

Council Meeting
December 18, 2007

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

Members of the Council:

SUBJECT: Police - Appropriate and allocate asset forfeiture funds and authorize blanket purchase orders for .223 caliber ammunition. Expenditure: Not to exceed \$100,000.

RECOMMENDATION

Recommendation of the Police Chief that City Council:

1. Appropriate and allocate \$100,000 of asset forfeiture funds for the purchase of .223 caliber ammunition;
2. Authorize a blanket purchase order to San Diego Police Equipment Co., of San Diego, California, for .223 caliber ammunition on an as-needed basis, in an amount not to exceed \$55,000., for a 12-month term beginning December 19, 2007 and ending December 18, 2008; and
3. Authorize a blanket purchase order to Advanced Tactical Firearms International Corp., of Pahrump, Nevada, for .223 caliber ammunition on an as-needed basis, in an amount not to exceed \$45,000., for a 12-month term beginning December 19, 2007 and ending December 18, 2008.

Funding

Funding is available in the U.S. DOJ Unappropriated Asset Forfeiture account.

BACKGROUND

The Police Department provides sworn personnel with the necessary safety equipment and ammunition to become proficient in their duties. Police Officers are required to qualify with any firearm they use in the field while on duty. Additionally, newly hired officers use a large quantity of ammunition during training. Ammunition for training and periodic qualification is provided by the Department.

ANALYSIS

Over the past few years, ammunition prices have risen sharply due to higher material costs and increased demand by the U.S. Military. Many ammunition orders for law enforcement are going unfilled or are only partially filled by suppliers. The Police Department needs to be able to make purchases quickly as product becomes available in order to keep up the training regimen and have sufficient supplies in reserve for field operations. Advanced Tactical Firearms and San Diego Police Equipment Co. are the only distributors able to meet delivery requirements for .223 caliber ammunition and, therefore, meet the criteria for a sole-source purchase.

Torrance Municipal Code 22.3.17 b) creates a purchasing exception for sole-source purchases:

b) For purposes of this Section, "sole-source purchases" means those purchases where it would be undesirable or impossible for the City to advertise for bids for particular work or for patented items, or experimental or unique services or products, or where competitive purchases would be unavailable or would not prove advantageous for the City. No sole-source purchases may be made where to do so would show favoritism, improvidence, extravagance, fraud or corruption, or result in the waste of public funds, but may be used only to obtain the best economic result for the public.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN J. NEU
Chief of Police



By Lt. Patrick Shortall
Research & Training Division Commander

CONCUR:



John J. Neu
Chief of Police



LeRoy J. Jackson
City Manager