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## City of Alexandria, Virginia

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: SEPTEMBER 28, 2005

TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL

FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER 

SUBJECT: SUBMISSION OF A RESCUE SQUAD ASSISTANCE GRANT  
APPLICATION TO THE VIRGINIA OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL  
SERVICES TO PURCHASE EMS TRAINING MANIKINS FOR THE FIRE  
DEPARTMENT

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**ISSUE:** City Council consideration of a grant application, in the amount of \$11,400, for Virginia Office of Emergency Medical Services Rescue Squad Assistance Fund (RSAF) program.

**RECOMMENDATION:** That City Council:

- (1) Approve the submission of an electronic grant application totaling \$11,400 to the Virginia Office of Emergency Services to purchase advanced life support (ALS) training manikins for the Fire Department; and
- (2) Authorize the City Manager to execute all the necessary documents that may be required.

**DISCUSSION:** The Alexandria Fire Department offers training in certification in pediatric advanced life support (PALS), advanced cardiac life support (ACLS), and basic life support (BLS) training to its EMS providers and many EMS providers in the surrounding jurisdictions. Currently, the department has two adult manikin heads to practice intubations, a few IV arms that can be cannulated, a full-size BLS manikin with defibrillation capabilities, and a separate chest that can be decompressed. The two adult ALS manikin heads for intubation training are both damaged to the point that providers cannot experience a realistic success or failure with intubation. There are no pediatric or infant heads or full-size manikins, so the providers learn the procedures in the classroom and “voice” the procedure, instead of being able to practice the techniques. By having the advanced equipment available, the providers can learn and practice in a controlled environment with instruction and guidance.

The Alexandria Fire Department is requesting \$11,400 in grant funds, through the state RSAF program to help solve these problems through the purchase of three ALS manikin heads in adult, pediatric, and infant sizes and three full-size ALS manikins in adult, pediatric, and infant sizes.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The RSAF is designed to cover 50 percent of the total project budget. The total cost of the program is \$11,400: adult body (\$4,100), child body (\$3,650), infant body (\$2,100), adult head (\$600), pediatric head (\$525), and infant head (\$425). If awarded, the State share will be \$5,700 and the local match will be \$5,700. The proposed source of the local match will come from the Fire Department's current budget. In addition to the match, the City will be responsible for the minimal cost to maintain the equipment over the coming years.

The Fire Department has submitted the grant application in order to meet the deadline of September 15, 2005, with the understanding that subsequent City Council authorization would be required to accept this grant award.

**STAFF:**

Vince Whitmore, Deputy Fire Chief, EMS  
Laura Pettus, Emergency Management Analyst  
Gary A. Mesaris, Fire Chief