

STAFF REPORT

City Council Business Item

DATE: April 17, 2023

TO: Honorable Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Casey J. Day, Chief of Police

THROUGH: Merritt Perry, City Manager

SUBJECT: **Authorize the Chief of Police to Execute a Professional Services Agreement with Susan Price Consulting to Complete and Submit for the Federal COPS Hiring Grant on Behalf of the Fortuna Police Department**

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Approve a Supplemental Budget Request for \$5000.00 to cover the expenses associated with negotiating a professional services agreement with Susan Price for the completion and submission of a grant application for the U.S. Department of Justice's, COPS Hiring Program.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The U.S. Department of Justice awards millions of dollars to law enforcement agencies throughout the country every year for hiring additional sworn officers. The COPS Hiring Program is a competitive federal grant program designed to provide direct funding for hiring in an effort to help local law enforcement organizations increase their community policing capacity and crime prevention efforts.

Susan Price Consulting has an excellent record of accomplishment in securing grant funding for local government. Susan Price Consulting is also directly familiar with the COPS grant and the complexities involved in both developing and managing this grant. Susan Price Consulting has secured over 40 million dollars in grant funding for local jurisdictions.

There are very few options for local consultants that have the qualifications and track record of Susan Price Consulting. This is a federal grant requiring a tricky and complicated submission process. A successful award will require around 60 hours of concentrated and dedicated staff time, which will include development, research, and submission components.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The costs associated with hiring Susan Price Consulting for associated professional services involved with developing and submitting the COPS grant is approximately \$85.00 per hour totaling approximately \$5000.00 for services rendered. Consulting services are an allowable use of Asset Forfeiture/Seizure funds.

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL ACTION:

1. Receive Staff presentation and review Council questions with staff
2. Open Public Comment
3. Close Public Comment

4. Motion to find that the City is best served by negotiating with Susan Price Consulting for professional services associated with the COPS grant, approve the supplemental budget request in the amount of \$5,000 for the development, completion, and submission of the COPS hiring grant, and authorize the Chief of Police to execute a professional services contract with Susan Price Consulting to research, develop, complete, and submit on behalf of the Fortuna Police Department for the 2023 COPS grant. Voice vote.

ATTACHMENTS:

- Supplemental Budget Request
- Susan Price Consulting Biography and Work Experience
- Susan Price Consulting Representative Work 1991- 2022
- Preliminary Scope of Work 2023