

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

<p>(1) DEPARTMENT District Attorney</p>	<p>(2) MEETING DATE 2/9/2016</p>	<p>(3) CONTACT/PHONE Diana McPartlan (805) 781-4112</p>	
<p>(4) SUBJECT Request to authorize the District Attorney to apply for two grants from the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) for the administration of the Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program Crime Victims with Disabilities Grant in the amount of \$175,981, and the Elder Crime Victims Grant in the amount of \$351,962. All Districts.</p>			
<p>(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board authorize the District Attorney to submit application for grant funding under the Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Serve crime victims with disabilities (UV) in the amount of \$175,981 for an initial period of April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017 and</li> <li>2. Serve elder victims (XV) in the amount of \$351,962 for the two-year period of April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2018.</li> </ol>			
<p>(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) Federal and General Fund</p>	<p>(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT UV \$37,384 / \$6,612 match XV \$37,384 / \$6,612 match</p>	<p>(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT UV \$149,535 / \$26,446 match XV \$149,535 / \$26,446 match April 1 through March 31</p>	<p>(9) BUDGETED? No</p>
<p>(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent    <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation    <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. ____ )    <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. ____ )</p>			
<p>(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions    <input type="checkbox"/> Contracts    <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A</p>			
<p>(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) N/A</p>		<p>(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: N/A <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5 Vote Required    <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A</p>	
<p>(14) LOCATION MAP N/A</p>	<p>(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No</p>	<p>(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A    Date: _____</p>	
<p>(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Geoff O'Quest, Administrative Analyst</p>			
<p>(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts</p>			

# County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: District Attorney / Diana McPartlan  
(805) 781-4112

DATE: 2/9/2016

SUBJECT: Request to authorize the District Attorney to apply for two grants from the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) for the administration of the Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program Crime Victims with Disabilities Grant in the amount of \$175,981, and the Elder Crime Victims Grant in the amount of \$351,962. All Districts.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board authorize the District Attorney to submit application for grant funding under the Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach Program with the California Governor's Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) to:

1. Serve crime victims with disabilities (UV) in the amount of \$175,981 for an initial period of April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017, and
2. Serve elder victims (XV) in the amount of \$351,962 for the two-year period of April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2018.

## **DISCUSSION**

The goal of the Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach five year grant and two year grant program is to improve the safety of crime victims with disabilities and elder victim populations in by establishing advocate positions dedicated to the special population demographic. The District Attorney's (DA's) Victim Witness Assistance Division has been funded with a grant to serve elder victims since 1999. In FY 2013-14 grant coverage was broadened to include crime victims with disabilities. This previous grant has paid for 2.00 FTE Victim Witness Advocates, however, the grant ends this current fiscal year effective March 31, 2016.

The new grant opportunity has a competitive selection process. Cal OES is allowing agencies to apply for simultaneously for two grants under this program. The DA proposes to submit two applications, one focusing on crime victims with disabilities (UV) and the other focusing on elder crime victims (XV). The UV grant provides funding for a five year period and requires an annual renewal application. The XV grant provides one-time funding only for a two year period. If awarded either or both grants, the DA will return to your Board to request acceptance of the grant and to add 2.00 FTE limited term Victim Witness Coordinator positions for each grant awarded. Currently, in the budget process for FY 2016-17, our proposed status quo budget deletes 2.00 FTE due to the expiration of the current grant that will expire on March 30, 2016.

The UV grant proposal requests \$149,535 in funding which will require a \$26,446 match by the County and would be renewable up to a total of five years. This amount will fund 2.00 FTE Victim Witness Coordinator positions focusing on crime victims with disabilities. The XV grant proposal also requests funding in the amount of \$149,535 which also will require a \$26,446 match by the County. This amount will fund 2.00 FTE Victim Witness Coordinator positions serving victims of crime who are elder adults.

The intention of applying for both the UV and XV grants is to provide essential victim services to both of these specialized victim populations in San Luis Obispo County. In FY 2013-14 under the prior grant, our office served 467 elder victims with crisis and support services. In FY 2014-15, our office served a total of 618 elder victims which represents a 32.3% increase over a one year period.

These special populations are a prime target for predatory actions by acquaintances, family members, caretakers, and con artists, especially for those individuals who live alone. Through the use of these grant funds, we are able to provide necessary services to ensure that these victims are safer, less traumatized by crime, better equipped to rebuild their lives and more trusting of our criminal justice system. Without these specialized services, elder and crime victims with disabilities in our county will lose an essential lifeline, placing them at greater risk for victimization and abuse in a county with an escalating population.

#### **OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT**

These services will be coordinated through cooperation with local law enforcement agencies, Sheriff's Office personnel, and other County departments. Additionally, other public and private agencies and non-profit organizations have entered into operational agreements with the District Attorney's Victim/Witness Assistance Division to collaborate with staff on programs and activities.

#### **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

A nearly 16 year existing UV grant currently awarded to the DA Victim Witness Division will end on March 31, 2016. The expiring grant funding has provided for the salary and benefits for 2.00 FTE advocates who have a caseload dedicated to dealing with crisis and support services for our elder victims and crime victims with disabilities population. Each grant, if awarded, will provide \$149,535 in federal funding which will require a \$26,446 General Fund match from the County. Each grant awarded will fund 2.00 FTE limited term positions. If awarded one grant, it will require General Fund support in the amount of \$26,446 to cover the required match. If awarded two grants, it will require General Fund support in the amount of \$52,892 per year for the duration of the grant period. If these grants are awarded with sufficient time left in FY 2015-16 to add them to the budget, the DA is projecting sufficient expenditure savings to be able to cover the pro-rated cost of the General Fund match for the remainder of the fiscal year. However, the DA has not requested the match as part of the FY 2016-17 budget, as award of these funds was not certain at the time the budget requests were prepared in January.

#### **RESULTS**

The crime rate affecting victims from the elder and disabled populations in San Luis Obispo County has risen by 32.3% from June 30, 2014 to July 1, 2015. The Victim/Witness Advocates assigned to provide services under these grants will provide immediate contact with each victim and provide continued assistance services in order to reduce the victim's anxiety and provide them the critically needed resources. Empirical research indicates that prompt assistance to victims of crime greatly reduces the negative effects of crime, and as such furthers the County's mission of a safe and healthy community.

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

1. CAL OES Grant Proposal for Unserved/Underserved Victim Advocacy and Outreach