

# **REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL**

## *City of Salinas, California*

DATE: September 20, 2016

FROM: Kelly McMillin, Chief of Police

BY: Mike Groves, Commander

SUBJECT: **DIRECT PURCHASE OF CAMERA/AUDIO EQUIPMENT AND SOFTWARE FOR THREE POLICE INTERVIEW ROOMS FROM TASER INTERNATIONAL**

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the City Council approve a resolution authorizing the direct purchase of an upgrade to the recording equipment in the three interview rooms at the Salinas Police Department through Taser International with a total cost of \$51,084.71 with a first year cost of \$30,348.76 and years 2-5 cost of \$5,164.00.

### **DISCUSSION:**

The Salinas Police Department is attempting to upgrade the recording equipment in three interview rooms in the police building. The current recording system is several years old and frequently breaks down, causing delays in interviewing suspects and witnesses. The method for saving the current recordings is by using a DVD disc and placing that disc into evidence. That disc is the only permanent recording of important interviews, and these discs can be subject to damage and degradation over time.

Last year the Salinas Police Department purchased body worn cameras for every uniformed officer through Taser International. The videos captured by these cameras are uploaded, tagged and stored into a secure, evidence-quality, cloud-based storage system. Each video is marked with metadata, making searching for a specific video quick and reliable. The cloud-based storage is highly secure and backed up, so loss of recordings due to a catastrophic event is highly unlikely.

Taser International has the ability to upgrade our interview rooms so that the interviews recorded by officers/detectives can be uploaded directly to the same secure cloud based system. Each interview will be marked with the same type of metadata as the body camera video we are currently recording. This will make storage and retrieval efficient with minimal added training to officers who use this system, and consolidates storage into one platform, simplifying training, retrieval and maintenance.

A five-year contract with Taser International to upgrade three interview rooms with new cameras, microphones, appropriate software and licenses, and to upload all interview recordings to the secure cloud storage system will be a total cost of \$51,084.71. The first year cost will be

approximately \$30,348.76 and will be paid with existing finding from the 2013 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG). Years 2-5 will be maintenance costs of \$5,164 per year. These costs are about the same as the budgeted, annual maintenance costs of the existing system, so will not result in increased costs. There are no local vendors who can upgrade our camera system to tie directly into the Taser International evidence storage system that we are using for all of our body camera videos.

City Council has the authority to approve this purchase under Salinas Municipal Code Sections 12-27 and 12-28.080. The City's local purchasing preference does not apply in this instance as there are no local vendors who provide this product or this service.

**ISSUE:**

Shall the City Council authorize the direct purchase of an upgrade to the three interview rooms at the Salinas Police Department through Taser International with a total cost of \$51,084.71 and a first year cost of \$30,348.76 and years 2-5 cost of \$5,164.00 per year?

**COMMISSION, COMMITTEE, COUNCIL SUBCOMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS:**

None

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The first year cost would be \$30,348.76 and will be paid through a 2013 JAG grant.

The second year through the fifth year total cost would be \$5,164 per year. It is already budgeted for annual maintenance of the old, outdated system and would not result in a net increased expenditure.

**TIME CONSIDERATIONS:**

Police staff believes having interview rooms where recordings are directly uploaded to a secure cloud based system we are already using is a important in modern policing and will be valuable in improving transparency, accountability and in enhancing community trust; therefore, staff requests immediate action.

**ALTERNATIVES/IMPLICATIONS:**

Council may not authorize the purchase proposed in this report. Interviews will continue to be recorded with an unreliable, outdated system.

**CITY COUNCIL GOALS:**

This purchase supports the Council's goal of maintaining a safe and livable community for all its residents.

## **CONCLUSIONS:**

Staff recommends City Council adopt a resolution authorizing the direct purchase of camera/audio equipment to upgrade three interview rooms and have those recordings uploaded directly to a secure cloud based storage from Taser International of Scottsdale, Arizona for a five-year contract with a total cost of \$51,084.71 with a first year cost of \$30,348.76 and years 2-5 cost of \$5,164.00 annually.

Back Up Pages:  
Resolution  
Quote for Taser Interview Rooms