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- **DATE:** August 9, 2022
- **TO:** 911 Emergency Response Advisory Committee
- **FROM:** Lieutenant Brandon Zirkle, Washoe County Sheriff's Special Operations Division 775 785-6204, <u>bzirkle@washoecounty.gov</u>
- THROUGH: Sheriff Darin Balaam, Washoe County Sheriff's Office
- **SUBJECT:** REQUEST FOR FUNDING FOR WASHOE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE COMMUNICATIONS PSAP: A review, discussion and possible action to approve, deny or otherwise modify a request to fund for the costs associated with 10 Axon Flex 2 Tactical SWAT Kit with ARC Rails to replace broken rails, wires, and mounts used to connect Body Worn Cameras to ballistic helmets used by SWAT during tactical operations. The Axon tactical kit purchase is a total cost not to exceed \$680.00.

#### **SUMMARY**

# FOR WASHOE COUNTY SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS (SWAT) WASHOE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE COMMUNICATIONS CENTER:

A review, discussion and possible action to approve, deny or otherwise modify a request to fund for the costs associated with 10 Axon Flex 2 Tactical SWAT Kit with ARC Rails to replace broken rails, wires, and mounts used to connect Body Worn Cameras to ballistic helmets used by SWAT during tactical operations. The Axon tactical kit purchase is a total cost not to exceed \$680.00.

#### **STAKEHOLDER REVIEW(s)**

Stakeholder is the Washoe County Sheriff's Office Special Weapons and Tactics team – Washoe County.

**NRS APPLICABLE:** NRS 244A.7645 Provides for use of 911 telephone surcharge funds for costs associated with the acquisition, maintenance, storage of data, upgrade and replacement of equipment and software necessary for the operation of portable event recording devices and vehicular event recording devices or systems that consist of both portable event recording devices and vehicular event recording devices.

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## PREVIOUS ACTION BACKGROUND

In 2017, the 79th Nevada Legislature passed Senate Bill 176 (SB 176), which requires uniformed peace officers employed by a law enforcement agency and who are in routine contact with the public to wear a BWC device effective July 1, 2018. Since passage, representatives of the Reno Police Department, Sparks Police Department, and the Washoe County Sheriff's Office have discussed a mutually agreed upon vendor to provide body worn cameras. This will ensure equipment interoperability between all law enforcement agencies and smooth prosecution of criminal cases by the Reno City Attorney's Office, Sparks City Attorney's Office and the Washoe County District Attorney's Office.

The Washoe County Sheriff's Office successfully deployed a BWC program on Monday June 11, 2018, three weeks ahead of the State of Nevada statutory mandate in accordance with law. These BWC's have been a welcomed tool to the law enforcement professional documenting incidents in the field as they rapidly unfold. The BWC program has been widely successful overall in our Office.

In a continued effort to expand the use of the BWC within the Washoe County Sheriff's Office, as well as create more transparency in the policing methods utilized by the Washoe County Sheriff's Office, the Washoe County Sheriff's Office SWAT team has implemented the Axon BWC system designed as the Flex 2 camera. This camera is noticeably smaller than the operations and detention BWC's as it is designed to be mounted on the head of the SWAT team member. This ensures the best possible angle for the camera given the amount of cover and concealment a SWAT team uses when it is deployed. SWAT is typically deployed in the highest threat situations, or where a suspect is known to be extremely dangerous. The Axon Flex 2 camera combined with the requested mounting kit allows a SWAT team member to maintain maximum safety while still offering the best view for the camera.

# FISCAL IMPACT

The Enhanced 911 Fund is a special revenue fund which receives revenue pursuant to NRS 244A.7643 in the form of telephone surcharges collected to support the emergency reporting system. Budget authority exists within the E911 Fund Body Worn Cameras, travel and training to the public safety training conferences, for registrations, seminars, and meetings.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the E911 Emergency Response Advisory Committee approve the request to fund for the costs associated with 10 Axon Flex 2 Tactical SWAT Kit with ARC Rails to replace broken rails, wires, and mounts used to connect Body Worn Cameras to ballistic helmets used by SWAT during tactical operations. The Axon tactical kit purchase is a total cost not to exceed [\$680.00.]

## **POSSIBLE MOTION**

Move to approve the recommendation to fund for the costs associated with 10 Axon Flex 2 Tactical SWAT Kit with ARC Rails to replace broken rails, wires, and mounts used to connect Body Worn

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Cameras to ballistic helmets used by SWAT during tactical operations. The Axon tactical kit purchase is a total cost not to exceed [\$680.00].

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