



AGENDA REPORT

Meeting Date: June 19, 2012
Item Number: G-5
To: Honorable Mayor & City Council
From: David L. Snowden, Chief of Police
Subject: **RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS APPROVING APPLICATION FOR AND ACCEPTANCE OF A REAL ESTATE FRAUD PROSECUTION GRANT FROM THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES; AND**
APPROPRIATION OF \$20,000 TO FUND REAL ESTATE FRAUD INVESTIGATIONS UNDER THE FY 2012-13 REAL ESTATE FRAUD PROSECUTION GRANT PROGRAM

Attachments:

1. Resolution
2. Grant Award

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that City Council move to accept the FY 2012-13 Real Estate Fraud Prosecution grant. Staff also recommends that the City Council move to appropriate \$20,000 to fund expenses associated with the Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Grant as follows:

FROM	TO
\$20,000 Law Enforcement Grants Fund Unrestricted Fund Balance 19-30000	Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Grant 2012-13 \$14,000 1902105C003 – 71300 Overtime \$3,000 1902105C003 – 73160 Travel \$3,000 1902105C003 – 73170 Training

INTRODUCTION

In 1996, the California Legislature enacted a law which provided grant funds to local law enforcement and prosecutorial agencies to enhance the deterrence, investigation, and prosecution of real estate fraud cases at the local level. In Los Angeles County, these programs are funded by the filing fee imposed for recording real estate documents as required by Government Code Section 27388. The County's Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Trust Fund Committee is responsible for establishing procedures, evaluating applications, and approving applications submitted by law enforcement agencies. After deducting all administrative costs, a portion of the funds are awarded to local law enforcement agencies and the District Attorney's Office.

Funds awarded under this grant may only be used for personnel, equipment, or services used in the criminal investigations or prosecutions involving recorded real estate documents. Although a proposed budget is required as part of the application process, funds are reimbursed only for actual expenditures. Unused grant funds revert back to the Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Trust Fund Committee to be redistributed in upcoming years. The Real Estate Fraud Program is designed and organized to protect property owners against real estate fraud.

DISCUSSION

Grant funds awarded to the City will be used to support investigative operations within the Police Department's Detective Bureau-Financial Crimes Detail as they investigate real estate fraud related crimes. This particular type of crime is complex in nature as it involves researching County records, California Secretary of State Records, and Department of Real Estate records to develop prosecutable criminal cases. As such, a tremendous number of staff hours are expended to properly investigate these types of crimes. Securing the Real Estate Fraud grant strengthens and increases the Police Department's ability to conduct thorough investigations.

FISCAL IMPACT

The City has received a \$20,000 grant award from the County of Los Angeles. Grant funds will be used for overtime, travel, and training expenditures associated with the investigation of real estate fraud crimes. The City will be reimbursed by the County of Los Angeles' Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Trust Fund for authorized grant expenditures.



Scott G. Miller, Director
Finance Approval



David L. Snowden, Chief of Police
Police Approval

Attachment 1

RESOLUTION NO. 12-R-

RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
APPROVING APPLICATION FOR AND ACCEPTANCE OF A REAL
ESTATE FRAUD PROSECUTION GRANT FROM THE COUNTY OF LOS
ANGELES

The Council of the City of Beverly Hills does hereby resolve as follows:

Section 1. The County of Los Angeles administers the Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Grant ("Grant").

Section 2. The City hereby appoints the City Manager or the Chief of Police as the agent of the City of Beverly Hills to apply for and accept a grant from the County of Los Angeles and to execute and submit all documents including, but not limited to, applications, agreements, amendments, and payment requests, which may be necessary for administration of the Grant.

Section 3. The City Clerk shall certify to the adoption of the Resolution and shall cause the Resolution and his certification to be entered in the Book of Resolutions of the Council of the City.

Adopted:

WILLIAM BRIEN M.D.
Mayor of the City of
Beverly Hills, California

ATTEST:

_____(SEAL)
BYRON POPE
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:


LAURENCE S. WIENER
City Attorney

APPROVED AS TO CONTENT:


DAVID L. SNOWDEN
Chief of Police


SCOTT G. MILLER
Director of Administrative Services/
Chief Financial Officer

Attachment 2



County of Los Angeles
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

May 31, 2012

Board of Supervisors
GLÓRIA MOLINA
First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

Chief David L. Snowden
Beverly Hills Police Department
464 North Rexford Drive
Beverly Hills, California 90210

Dear Chief Snowden:

2012-13 REAL ESTATE FRAUD PROSECUTION GRANT

This correspondence is to advise you that your Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Grant Application for the period of July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013, has been approved by the Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Trust Fund Committee for the amount of \$20,000.

