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

LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

February 1, 2005

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

Dear Supervisors:

APPROVAL TO DONATE SURPLUS COUNTY PROPERTY TO THE IRAQI NATIONAL POLICE FORCE (ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)

IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:

1. Approve the donation of surplus law enforcement equipment, including ballistic vests, helmets, and other items (batons, handcuff cases, etc.), to the Foundation for Combating Terrorism and Transnational Crime (Foundation), for issuance to the Iraqi National Police Force.

2. Find that this donation of surplus property will benefit the general interest and welfare of the citizens of Los Angeles County.

3. Waive the indemnity and insurance requirements generally associated with County donations of surplus property.

PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION

The Sheriff's Department has received a request from the Foundation, a non-profit organization, Tax ID # 02-0583749, requesting assistance in obtaining surplus law enforcement equipment. This equipment will be used to supplement donations from other departments and law enforcement agencies to outfit the poorly equipped Iraqi National Police Force. Information concerning the Foundation is attached.

As efforts to move Iraq toward democracy continues, the Iraqi National Police Force has been established independent from the Iraqi National Army. The newly formed police force currently lacks the necessary safety equipment to fulfil its mission.

Former members of the Sheriff's Department, as well as other Los Angeles County residents, have traveled to Iraq in order to assist in the formation and training of the Iraqi National Police Force. This donation would supplement safety equipment already obtained from many other law enforcement agencies and departments.

Implementation of Strategic Plan

The donation of surplus law enforcement equipment to the Iraqi National Police Force supports the County of Los Angeles' Strategic Plan. The Department will be able to continue to realize Goal 1 - Service Excellence. The donation of surplus items for utilization by the Iraqi National Police Force will provide them additional support in their efforts to protect their local citizens and the Los Angeles County residents, which are currently serving in Iraq.

FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING

There will be no fiscal impact on the County budget. The equipment to be donated to the Iraqi National Police Force has outlived its service life with the Sheriff's Department.

No financing is involved. The Foundation will assume all responsibility for the retrieval of any donated surplus equipment, as well as the removal of any County emblem. The Foundation will also assume the costs associated with the transportation of the donated items to the Iraqi National Police Force.

FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS

A gift of public funds is valid if the gift serves the public purpose of the donor. The gift must serve the general interests and welfare of the citizens of the County as a whole (Government Code Sections 25365; 25504). In approving this donation, your Board must make the finding that this donation benefits the interests and welfare of the County. This gift serves this purpose, as the Iraqi National Police Force is being trained by military personnel, including personnel whose permanent residence is the County of Los Angeles.

By approving this donation, the Board recognizes that the Foundation is not in a position to indemnify the County against liabilities which might be incurred through the use of the donated items.

IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)

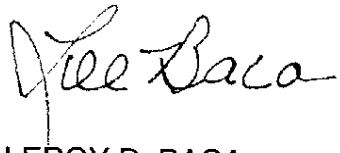
This action would have no impact on current services.

CONCLUSION

This is an opportunity for the County of Los Angeles to assist a fledgling police force. It will also help ensure that their training, which is being conducted with the help of many Los Angeles County residents, is the finest possible while ensuring the future safety of those being trained. There has been recent news coverage of shipments of supplies to Iraq from Orange County agencies, including the Orange County Sheriff's Department. This event was coordinated by the Foundation. Those shipments were arranged and coordinated by the Foundation.

Upon your Board's approval, please send an adopted copy of this letter to the Sheriff's Department's Administrative Services Division, 4700 Ramona Boulevard, Room 330, Monterey Park, California 91754.

Sincerely,



LEROY D. BACA
SHERIFF

Protecting Your Right To Feel Safe At Home

FOUNDATION FOR
Combatting
Terrorism
& TRANSNATIONAL
Crime

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Terrorism - The Power Of Fear

Terrorism, the calculated use or threat of violence against civilian populations to achieve social change, is meant to bully us into actions we would generally not take, or force us to reject actions that we would prefer to take.

Terrorist acts are calculated to get maximum attention and to produce lingering emotional effects beyond the immediate physical damage that they cause. In essence, terrorism is a form of psychological warfare that uses fear to win.

Terrorism strikes at the very heart of our sense of security. Besides causing death and injury to innocent people, along with property and environmental damage, terrorism threatens our fundamental freedoms, economy, even our democratic principals.

Fighting Crimes T

IT WASN'T TOO LONG AGO THAT MOST AMERICANS THOUGHT TERRORISM WAS SOMETHING THAT HAPPENED ELSEWHERE. NOW WE KNOW DIFFERENT.

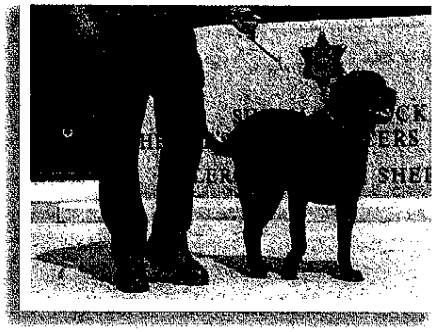
After the 9-11 attacks a group, comprised of law enforcement, criminal justice professionals and private business leaders, formed the Foundation for Combatting Terrorism & Transnational Crime. The Foundation was formed to support members of Southern California and other law enforcement communities in their efforts to confront terrorism and crimes that support it such as, organized crime, cyber attack and international narcotics trafficking. The Foundation has financed specialized training and funded the purchase of resources and equipment with a legitimate connection to terrorism.

While a survey of 122 mayors showed that three-quarters of those surveyed thought their plans for reacting to a terrorist act were satisfactory, fewer than a third had confidence in their ability to detect a threat in the first place, equip emergency workers or communicate effectively with residents, businesses and health workers in the event of a terrorist strike. The fact is that this is a long-term, expensive problem. And we must each sort out where it fits in our personal priorities.

