

Donald J. Lee, Jr.
Chief of Police



Key West
POLICE DEPARTMENT

TO: Mr. Bob Vitas, City Manager
FROM: Donald J. Lee Jr., Chief of Police
DATE: March 19, 2013
RE: Purchase of COBAN "Edge" In-Car Video Recording Systems

Action Statement:

Authorize the purchase of (10) "Edge" In-Car video recording systems at a total cost of \$52,200.00 from COBAN Technologies of Houston, TX. This purchase is authorized through City Ordinance Section 2-844(a)(b), Brand Name Specifications and 2-797(1), Sole Source Procurement.

Background:

In 2005 the City of Key West Police Department purchased the ICOP brand of in-car video recording systems which included the in-car units consisting of a DVR, two cameras and the "back end" server which allowed for the downloading, archiving, and retrieval of the in-car video/audio recordings. From the beginning of the implementation of this system, problems with the downloading, storage, and retrieval of ICOP videos became problematic. In light of the problems experienced from the initial deployment of the ICOP system and the subsequent uncertainty surrounding the future of this product, the Key West Police Department began the process of testing, evaluating, and selecting a viable long term replacement for the aging and unreliable ICOP system.

From this process, COBAN Technologies, manufacturer of the "Edge" in-car video system was selected over the Panasonic "Arbitrator" in-car video system. Subsequent to selection, twenty (20) complete in-car systems were budgeted and purchased this fiscal year. Those 20 systems have been installed in 20 new 2013 Ford Interceptor patrol vehicles budgeted in FY 2011-12 and received in FY 2012-13.

Ten more new 2013 Ford Interceptor patrol vehicles were budgeted in this fiscal year and savings from the departments total vehicle purchase of 22 vehicles, along with lower pricing on the 20 COBAN systems resulted in funds becoming available to purchase ten more COBAN's this fiscal year.



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Purpose and Justification:

The in-car video recording systems described are necessary to continue progressing toward our goal of phasing out the ICOP units and equipping all patrol vehicles with COBAN systems. This system significantly enhances the function of recording both video and audio of Police activities relating to the collection of evidence and the accurate documentation of police interactions with the public and the environment they serve.

The 20 COBAN systems purchased from COBAN Technologies and installed in our new patrol vehicles have met the Key West Police Department and the Key West Information Technology Department's expectations and requirements for an in-car video recording system.

Options:

One option is to purchase the 10 COBAN "Edge" in-car video recording systems from COBAN Technologies per the attached quote for a total cost of \$52,200.00. This option allows for the continued expansion and enhancement of the departments in-car video recording capabilities.

Another option is to forgo the purchase of these in-car systems. This would result in a quickly deteriorating ability to meet the requirements of this program while hindering the department's ability to carry out its primary mission of providing high quality, professional police services to its citizens.

Financial Impact:

This purchase will be funded by savings in this fiscal years (FY12/13) capital budget realized by savings on vehicles, the 20 COBAN systems, and the deferral of the purchase of APS E ticket systems to next fiscal year.

Recommendation:

Authorize the purchase of (10) COBAN Technologies "Edge" in-car video recording systems for installation in KWPD Patrol Vehicles.



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