



Police Department

Arthur L. Jones
Chief of Police

December 2, 2002

The Honorable Members of the Common Council
200 East Wells Street, Room 202
Milwaukee, WI 53202

RE: 2003 Asset Forfeiture Plan

Dear Council Members:

Pursuant to Common Council File #920252, the Milwaukee Police Department submits an annual report on anticipated receipt of federally seized forfeiture funds for the next calendar year, together with a plan, including priorities for expenditure of such funds.

As of November 29, 2002 the Asset Forfeiture account balance was \$399,396.01. Cash receipts of the fund are subject to many variables, among them the uncertainty of whether the Department will receive funds, the exact share of any seized assets the Department will be awarded, and the effects of changes in the Federal guidelines for this program.

In order to enhance the safety of the community and enable the Police Department to increase its effectiveness and efficiency, this plan includes the following items. Historically, about half of the items presented in the plan are eventually funded, based on the needs of the Department throughout the coming fiscal year.

- 1. Administrative Fees \$15,000**
The U.S. Marshall's Office recovers its administrative expenses from the value of cash and assets seized. For cash awards, the Police Department receives an amount net of the federal government's legal costs and other expenses. However, the Police Department must make direct payments to offset expenses incurred in seizure of vehicles or other non-monetary property. Payment of these fees allows continued participation in this program.
- 2. Auto Track Fees \$14,400**
This is a search engine that links together public records, publicly available records and proprietary records into a massive database that is a valuable investigative tool. With these additional funds, we can utilize the system to a much greater extent, increasing our efficiency and effectiveness in criminal investigations.
- 3. Boat Motor Replacement (s) \$15,000**
The Department operates two harbor patrol boats, and is in need of some engine replacements/upgrades for the 2003 season. In 2002, there were a number of costly repairs, and one of the outboard engines was replaced. The other engine needs replacement in 2003.

- 4. Replacement Bomb robot** **\$150,000**
The Department's current robot was purchased in 1989. As it ages, it has required an increasing number of repairs to remain operable. The Department has included \$20,000 in the 2003 plan for repairs to its existing robot, which we hope will address the main problems. However, this item has been included in the plan as a contingency in the event that the existing robot cannot be repaired.
- 5. Bomb Suits** **\$40,000**
The Department currently has only one functional bomb suit, which is worn by the officers operating the robot and also by officers examining and detonating suspected explosive devices. This suit was purchased in 1989. This suit is a size large, and is not usable by all members of the squad.
- 6. Repairs to existing Bomb robot** **\$20,000**
The existing bomb robot was purchased in 1989. Several components such as arms, the servo motor control modules and the bomb track are in need of replacement.
- 7. Canine Units** **\$10,000**
This funds the food, medical care and boarding for three drug-interdiction canines. Without funding, the Department will be less effective in drug interdiction and subsequently less successful in its attempts to secure federally seized forfeiture funds.
- 8. Cellular Phones** **\$50,000**
Asset Forfeiture has been critical to funding cell phones, which are an increasingly important tool in community-oriented policing.
- 9. Computer Network** **\$127,600**
This item will serve as a source of funds in the event of unforeseen equipment failures. Because there is no replacement budgeting, these funds would supplement capital, grant, and operating funding dedicated to replacing the Department's computer infrastructure.
- 10. Storage of Confiscated Autos** **\$2,000**
Vehicles that are seized as part of an investigation must be properly and securely stored until a hearing examiner determines the final disposition of the case. Use of these funds provides the police with an investigative tool and serves as a key punitive measure against convicted drug dealers.
- 11. Remotely Operated Video Underwater Camera** **\$16,000**
This remotely operated camera, in conjunction with our boats, will allow the underwater investigation team to conduct more efficient evidence and recovery searches.
- 12. GPS for Boat** **\$1,000**

This unit will replace the obsolete unit now in one of our harbor patrol boats. It has additional search and rescue features.

13. Homicide Unit Equipment **\$4,000**

Our homicide investigation unit needs various equipment, including crime viewing screens, forensic light sources, a trajectory kit, cordless lights, in order to conduct its operations more effectively.

