

BOARD OF ALDERMEN

ITEM NO. A(2)

AGENDA ITEM ABSTRACT

MEETING DATE: January 13, 2009

TITLE: Request to Establish a Grant Projects Fund to Recognize Coverdell Grant Received by Police Department

DEPARTMENT: Police	PUBLIC HEARING: YES ____ NO <u>x</u>
ATTACHMENTS: A. Budget Amendment	FOR INFORMATION CONTACT: Bing Roenigk, Management Services Carolyn Hutchison, Police

PURPOSE:

The Carrboro Police Department succeeded in obtaining \$82,515 from the 2008 Paul Coverdell Forensic Science Improvements Grant program. The grant funds shall be used to create and finance a fingerprint identification network in and around Orange County. The Board is requested to approve a budget amendment to establish a grant fund to account for these expenditures.

INFORMATION:

As expected in the grant requirements, the Carrboro Police Department will purchase and distribute equipment and some funds to the following local law enforcement agencies: Burlington Police Department, Chapel Hill Police Department, Hillsborough Police Department, and the Orange County Sheriff's Office. These agencies will purchase local Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) desktop terminals and will contribute arrest fingerprints and crime scene latent fingerprints into a shared database or "hub," which will allow the various department investigators to access and search neighboring jurisdictions' fingerprint database records. The UNC Department of Public Safety will also participate in this network by submitting arrest fingerprint information to the Chapel Hill Police Department and latent fingerprints to the Carrboro Police Department.

The participating above agencies will send arrest and crime scene latent fingerprints to the Orange County Sheriff's Office to store the local county information. Wake County City-County Bureau of Identification (CCBI), located in Raleigh, will store this information as well. The information will be available to all agencies in CCBI's network, including the Durham, Winston-Salem, and Greensboro Police Departments and the Guilford County Sheriff's Office. The "hub" will share this information with the State Bureau of Investigation's statewide system.

To date, the Police Department has purchased a LiveScan Fingerprinting System in the General Fund which was approved in the prior year. The total cost was \$37,980, of which \$23,780 was funded with a grant from the NC Department of Justice and the remainder from Coverdell Grant

Funds. The budget amendment also transfers \$14,200 of the Coverdell Grant funds to the General Fund towards this software.

FISCAL AND STAFF IMPACT: There is no local match required. As far as staff impact, the immediate effect will be minimal. As the network database grows and the other agencies begin to process more crime scenes, the Police Department may have to spend more time handling the increased work load.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: The Board is requested to approve the budget amendment.