. NEU
CHIEF OF POLICE

Lt. Robert Picker #9526

By Lt. Robert Picker
Vice and Narcotics Division Commander

CONCUR:



John J. Neu
Chief of Police



LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager