

167

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**



FROM: Community Health Agency/Department of Public Health

SUBMITTAL DATE:
May 26, 2006

SUBJECT: National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS) Report

RECOMMENDED MOTION:

- 1) Receive and file the National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS) Report.

BACKGROUND: The National Violent Death Reporting System grant from the California Department of Health Services was approved by the Board of Supervisors at the May 9, 2006 meeting (item 3.7). This report addresses the questions posed by Supervisor Stone during approval of the grant.

Riverside County is one of the five counties in California to participate in the National Violent Death Reporting System (NVDRS). Thanks to the unanimous support of the Riverside County Board of Supervisors, we will be joining San Francisco, Alameda, Santa Clara, and Los Angeles Counties in this effort to extract and analyze previously untapped information and identify trends among violent deaths. While some of this data has been available in

(Continued on page 2)

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Susan Harrington, Director
Department of Public Health

**FINANCIAL
DATA**

Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$ 0	In Current Year Budget:	N/A
Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$ 0	Budget Adjustment:	N/A
Annual Net County Cost:	\$ 0	For Fiscal Year:	

SOURCE OF FUNDS:

Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
Requires 4/5 Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE

County Executive Office Signature

Dep't Recomm.: Consent Policy

Per Exec. Ofc.: Consent Policy

Prev. Agn. Ref.: 3.7 of 5/9/06

District: All

Agenda Number:

3.13

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Page 2

Background Continued:

fractious elements collected and used by a variety of agencies, this is the first effort of its kind to compile information from several critical sources and foster interagency collaboration and data sharing. Violent death information collected through a partnership between the Riverside County Department of Public Health, the Riverside County Sheriff's Department, and other law enforcement agencies will allow the participants to generate comprehensive and cohesive profiles of individual and multi-casualty events that, historically, have been difficult or impossible to evaluate for important commonalities. All partners believe that encouraging this enhanced level of interagency cooperation will lead to innovative approaches toward the ultimate goal of improving public safety and saving lives.

A full and effective collaboration on the NVDRS project, of which 17 states now participate, requires the exchange of information from multiple sources including coroner's reports, law enforcement reports, and death certificates on all violent deaths (homicide, suicide, unintentional firearm deaths and deaths of undetermined intent). To this end, this project has received an exceptional level of support and participation from the Riverside County Sheriff's Department, Coroner's Bureau and the Riverside County Sheriff's Department, Central Homicide Unit. By partnering with the Sheriff's Department, Coroner's reports will be received for most violent deaths and law enforcement reports will be received on approximately 70 percent of the violent deaths that occur in Riverside County. In the next year, the project plans to initiate discussion with the City of Riverside Police Department, which handles approximately 18 to 20 percent of the violent deaths in the county and therefore would result in collecting information on approximately 90 percent of all violent deaths occurring in the county.

NVDRS data will be invaluable as partner agencies strive to generate community awareness of the magnitude of this issue and support allocation of resources to those positioned to have the greatest impact on saving lives. In addition, the current NVDRS system as used in other states has already produced data that sheds light on factors frequently associated with violent death that are clearly areas where greater community intervention could make a difference; including: intimate partner violence, and drug and alcohol use/abuse. Data is being used in other states to support, develop, and fund new and existing programs that target persons at highest risk of being victims or perpetrating violent acts on themselves or others.

The NVDRS project has just been initiated in Riverside County and it will take some time before sufficient data will have been collected and analyzed to report local findings. We expect that in two years there will be sufficient information to begin addressing violent death prevention measures with partners and policy makers.