

Donald J. Lee, Jr.

Chief of Police



Key West

POLICE DEPARTMENT

TO: Mr. Jim Scholl, City Manager

FROM: Donald J. Lee Jr., Chief of Police

DATE: April 14th, 2016

RE: Authorize the purchase of 26 Safariland Second Chance Ballistic Bullet Proof Vests from DGG Tactical and Uniform Supply to replace expiring vests for Police Officers in the amount of \$21,619.24

Action Statement:

This resolution authorizes the purchase of 26 Second Chance Level II and IIIA Ballistic Body Armor/Bullet Proof Vests with carriers from DGG Tactical and Uniform Supply in the amount of \$21,619.24 under the State of Florida Contract for "Body Armor(Protective Vests)", contract #680-850-11-1; Safariland; effective dates 01/30/2011 through 01/29/2017. This purchase is authorized and made pursuant to City Ordinance 2-797(3)(a)(b)(c) and 2-844(a)(b).

Background:

The Key West Police Department supplies all sworn officers with ballistic body armor (bullet proof vests) in the best interest of the officer, the agency, and in compliance with the PBA Collective Bargaining Agreement and to meet the mandatory wear policy required by the recipients of the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Bullet Proof Vest Partnership Grant which the Department has been awarded on an ongoing basis. These vests must be replaced every five years as the useful service life of the ballistic panels degrade over time and lose their effectiveness. The Second Chance SM02 Level II and IIIA Ballistic Vest has been chosen by the Department for issue to its officers. Previously, the department has purchased all of its vests from Special Products Group who provided on-site vest sizing and excellent customer service to our agency. Since SPG sold its operations to "Red the Uniform Tailor" they lost the state contract bid for these vests. DGG Tactical and Uniform Supply is now one of the recognized state contract vendor for these vests. They provide the same customer service and on site measurements for all vests that SPG did. The other state contract vendors contacted, Lou's Police Distributors and Chief/Law Enforcement Supply will not come to KWPD to do customized vest fitting



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and sizing. The fit, sizing, and comfort of the vest is crucial to the effectiveness and performance of the ballistic vest and for this reason DGG Tactical is our preferred vendor since they do on site measurements for all vests.

DGG Tactical Quote
\$21,619.24

Lou's Quote
\$21,604.46

***Chief/Law Enforcement Quote**
\$21,451.50 (*21,604.16)
*Price if Blauer vest
carriers were added.

Purpose and Justification:

Ballistic Body Armor is a standard issue item to Police Officers by Police Departments nationwide. They offer the officer protection of their vital organs against violent attacks from lethal weapons such as firearms, shotguns, and rifles, and other less lethal weapons such as bats, fists, and to a lesser extent, knives. They also protect vital organs in the event of a serious vehicle accident. The Key West Police Department has a mandatory wear policy in effect for all of its officers conducting Patrol and other field enforcement activities.

Options:

One option is to purchase the vests to meet BJA, Departmental, and Collective Bargaining requirements. There is no other option.

Financial Impact:

Funding for purchase of the 26 Ballistic Vests is included in the FY 15/16 Police Department Budget in operating supplies, account #001-2102-521-5200. The City is reimbursed 50% of the vest costs from the BJA Bullet Proof Vest Grant on all vest and vest carrier purchases through August of 2017.

Recommendation:

It is in the best interest of the Key West Police Department and the City of Key West to purchase the required vests.



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