

CITY OF CORAL GABLES

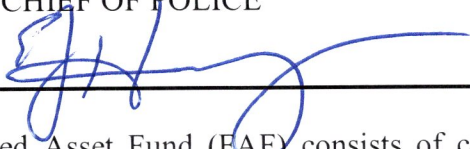
- MEMORANDUM -

TO: PETER IGLESIAS
CITY MANAGER

DATE: NOVEMBER 16, 2018

FROM: EDWARD J. HUDAK, JR.
CHIEF OF POLICE

SUBJECT:
FORFEITED ASSET FUND
REQUESTS



The Forfeited Asset Fund (FAF) consists of certain assets seized during the course of criminal investigations and the proceeds from the sale of certain forfeited assets distributed from both Federal Forfeited Asset Sharing and State Asset Forfeiture proceedings. These assets and proceeds may be expended for law enforcement purposes, but may not be used to meet normal operating expenses of the law enforcement agency.

Listed below are proposals seeking approval to expend State and Federal Forfeited Assets pursuant to the provisions of Florida State Statute 932.7055 and the Department of Justice "*Guide to Equitable Sharing for State and Local Law Enforcement Agencies.*"

In order to proceed with this proposal, the Coral Gables Police Department ("CGPD") is requesting your approval of the following expenditure requests, which have already been reviewed, vetted, and approved by the Forfeited Asset Fund Committee.

STATE ASSET FORFEITURE FUNDS

As provided for in Florida State Statute 932.7055(5)(a), the proceeds and interest from assets forfeited as a result of criminal investigations shall be used for school resource officer, crime prevention, safe neighborhood, drug abuse education and prevention programs, or other law enforcement purposes.

No requests at this time.

FLORIDA CONTRABAND ACT FUNDS

Florida State Statute 932.7055(5)(c)(3) specifically directs local law enforcement agencies to expend or donate twenty-five percent (25%) of the proceeds from assets forfeited pursuant to the provisions of the Florida Contraband Forfeiture Act for the support or operation of any drug treatment, drug abuse education, drug prevention, crime prevention, safe neighborhood, or school resource officer programs.

Accordingly, the Police Department has encumbered assets forfeited pursuant to the provisions of

FSS 932.7055 under City Commission resolutions to be set aside for the support and operation of those types of programs.

No requests at this time.

FEDERAL ASSET FORFEITURE FUNDS

1. TASER 7 Transition

The Coral Gables Police Department has identified a need to transition its fleet of issued TASER equipment to the new generation TASER 7. The TASER 7 replaces previous generations of digital TASERs, the X26P and X26E, which are currently in use by the Department. It is anticipated that the current fleet of TASER equipment will no longer be supported by vendor Axon due to the launch of the TASER 7, and in addition to the many advantages offered by the newer model, the Department would like to take preventative measures to ensure all Police equipment will be supported and maintained for both Officer and public safety.

The transition to the TASER 7 allows for an upgrade in the less lethal options available to Officers. The TASER 7 utilizes a two-bay cartridge system, which allows Officers to deploy a second cartridge, if needed as a result of a miss or disconnect, simply by pulling the trigger. The cartridges can also be re-energized through an Arc Switch on the side of the TASER 7, in the event of continued resistance by the subject. Varying degree spreads of cartridge deployment allow for close quarter and greater distance proximities, for better subject incapacitation. Furthermore, the Adaptive Cross Connect feature of the TASER 7 maximizes the probe deployment's effectiveness to help compensate for close probe spreads, clothing disconnects or probe misses.

Additional features include a louder warning than previous models, thereby enhancing it as a de-escalation tool, and a full integration with Axon's evidence management system.

As a result of the benefits of the TASER 7 and the anticipation that current models will no longer be supported in the near future, the Training Section recommends the Department's transition to the TASER 7 generation over a five-year period. The cost to transition the Police Department's fleet of TASER equipment to the TASER 7 model over the five-year period will not exceed \$650,000.

List Amount	\$724,342.00
Discounts	(\$78,634.00)
Total	\$645,708.00

AXON is the sole vendor of TASER products, and all previous TASER equipment has been procured through sole source vendor authorization. A sole source letter and Procurement authorization form will be provided for compliance with the City's Procurement Code.

The "Guide to Equitable Sharing for State and Local Law Enforcement Agencies" by the United States Department of Justice provides direction to local law enforcement agencies on the permissible uses of forfeited assets shared with local agencies as a result of a local agency's participation in federal criminal investigations.

Per this guide, a permissible use of federally forfeited assets is the cost associated with law enforcement equipment.

Accordingly, a motion was made to the FAF Committee proposing an expenditure of \$650,000 in forfeited assets to fund the transition to TASER 7 equipment.

2. BolaWrap

The Coral Gables Police Department has recommended the purchase of the BolaWrap 100 model in order to bridge the gap between physical restraint and less-lethal options available to Officers. Created by Wrap Technologies, Inc., the BolaWrap is a unique handheld remote restraining device that discharges an eight foot bola-style Kevlar tether. The tether travels at approximately 640 feet per second to entangle a subject at 10 to 25 feet. By nature, it would be the most effective approach in slower evolving incidents, as it impedes a subject's mobility and does not rely on pain compliance in anyway.

Training instructors tested and evaluated the BolaWrap 100, and the vendor held a train-the-trainer course at the Department that was attended by members of the Training staff. It was determined to be a positive tool for Officer engagement of subjects.

The Training Section recommends the acquisition of 45 BolaWrap units and associated equipment (cartridges, holsters and belt clips) as part of an initial deployment. The units would be issued to Sergeants of the Uniform Patrol and Specialized Enforcement Divisions, and to personnel assigned to the S.W.A.T. unit. This initial deployment of equipment can be acquired at a cost not to exceed \$55,000.

<u>Description</u>	<u>Qty / Rate</u>	<u>Total</u>
BolaWrap 100	45 / \$800.00	\$36,000.00
Crimson Trace Green Laser Sight	45 / \$0.00	\$0.00
BolaWrap 100 Cartridge – Blue – 40 Degree	450 / \$30.00	\$13,500.00
BolaWrap Holster – Thigh Rig Set, Black	45 / \$60.00	\$2,700.00
BolaWrap 100 Belt Clip	15 / \$12.00	\$180.00
	Overall Total	\$52,380.00

Wrap Technologies, Inc. is the sole vendor of the BolaWrap product. A sole source letter and Procurement authorization form will be provided for compliance with the City's Procurement Code.

The "*Guide to Equitable Sharing for State and Local Law Enforcement Agencies*" by the United States Department of Justice provides direction to local law enforcement agencies on the permissible uses of forfeited assets shared with local agencies as a result of a local agency's participation in federal criminal investigations.

Per this guide, a permissible use of federally forfeited assets is the cost associated with law enforcement equipment.

Accordingly, a motion was made to the FAF Committee proposing an expenditure of \$55,000 in forfeited assets to fund the purchase of BolaWrap equipment.

EJH/kem