

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: MAY 17, 2006

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER *J*

SUBJECT: ACCEPTANCE OF \$222,000 URBAN AREA SECURITY INITIATIVES
GRANT FOR THE INCREASED SECURITY FOR THE ALBERT V. BRYAN
U.S. COURTHOUSE

ISSUE: City Council accepts the Urban Area Security Initiatives (UASI) grant, in the amount of \$222,000, for the increase in security operations at the Albert V. Bryan U.S. Courthouse.

RECOMMENDATION: That City Council:

- (1) Approve the submission of the UASI sub-grant award; and
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to complete the necessary paperwork.

BACKGROUND: On November 8, 2004, a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was established between the Alexandria Fire Department, Alexandria Police Department, United States Department of Justice United States Marshals Service for the Eastern District of Virginia, and the United States Department of Homeland Security Federal Protective Services for the National Capital Region. The agreement was developed to outline the roles and responsibilities during an incident involving the Albert V. Bryan U.S. Courthouse; to integrate specialized units within the various agencies for joint coordination; and to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, and cohesion of operations between the federal and local entities. The agreement also ensures that the Alexandria agencies are promptly notified of any actual or potential emergency situation in or around the U.S. Courthouse.

DISCUSSION: For the normal day-to-day operations, the U.S. Marshals Service and the Federal Protective Services handle the security and operations at the Albert V. Bryan U.S. Courthouse. The Alexandria Fire Department and the Alexandria Police Department only assist with the federal courthouse security when a request has been made by the U.S. Marshals Service, usually in the event of a high-profile suspect, such as an alleged terrorist.

FISCAL IMPACT: The grant covers the reimbursement of overtime expenditures up to a maximum amount of \$222,000 through January 2007. During the past three months, the City staff have been assisting at the federal courthouse in the security and screening efforts for the Zacarias Moussaoui sentencing trial. During this time, the City expended approximately \$195,000. Through this grant, the City will be able to seek reimbursement for those expenditures. At this time, the City staff have no known additional high-profile motions or hearings that would cause the City to exceed the allotted grant award. Additionally, any party can withdraw from the MOA, at any time and for any reasons, with thirty days written notice.

The grant is administered by the Grants Coordinator within the City Managers Office and requires staff time from members of the Fire Department, Police Department, Office of the Sheriff, Finance Department, and Office of Management and Budget.

The grant paperwork was submitted, in order to meet the deadline of May 18, 2006, with the understanding that subsequent City Council approval would be required to accept this grant award.

STAFF:

Laura Pettus, Grants Coordinator, City Manager's Office
John North, Battalion Chief, Fire Department
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Veronica Mitchell, Captain, Sheriff's Office
Mark Penn, Emergency Management Coordinator
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