

Sean T. Brandenburg

Chief of Police



Key West

POLICE DEPARTMENT

TO: Patti McLauchlin, City Manager

FROM: Chief Sean T. Brandenburg

A handwritten signature in green ink, appearing to read "STB".

DATE: November 15, 2022

RE: Authorize the expenditure of State Forfeiture Funds in accordance with Florida Statute 932.7055 for the purchase of a yearly subscription to Leads Online investigative software in the amount of \$8,275.00 pursuant to City Ordinance 2-797 (4)(b), Best Interest.

Action Statement:

This resolution authorizes the purchase of a three-year subscription to Leads Online, an investigative software tool that is necessary to efficiently conduct criminal investigations and will be used daily by the Key West Police Department's Criminal Investigations Division. Leads Online provides accurate information on suspects, stolen items, criminal activity patterns, pawn shop transactions, and information sharing with law enforcement agencies throughout the country. Leads Online will be purchased pursuant to Ordinance 2-797(4)(b), Best Interest. Leads Online is already being used by the Monroe County Sheriff's Office and all local pawn shops. The purchase of Leads Online, at the quoted price, is fair and reasonable and in the best interest of the City of Key West and the Key West Police Department.

Background:

The Key West Police Department and the Monroe County Sheriff's Office previously shared access to an online system called RAPID to track stolen property and pawn shop transactions. Monroe County Sheriff's Office recently switched to Leads because RAPID is no longer available. With Leads Online we are not able to share system access with Monroe County Sheriff's Office and must purchase our own subscription. Monroe County Sheriff's Office and all local pawn shops currently use Leads Online. For this reason, a Leads Online subscription is the only viable option that would meet our needs.

Purpose and Justification:

Due to the loss of access to the RAPID system, we currently do not have access to this necessary investigative tool. By purchasing Leads Online, the Key West Police Department can conduct more



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efficient criminal investigations. This will allow our investigators to conduct searches of pawn transactions and gather criminal intelligence in an efficient and timely manner rather than having to physically respond to pawn shops and search pawn transactions. Access to Leads Online will increase our productivity as well. After conducting an initial search, Leads Online will continue to look for suspects and/or stolen property after the initial search. This allows for our investigators to work multiple investigations at once and advance investigations in a timelier manner.

Options:

One option is to purchase this Leads Online subscription and allow the Key West Police Department to conduct efficient and thorough investigations. Another option is to forego the purchase of Leads Online and continue to not have access to this invaluable investigative tool. The second option will also result in decreased productivity by extending the time it takes to complete criminal investigations.

Financial Impact:

State Forfeiture Funds (172-2111-521-5400) will be used to pay for the initial cost of \$8,275.00. The use of forfeiture funds for specialized training and equipment is authorized under Florida Statute 932.7055. Going forward, the yearly subscription to Leads Online will be supplemented into our annual budget.

Recommendation:

The Key West Police Department recommends the purchase of Leads Online and believes it is in the best interest of the city to do so.



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