Please complete and return the enclosed Grant Acceptance Form and a revised budget based on the new grant amount no later than June 30, 2012. Both documents must be submitted to accept the grant. The Grant Acceptance Form must be signed by you, as the Chief of Police of your Department.

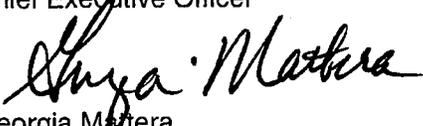
Payment of grant funds shall be made subsequent to the receipt of quarterly invoices. Also, enclosed is the Grant Reporting Form which must be completed and returned by September 1, 2013, 60 days following the end of the grant period. Correspondence should be mailed or faxed to:

Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Trust Fund Committee
c/o Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office
500 West Temple Street, Room 754
Los Angeles, California 90012
Attention: Ron Morales
Fax: (213) 620-1381

All inquiries should be directed to the Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Trust Fund Committee Liaison, Ron Morales, at (213) 893-0055 or at rmorales@ceo.lacounty.gov.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer


Georgia Mathera
Senior Assistant Chief Executive Officer

WTF:GM:SW
RM:cc

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

**Please Conserve Paper – This Document and Copies are Two-Sided
Intra-County Correspondence Sent Electronically Only**

**2012-13 GRANT ACCEPTANCE FORM
REAL ESTATE FRAUD PROSECUTION PROGRAM**

Agency: Beverly Hills Police Department

Address: 464 North Rexford Drive Beverly Hills, California 90210

Telephone: (310) 285-2110

Purpose of Grant: Investigations related to real estate fraud

Amount Awarded: \$20,000

I understand by the acceptance of these funds, the above agency will:

- Utilize the funds for the prosecution and/or investigation of real estate fraud cases;
- Ensure that receipt of these funds will not be used to offset a reduction in any other source of funds;
- Submit reimbursement claims, at the end of each quarter (if any funding was expended during that quarter), to address at the bottom of this form;
- Understand that award of these funds is subject to the availability of funds deposited into the Real Estate Fraud Trust Fund and that in the event funds deposited are insufficient to cover all grant funds awarded, the Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Trust Fund Committee may reduce each agency's grant award on a pro-rata basis;
- Attend the Real Estate Fraud Task Force monthly meeting; and
- Request carryover of unspent grant funds by **June 15, 2013** if investigations and/or prosecutions are still in progress. Requests to carryover funds for salaries and employee benefits will not be allowed unless the expenditures were incurred during the authorized grant period.



Agency Director

6/13/2012

Date

Please return this completed form by **June 30, 2012** to:

Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Trust Fund
c/o Los Angeles County Chief Executive Office
Attn: Ron Morales (213) 893-0055 Fax: (213) 620-1381
500 West Temple Street, Room 754
Los Angeles, California 90012

REAL ESTATE FRAUD PROSECUTION REPORTING FORM
FY 2012-13 (July 1, 2012 - June 30, 2013)

By September 1, 2013, please provide the Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Trust Fund Committee with the information requested below. Please return the completed form to:

Real Estate Fraud Prosecution Trust Fund Committee
c/o Los Angeles County, Chief Executive Office
Attn: Ron Morales
(213) 893-0055 or Fax: (213) 620-1381
500 West Temple Street, Room 754
Los Angeles, California 90012

1. Please provide for FY 2012-13:
Number of cases filed: _____
Number of complaints: _____
Number of investigations: _____
Number of arrests: _____
Number of convictions: _____

2. Number of real estate fraud cases investigated in FY 2011-12: _____

3. Number of victims involved in cases filed in FY 2012-13: _____

4. Number of victims involved in cases filed in FY 2011-12: _____

5. Total aggregate monetary loss suffered by victims in FY 2012-13: _____

6. Total aggregate monetary loss suffered by victims in FY 2011-12: _____

7. Amount of grant funds awarded in FY 2012-13: _____

8. Of the amount awarded, how much was actually expended? _____

9. Detail of amount expended: Amount

Salaries _____
Employee Benefits _____
Overtime _____
Equipment _____
Travel _____
Training _____
Supplies _____
Other _____

10. On a separate page, please provide a detailed description of each of the components listed under #9 (for example, number of staff and classification, type of equipment or supplies purchased, type of training, etc.)