

**LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU FISCAL ANALYSIS**

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE  
DECEMBER 9, 2010  
Item 21, File #100928**

File Number 100928 is a resolution reserving up to \$387,587 from the 2010 Common Council Contingent Fund for the Milwaukee Police Department to purchase replacement body armor.

**Background**

1. Earlier this year, the Milwaukee Police Department informed the DOA-Budget and Management Division that the U.S. Department of Justice had recently revised its standards for the ballistic resistance of body armor. As a result, MPD now has 732 pieces of body armor that will be non-compliant with the new standards and that have warranties expiring at the end of 2010.
2. MPD and the Budget Office learned about the new body armor standards after the 2010 Budget was developed and adopted. Therefore, no funding for the purchase of replacement body armor was included in the 2010 Budget.
3. The Police Department estimates the cost of replacing the 732 pieces of non-compliant body armor with expiring warranties to be \$387,587.
4. The Common Council Contingent Fund provides funding to pay for emergency expenditures that may arise for which no express provisions have been made elsewhere in the City budget. Contingent Fund appropriation requests must be approved by three-quarters of the Common Council and meet at least one of the following criteria:
  - a. Emergency circumstances.
  - b. Obligatory circumstances.
  - c. Fiscal advantage and/or compliance with fiscal management principles.
5. The 2010 Budget provides \$5,000,000 for the Common Council Contingent Fund.

**Discussion**

1. This resolution reserves up to \$387,587 in the 2010 Common Council Contingent Fund for Milwaukee Police Department purchase of replacement body armor in 2010.
2. It is possible that unexpended funds in various MPD operating expenditure accounts may be available at year-end to fund a portion of the purchase price for the new body armor. This is why the language of the resolution calls for “reserving up to” the amount, rather than “appropriating” the amount.

**Fiscal Impact**

This reserves up to \$387,587 in the 2010 Common Council Contingent Fund for a specific purpose, thereby reducing the unreserved balance in the Fund from the current \$5,000,000 to \$4,612,413.

Prepared by: Jeff Osterman, X2262  
LRB-Research & Analysis Section  
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cc: Barbara Butler  
John Ledvina  
Mark Nicolini  
Joel Plant  
David Schroeder