County of Los Angeles
Sheriff's Department Headquarters
4700 Ramona Boulevard
Monterey Park, California 91754-2169

LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

June 4, 2008

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

AUTHORIZE THE COUNTY PURCHASING AGENT TO PURCHASE ONE FIXED ASSET ITEM, WHICH INCLUDES INSTALLATION COSTS EXCEEDING 30 PERCENT OF THE TOTAL PURCHASE PRICE (ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

SUBJECT

In order to comply with State and local fire regulations, it is necessary to secure a vendor to furnish and install a fire suppression system for the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's (Department) six existing biological evidence Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA) freezers, located at the Sheriff's Training Academy and Regional Services Center (STARS).

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

Authorize the purchasing agent to proceed with solicitation, purchase, and installation of a fire suppression system for the six existing DNA freezers located at the Department's STARS Center.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Department is responsible for the security and maintenance of evidence seized for DNA analysis, which is stored frozen per State recommendation. The six freezers currently in operation within the Department's Property and Evidence Facility are not equipped with a fire suppression system as is required by State and local regulations.

The recommended system is an Ecaro Clean Agent Fire Suppression System (Ecaro System), which suppresses fire by displacing the oxygen within the freezer units. This system effectively suppresses fire without affecting the integrity of the evidence items contained within the freezer(s).

Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals

Purchasing the fire suppression system supports the County of Los Angeles' Strategic Plan. The Department will be able to realize this by achieving Goal 2, Work Force Excellence. The purchase of the system will provide for an improved work environment.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

The estimated cost of the Ecaro System including plans, permits, and installation is $229,500, which will be funded through Narcotics Bureau's forfeiture funds.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

This is a commodity purchase under the statutory authority of the County's Purchasing Agent. Pursuant to County procurement protocols, Board approval is required to engage independent contractors to furnish and install material where labor exceeds 30 percent of the total purchase cost. The estimate cost for materials is $90,000 and estimated labor cost is $139,500.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

There will be no negative impact on current Department's operations and services.

CONCLUSION

Upon Board approval, please return four individually certified copies of the Board adopted letter. The Department's contact for the requested Board action is John Carillo, Refrigeration Supervisor, Facilities Services Bureau. He can be reached at (562) 706-8154.

Sincerely,

LEROY D. BACA
SHERIFF