



DATE OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING: March 1, 2005

TO: GARY L. KEEFE, City Administrator

FROM: WILLIAM F. BROWN, JR., Chief of Police

SUBJECT: APPLICATION FOR EDWARD BYRNE MEMORIAL JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT

Recommendation: that the City Council:

1. Conduct a public hearing regarding the City of Lompoc's allocation of \$17,582 under the 2005 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG).
2. Authorize the Lompoc Police Department to apply for the 2005 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) to obtain the Federal allocation of \$17,582.
3. Authorize the City Administrator or his designee to sign all grant forms, assurances and certifications associated with the 2005 Justice Assistance Grant.

Background:

For the last eight years the Lompoc Police Department has depended upon Edward Byrne Memorial funds provided by the United States Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance to partially cover the salary of a Lompoc Police Officer assigned as a member of the Santa Barbara Regional Narcotics Enforcement Team (SBRNET). In previous years this grant was obtained and managed by the Santa Barbara County Probation Department. Each of the law enforcement agencies represented on SBRNET allowed the Probation Department to manage these funds collectively.

SBRNET is a regional narcotics team with members from Santa Barbara County Sheriff's Department, Santa Barbara Police Department, Santa Barbara County Probation Department, Santa Maria Police Department, Lompoc Police Department, Guadalupe Police Department, California Highway Patrol and the California Bureau of Narcotics Enforcement. SBRNET is designed to target high level drug dealers and money laundering operations. In 2002, SBRNET was credited with the arrest of 24 drug dealers involved in a complex gang/drug operation in Lompoc. SBRNET has made many significant arrests and is the only unit in Santa Barbara County with the resources to engage in the type of complex and time consuming investigations required for targeting the influx of large quantities of drugs into our communities.

In 2005 the U.S. Department of Justice has changed their method for distribution of Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance (JAG) funds. They have combined the

allocation of JAG funding with the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant (LLEBG). The Department of Justice has adopted an application and grant management process very similarly constructed to that used under previous LLEBG grants. Because of this change, the JAG application needs to be processed locally as opposed to regionally as was the case in previous years. The application process also requires that the local governmental unit hold a public hearing and approve of the local agency's application 30 days prior to submission of the application. The application deadline is March 31, 2005.

Conclusion:

The Lompoc Police Department intends to apply for the 2005 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) to obtain \$17,582 to be applied to the salary of the Lompoc Police Officer assigned to SBRNET.

Therefore, it is recommended that the Lompoc City Council:

- Conduct a public hearing regarding the City of Lompoc's allocation of \$17,582 under the 2005 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG).
- Authorize the Lompoc Police Department to apply for the 2005 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) to obtain the Federal allocation of \$17,582.
- Authorize the City Administrator or his designee to sign all grant forms, assurances and certifications associated with the 2005 Justice Assistance Grant.

Respectfully submitted,

WILLIAM F. BROWN, JR.
Chief of Police

APPROVED FOR SUBMITTAL TO CITY COUNCIL:

GARY L. KEEFE
City Administrator