A Community Responsibility

In March 2003, MSNBC reported that the real burden of protecting America's infrastructure falls to state and local governments, who, short of money training and personnel are facing a burden that they can't afford to pay. While there is a new determination to fight terrorism there are also budgetary difficulties that were only magnified by the terrorist attacks of September 11th.

Improving communications infrastructure to allow responding agencies to communicate in real-time is a long-term goal.



Funds are used to purchase and train explosive device detecting canines.

Purchased 24 Level C protective suits enabling members of the South Bay platoon to receive Force Protection & Mass Decontamination training.

hat Can Change Our World

Many officials believe it is not a question of if, but when another terrorist incident will occur that causes mass destruction and casualties. The odds are that terrorism will continue to increase in the number of incidents and threats, as well as in lethality.

Inadequate resources at the local level create a potentially devastating impact on law enforcement's ability to protect citizens from terrorist acts. The list of unmet needs is extensive and rapidly changing. The Foundation for Combatting

The Time For Preparation Is Now

Terrorism & Transnational Crime's mission is to fill that resource gap with private donations to local governments.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS

■ The Foundation has already funded the purchase and training of three explosive device detection canines. One dog was donated to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, the second dog was given to the Los Angeles Unified School District Police Department, and the third dog was purchased for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for use in their Long Beach Resident Agency. This dog will be the FBI's third bomb detection canine for use in the United States.

■ In January of 2004 the Foundation donated $5,000 to the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's recently established Commercial Crimes Bureau/Bomb Technician Underwater Dive Team. Six members of the LASD Arson/ Explosive Detail have volunteered for this Dive Team and are currently in basic and advanced SCUBA training. The

It's A Matter Of Safety

Foundation's funding will provide for the purchase of more equipment and continued training which is required for proper accreditation.

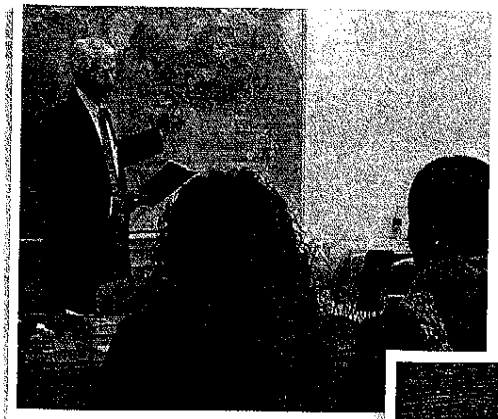
■ The Foundation has funded international exchanges with law enforcement officers from Northern Ireland and from the intelligence unit of Mossos d'Esquadra, a regional police force in Spain.

■ The Foundation has purchased and donated 24 Level C protective equipment outfits and provided them to the South Bay Platoon, a multi-jurisdictional police riot and disaster response team. This will enable members of the Platoon to operate in an environment where weapons of mass destruction have been used.

FUTURE GOALS

■ In the short-term the Foundation is focused on equipping more first-responders with Level C protective equipment which will be needed in the event of a biological, nuclear, or chemical attack.

■ A long-term goal of the Foundation is to assist law enforcement in improving their communication capability though the purchase of command and communications vehicles that convert varied radio frequencies into a single frequency that can be utilized by multiple agencies in the event of an incident requiring mutual aid response.



Has assisted, coordinated and funded international law enforcement exchanges with law enforcement officers and officers from intelligence units from other countries.

The feasibility of assisting law enforcement in the purchase of command and communications vehicles is considered.

Funded the purchase of equipment for the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department Arson/Explosive Dive Team.

FOUNDATION FOR Combatting Terrorism & TRANSNATIONAL Crime

533 N. Pacific Coast Highway, Suite B, Box 524
Redondo Beach, CA 90277

Email: dwebbiam@earthlink.net
Phone: (310) 536-7850

Mission Statement

The purpose of this nonprofit corporation is to support and work with members of the law enforcement community, with a special emphasis in Southern California, in their efforts to combat terrorism and transnational crime.

THE FOUNDATION'S PURPOSE

■ To sponsor the international exchange of law enforcement personnel to share information about procedures, practices, and philosophies. The purpose of these exchanges will be to promote and enhance the training, networking, professionalism and cultural understanding of local police officers and their counterparts worldwide in an effort to combat terrorism and transnational crime, and to foster international cooperation and good will in law enforcement matters of mutual concern.

■ To help provide for the training needs of Southern California law enforcement officers in matters of terrorism and transnational crime.

■ To assist Southern California law enforcement agencies in the acquisition of equipment with a legitimate connection to terrorism, and other assets that will enhance their ability to combat terrorism and transnational crime. The goal is to fund productive programs that might fall outside of the normal budgetary constraints.

■ To work to promote the overall awareness of terrorism and transnational crime among law enforcement in Southern California and the communities they serve.

WHY DONATE TO THE FOUNDATION AND NOT DIRECTLY TO A LOCAL AGENCY?

■ Donating to the Foundation rather than directly to an agency will avoid real or perceived conflicts of interest.

■ It will prevent false expectations on behalf of individual donors.

■ It will most effectively assist in building and supporting successful regional efforts to combat terrorism by providing appropriate incentives for participation.

■ It is more effective in bypassing budgetary and bureaucratic obstacles or internal policy obstacles in order to adequately address the threat of terrorism.

■ It can help insure that donations are used for specified purposes rather than for meeting other budgetary shortfalls.

■ It is a more appropriate source of donations for efforts that require the participation of more than one city and/or require partnerships between governmental entities and the private sector in combating the heightened terrorist threat.

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The Foundation and the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department are separate legal entities. The Foundation is not an affiliate or division of the Los Angeles Sheriff's Department.

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