

**LRB-FISCAL REVIEW SECTION ANALYSIS**

**FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**

**ITEM 4, FILE # 040783**

**OCTOBER 6, 2004**

**MARK A. RAMION**

File # 040783 is a substitute resolution authorizing the acceptance and expenditure of contributions received by the Milwaukee Police Department from federally forfeited tangible property of cash for increased or enhanced law enforcement efforts.

**Background**

1. Federal Asset Forfeiture Funds come to the Police Department as a result of department participation in the seizure or forfeiture of tangible property or cash from successful drug trafficking investigations. *The federal government requires the funds only be used for increased or enhanced law enforcement efforts; funds may not be used to supplant existing budgetary efforts.*
2. Common Council File # 920252 requires the Police Department to present an annual Asset Forfeiture Expenditure Plan to the Common Council. The purpose of the plan is to ensure funding decisions provide for the most cost-effective use of these funds. Forfeiture Funds provide a significant level of “discretionary” spending power to the Police Department. A separate resolution is required for the expenditure of Asset Forfeiture funds. Once allocated, the Department can use funds for any approved purpose for a period of up to three years, after which unspent funds revert to the Asset Forfeiture Trust Account and become eligible for re-allocation.

**Discussion**

1. This substitute resolution will authorize the funding of various items in the 2004 Asset Forfeiture Plan. MPD has submitted these items based on needs and priorities within the department.
2. MPD requests that the following items and programs be funded:

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| • <b>Administrative Fees</b>   | <b>\$ 10,000</b> |
| Payments to the U.S. Marshall’s Office to offset expenses related to non-monetary property seizures  |                  |
| • <b>Bomb Suit</b>   | <b>25,000</b>    |
| One of two MPD bomb suits needs to be replaced   |                  |
| • <b>Bomb Containment Vessel</b>   | <b>275,000</b>   |
| The present bomb containment vessel is 30 years old and is need of replacement due to metal fatigue. |                  |
| • <b>Cellular Phones</b>   | <b>25,000</b>    |
| Funds will be used for financing wireless costs  |                  |
| • <b>Computer Equipment</b>  | <b>37,000</b>    |

This funding is for a forensic recovery device to aid in evidence for the computer crimes section.

• <b>Digital cameras and storage devices</b>	<b>355,000</b>
MPD, in its conversion to digital technology, will require digitized electronics for system compatibility.	
• <b>Printing Press</b>	<b>23,000</b>
MPD's printing press, 1970 vintage, recently failed. This press is used for smaller printing jobs and produces approximately 40% of MPD's printing needs. This request was held by the Common Council last year pending the disposition of the MPD Print Shop in the 2004 budget.	
• <b>Glock Pistols</b>	<b>12,000</b>
Glock pistols over 10 years of age and beyond repair are in need of replacement.	
• <b>Shotgun Lights</b>	<b>43,000</b>
Mounted lights will alleviate the need to hold a flashlight while taking aim.	
• <b>Tasers</b>	<b>15,000</b>
This funding will be used to continue the pilot program initiated in 2003.	
• <b>Training</b>	<b><u>25,000</u></b>
Employee training will focus upon narcotics detection and the investigation of drug-related activities.	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 845,000</b>

### **Fiscal Impact**

1. The total amount of this resolution is \$845,000, to be expended entirely from the 2004 MPD Asset Forfeiture Plan. No city operating funds are included in this request total.
2. Upon approval of these items, the Asset Forfeiture Trust Account will have a balance of \$293,000.

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LRB-Fiscal Review Section  
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