

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



ITEM: 3.4
(ID # 24663)

MEETING DATE:
Tuesday, May 07, 2024

FROM : DISTRICT ATTORNEY:

SUBJECT: DISTRICT ATTORNEY: Authorize the District Attorney to Submit Application, Execute an Agreement and Accept Grant Funding from the California Department of Insurance for the Organized Automobile Fraud Activity Interdiction Program for Fiscal Years 2024 - 2027 with Adoption of Resolution No. 2024-089. All Districts [State of California 100%]

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the board of Supervisors:

1. Authorize the District Attorney or designee to submit application, execute an agreement and accept the Grant Award from the State of California Department of Insurance Commissioner for the Organized Automobile Fraud Activity Interdiction Program for a three-year period beginning July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027; and
2. Adopt Resolution No. 2024-089 authorizing the District Attorney or designee to sign the Grant Award Letter, and related agreements, amendments and/or extensions with the California Department of Insurance on behalf of the County, as approved to form by County Counsel and provided that the County's contribution share has been budgeted for and approved by the Board.

ACTION:

Jared Haringsma

4/19/2024

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

On motion of Supervisor Perez, seconded by Supervisor Spiegel and duly carried by unanimous vote, IT WAS ORDERED that the above matter is approved as recommended.

Ayes: Jeffries, Spiegel, Washington, Perez and Gutierrez
Nays: None
Absent: None
Date: May 7, 2024
xc: DA

Kimberly A. Rector
Clerk of the Board

By: 
Deputy

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| FINANCIAL DATA | Current Fiscal Year: | Next Fiscal Year: | Total Cost: | Ongoing Cost |
|--|-----------------------------|--------------------------|---|---------------------|
| COST | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$ 0 |
| NET COUNTY COST | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 | \$ 0 |
| SOURCE OF FUNDS: State of California 100% | | | Budget Adjustment: No | |
| | | | For Fiscal Year: 24/25, 25/26, 26/27 | |

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION: Approve.

BACKGROUND:

Summary

California Insurance Code Section 1874.8 directs the California Insurance Commissioner to award three (3) to ten (10) grants for a coordinated program targeted at the successful prosecution and elimination of organized automobile fraud activity. In determining whether to award a district attorney a grant, the Commissioner must consider factors including, but not limited to, the county's level of general criminal activity, population density, automobile insurance claims frequency, number of suspected fraudulent claims, and prior and current evidence of organized automobile fraud activity.

To this end, the combined Riverside-San Bernardino Organized Automobile Fraud Activity Interdiction Grant is an ongoing program designed to investigate and prosecute organized automobile insurance fraud activity. Pursuant to the provisions of California Insurance Code Section 1874.8, the California Department of Insurance (CDI) has a maximum award of \$6,841,000 of budget authority to be allocated in each fiscal year (FYs 2024-25, 2025-26 and 2026-27) in the three-year funding cycle starting July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2027.

For more than a decade, the District Attorneys of both San Bernardino and Riverside have recognized that many of the demographics, economics and criminality in both counties are so similar that they are not limited to each individual county and are in fact Inland Empire Regional issues. Throughout this time frame the District Attorneys' Offices have enjoyed close working relationships, particularly in the area of insurance, consumer, and real estate fraud, as well as in the prosecution of environmental crimes. Similarly, the police agencies in the two counties have long term partnerships in regional narcotics, financial crime, gang, and auto theft task forces and investigations. The existing relationship between our counties, as well as the sharing of the URBAN grant, has permitted our offices, which are both served by the Inland Empire branch of the Fraud Division, to take a regional, multicounty view of cases and their impacts. In order to accomplish this, both offices have worked together since the inception of the URBAN grant program, communicating frequently about cases, suspects and emerging issues.

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By combining our efforts, we have been able to provide service to the citizens of the largest area of Southern California, stretching from the Orange, San Diego, Imperial, Los Angeles, and Kern County lines and to the Arizona and Nevada border.

The majority of the cases in the URBAN grant program, at both the investigation and prosecution stages, are generated from the two-county URBAN grant task force hosted at the inland regional fraud office of the department of insurance. This task force brings together the investigators from the Department of Insurance, the Highway Patrol, a Riverside County District Attorney investigator, members of the regional auto theft task forces (SANCATT and RAID) and prosecutors. The task force receives its direction from the California Department of Insurance regional Captain and Bureau Chief.

Although the District Attorney's Office anticipated funding for this program within their projected revenue budget for FY24/25; a budget modification may be necessary if the funding is awarded. The awarded revenue impacts for FY25/26 and FY26/27 will be included in the department's budget submittal when it is prepared in the respective years.

County Counsel has reviewed the attached resolution and approved as to form.

Impact on Residents and Businesses

All costs under this program will be recovered through grant funding.

Attachment

Resolution No 2024-089


Steven Atkeson 4/26/2024


Aaron Gettis, Chief of Deputy County Counsel 4/25/2024

1 Board of Supervisors

County of Riverside

2 RESOLUTION NO. 2024-089

3 RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
4 COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, AUTHORIZING THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY TO SUBMIT APPLICATION,
5 EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE TO ACCEPT
6 THE ORGANIZED AUTOMOBILE FRAUD ACTIVITY INTERDICTION PROGRAM GRANT AWARD

7
8 WHEREAS, the County of Riverside desires to undertake a certain program designated the
9 Organized Automobile Fraud Activity Interdiction Program to be funded by revenues made available
10 through and administered by the California Department of Insurance (hereinafter referred to as "DOI");
11 and

12 WHEREAS, the Office of the District Attorney works on behalf of the County to investigate and
13 prosecute automobile theft and automobile fraud cases; and

14 WHEREAS, the Office of the District Attorney working on behalf of the County accepts liability for
15 the local Organized Automobile Fraud Activity Interdiction Program; and

16 WHEREAS, the grants received hereunder shall not be used to supplant expenditures controlled
17 by the Office of the District Attorney.

18 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, DETERMINED AND ORDERED by the Board
19 of Supervisors of the County of Riverside, State of California, in regular session assembled on May
20 7, 2024, that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Riverside, located on the first floor of the
21 County Administrative Center, 4080 Lemon Street, Riverside, California, hereby authorizes the District
22 Attorney of the County of Riverside or his designee to submit application to the California
23 Department of Insurance and is authorized to execute on behalf of the Board of Supervisors
24 the Grant Award Agreement on behalf of the County, as well as related contracts, amendments, or
25 extensions with DOI that do not significantly change the grant or contract.

26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the resolution shall be in effect for a three-year period
27 beginning July 1, 2024 and ending June 30, 2027.
28

FORM APPROVED COUNTY COUNSEL
BY  RYAN D YABKO DATE 4/24/24

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3 RESOLUTION NO. 2024-089

4 RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS OF THE
5 COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, AUTHORIZING THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY TO SUBMIT
6 APPLICATION, EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
7 INSURANCE TO ACCEPT THE ORGANIZED AUTOMOBILE FRAUD ACTRIVITY
8 INTERDICTION PROGRAM GRANT REWARD

9
10 ROLL CALL:

11
12 Ayes: Jeffries, Washington, Spiegel, Perez, and Gutierrez

13 Nays: None

14 Absent: None

15
16
17 The foregoing is certified to be a true copy of a resolution duly adopted by said Board of
18 Supervisors on the date therein set forth.

19
20 KIMBERLY A. RECTOR, Clerk of said Board

21
22 By:  _____

23 Deputy