

LRB – RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS SECTION

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE
FILE #090872**

NOVEMBER 19, 2009

File #090872 authorizes the Milwaukee Police Department to accept and fund a renewal of the ATF Milwaukee Firearms/Violent Crimes Impact Team task force grant in the amount of \$150,000. Proceeds are used to fund overtime expenses for Milwaukee Police Department officers participating in Firearms Trafficking Task Force and/or Violent Crimes Impact Team activities. Administered through the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives (“ATF”), the 100% donor funded grant covers the period October 1, 2009 to September 30, 2010.

BACKGROUND

The Firearms Trafficking Task Force coordinates law enforcement activities addressing transfers and possession of firearms in violation of state and federal laws. Essentially, a MPD detective works with ATF personnel to track questionable firearm transfers and other firearm activities. This coordination is particularly important due to the potential for violence in undercover or sting operations. The Violent Crimes Impact Team conducts long-term investigations into violent criminals associated with street gangs or well organized crime units. This team consists of two detectives and four police officers who work in concert with ATF personnel. Both the Firearms Trafficking Task Force and the Violent Crimes Impact Team are housed in the Criminal Investigation Bureau’s Organized Crimes Division.

In prior years, this grant was presented in two separate files: an ATF/Milwaukee Firearms Trafficking Task Force grant and an ATF/Violent Crimes Impact Team grant. Beginning with the October 2008-September 2009 grant period, the Firearms Trafficking Task Force and Violent Crimes Impact Team overtime grants were combined. **Council Files #081172 and #090523** authorized the acceptance of a total of \$115,000 for this period.

DISCUSSION

This file authorizes acceptance and funding of the continuing ATF Milwaukee Firearms/Violent Crimes Impact Team task force grant for the period October 1, 2009 to September 30, 2010. Proceeds in the amount of \$150,000 represent a \$35,000 increase from the prior grant period in overtime funding for MPD officers participating in Firearms Trafficking Task Force and/or Violent Crimes Impact Team activities. The table below provides 2009 activity statistics for these two initiatives:

2009 ACTIVITY YEAR-TO-DATE

	Firearms Trafficking Task Force	Violent Crimes Impact Team
State Charges	1	54
Federal Charges	<u>15</u>	<u>29</u>
Total Charges	16	83
Search Warrants	0	62
Gun Seizures	31	45

FISCAL IMPACT

Acceptance of this grant requires no City financial participation and has no impact on the tax levy.

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