

LRB – RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS SECTION

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
ITEM 12, FILE #090517

SEPTEMBER 16, 2009

**File #090517 authorizes the application, acceptance and funding of a COPS Technology 2009 Camera grant from the United States Department of Justice – Community Oriented Policing Services in the amount of \$100,000. Grant proceeds will be used to purchase 20 in-squad camera units for recording and supplying video images of traffic stops and field interviews, thereby providing prosecution evidence. Operation of this 100% donor funded earmark grant is for the period September 1, 2009 through September 30, 2012.**

**BACKGROUND**

Administered through the U.S. Department of Justice, COPS Technology grants provide funding for the continued development of technologies and automated systems that help state and local law enforcement agencies prevent, respond to, and investigate crime. Funding allows law enforcement agencies to purchase technologies to advance communications, interoperability, information sharing, crime analysis, intelligence gathering, and crime prevention in their jurisdictions.

In-squad cameras supply video images of traffic stops and field interviews, which may be used as evidence in a prosecution. There are currently approximately 120 fully functional in-squad camera units, also referred to as Mobile Digital Video Recorders (“MDVRs”) and Digital Mobile Video Cameras (“DMVCs”), in operation, with an additional 50 units expected to be installed and activated before the end of 2009. While some in-squad cameras have been purchased with operating funds, a significant majority have been funded via grants, as displayed in the table below.

<i>File</i>	<i>Grant</i>	<i>Dollars</i>	<i>Camera Units</i>
#050383	Impaired Driving Reduction Project Grant	\$250,000	25
#080191	Impaired Driving Reduction Project Grant	\$200,000	40
#080628	Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant	\$167,575	33
#080931	COPS Technology Grant	\$230,414	46

**DISCUSSION**

The COPS Technology 2009 Camera grant will be used to purchase an additional 20 in-squad video cameras.

**FISCAL IMPACT**

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

cc: Marianne Walsh  
W. Martin Morics  
Judy Pal  
Barbara Butler  
John Ledvina

Prepared by:  
Michael Talarczyk  
Legislative Fiscal Analyst  
286-8661  
September 10, 2009