

January 8, 2009

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

RE: 2005 Asset Forfeiture Plan

Dear Council Members:

Pursuant to Common Council File #920252, this file requests Common Council authorization for the Milwaukee Police Department to expend \$512,000 from its Asset Forfeiture Funds. The following is an itemized description of the anticipated expenditures included in the resolution. These expenditures are in accordance with the guidelines of the Federal Asset Forfeiture Sharing Program. All the items below were discussed in the 2005 Plan. This resolution will leave \$191,000 in the Asset Forfeiture Trust Account.

- 1. Administrative Fees** **\$15,000**  
The U.S. Marshal'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** **\$18,000**  
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. Canine Unit** **\$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.
- 4. Cellular Phones** **\$50,000**  
Asset Forfeiture has been critical to funding cell phones, which are an increasingly important tool in community-oriented policing and criminal investigations.
- 5. Mounted patrol** **\$105,000**  
The cost of leasing seven horses for the Mounted Patrol includes all resources employed by the local stable.

**6. Range & firearms Training system \$250,000**

The Department's current firearms training system was purchased in 1992. It must be replaced because of its age and extended use. Firearm simulator technology has progressed since 1992, allowing officers more challenging judgmental shooting scenarios with branching capabilities. Firearms training is a vital part of officer training and safety. In addition, capital funds approved in 2004 will have to be supplemented because bids for the lead ventilation system necessary for the officer's health and safety are coming in much higher than originally anticipated.

**7. Slings & Magazines for shotguns \$10,000**

This funding will provide a sling and extended magazine tube for the 150 shotguns deployed in squads. These items will enhance officer and civilian safety.

**8. 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.

**9. 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.

Sincerely,

NANNETTE H. HEGERTY  
CHIEF OF POLICE

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