14. Investigative Funds **\$50,000**

These funds enable detectives to obtain information and evidence they need to arrest and successfully prosecute drug dealers.

15. Laser Speed Detection Units **\$6,570**

This will expand the number of laser units available for use by the motorcycle patrol officers.

16. Mobile Data Computers (MDC's) **\$100,000**

We anticipate a shortage of MDC's and related radios for 2003 replacement squads. These funds will supplement grant and capital funding.

17. MDT Maintenance Fees **\$2,500**

The fees are used to fund the remaining "first-generation" mobile data terminals that use the Milwaukee County radio infrastructure for access.

18. Mounted Patrol Unit **\$100,000**

The cost of leasing seven horses for the Mounted Patrol includes all resources employed by the local stable.

19. Training Audio Visual Equipment **\$15,000**

The training academy does extensive recruit, in- service and regional training. The current audiovisual equipment in the classrooms has been in service for a long term, and is unreliable and difficult to operate. This equipment will improve the quality of our training operations.

20. Raid jackets **\$1,500**

These jackets are necessary for plainclothes officers participating in warrant executions and multi-jurisdictional operations. These are essential for officer identification and safety.

21. Shot Spotter **\$250,000**

This system remotely reports shots fired in a designated area by electronic means. This would provide immediate notification to the Department of gunfire in a targeted area, and remove reliance on 911 calls for reports of gun activity in these areas.

22. Recruit Training Upgrades **\$6,000**

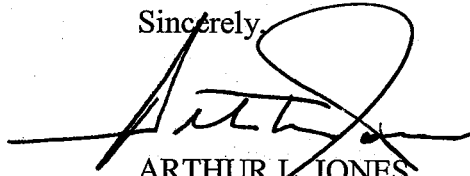
The Department is participating with the State of Wisconsin in a pilot program to upgrade police recruit training. Part of the focus of the upgrade is to provide more

scenario- based training to recruits. This will provide the funds to expand and upgrade our current scenarios.

- 23. Surveillance Equipment** **\$46,000**
This equipment enhances the Department's ability to conduct covert investigations and safely obtain the necessary evidentiary photos and video footage.
- 24. TEU Supplies** **\$4,000**
The Department's TEU unit conducts search warrants, which requires supplies and equipment to keep them safe in highly volatile and dangerous conditions. Supplies have been perennially funded from forfeitures, which are often directly related to this unit's duties.
- 25. Training** **\$50,000**
Asset Forfeiture funds are used for employee training and education. Training prepares employees for greater job responsibilities and increases their effectiveness in regards to their existing duties. Primarily, emphasis is placed on training that consists of narcotics detection and the investigation of drug-related activities.
- 26. Vehicles and Related Equipment** **\$75,000**
These funds would be used to purchase vehicles used in undercover operations and a replacement truck for the Radio Shop. The Department used Asset Forfeiture funds to purchase undercover vehicles in 1996, 1997, and 1999. The undercover fleet is aging rapidly, and a number of vehicles with over 100,000 miles must be replaced in order to reduce excessive repair costs. The radio shop equipment repair truck also needs replacement, and no operating funds were available for this purpose.
- 27. Vest Replacement program** **\$100,000**
The Department's operating resources used to replace officer ballistic vests are finite. This item is a contingency to be used if needed to keep the vest replacement cycle at five to six years.
- 28. Vice surveillance equipment maintenance and repair** **\$3,500**
The Vice Control Division does much of the work that results in drug arrests and asset forfeiture seizures. In order to do this, the division has an inventory of surveillance equipment which needs repair in order to maintain its effectiveness and usefulness.
- 29. Inflatable Boat and Related Equipment** **\$13,400**
The Department does not have an inflatable, portable boat to use for search and rescue operations located at inland water sites such as rivers, ponds and lakes. This boat will be used by the underwater investigation team for evidence searches and recovery operations. This will reduce our reliance on other agencies in case of emergencies.

This plan may be revised, pursuant to the provisions of Common Council File 920252, in the event of a change in the Department's needs or priorities.

Sincerely,



ARTHUR L. JONES
CHIEF OF POLICE

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