

**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: November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014**

**RE: Authorize the purchase of 24 COBAN “Edge” In-Car video recording systems from COBAN Technologies in the amount of \$128,448.00.**

**Action Statement:**

Authorize the purchase of (24) “Edge” In-Car video recording systems at a total cost of \$128,448.00 from COBAN Technologies of Houston, TX. This purchase is authorized through City Ordinance Section 2-844(a)(b), Brand Name Specifications and 2-797(a)(b)(c), 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 subsequent uncertainty surrounding the future of this product, in 2011 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 this selection 44 complete in-car systems have been budgeted and purchased in previous fiscal years (11/12, 12/13, 13/14). With the purchase of the 24 additional COBAN units this fiscal year the entire patrol fleet will be equipped with COBAN systems. The ICOP units and server will be eliminated from use as they have reached the end of their useful service life.



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**Purpose and Justification:**

The in-car video recording systems described are necessary to maintain the essential 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 purchase of these vehicles complies with Infrastructure Goal #4 (Long term sustainability of the City's hard assets) of the City's Strategic Plan.

The products being authorized for purchase from COBAN Technologies continue to meet or exceed the Key West Police Department and the Key West Information Technology Departments requirements for an in-car video recording system.

**Options:**

One option is to purchase the 24 COBAN "Edge" in-car video recording systems from COBAN Technologies per the attached quote for a total cost of \$128,448.00. This option allows for the completion of the 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 is a budgeted item for Fiscal Year 2014/2015 in the Police Departments Capital Fund Budget (101-2101-521-6400) in the amount of \$130,000.00.

**Recommendation:**

Authorize the purchase of (24) COBAN Technologies "Edge" in-car video recording systems for installation in KWPD Patrol Vehicles.



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