



Board of Supervisors Memorandum

November 15, 2022

Body Worn Cameras (BWC) and TASERs for Pima County Constables

Introduction

Presiding Constable William Lake-Wright has submitted a supplemental budget request to purchase body worn cameras (BWC) and TASERs for the Pima County Constables. The request provides for the purchase of the proposed equipment plus the necessary software and service subscription costs associated with the equipment.

Discussion

Recent events have shown that while BWC may not prevent issues from happening, they can help reconstruct the scenario. Additionally, they can provide the County with data to help against claims should a situation arise. The Presiding Constable notes that BWC would be beneficial in encouraging and proving consistency of approach and in documenting activity.

National studies show that body worn cameras provide:

- Better transparency;
- Increased civility;
- Quicker resolution; and
- Verification of Evidence.

In Pima County, the Constables note that body worn cameras:

- Provide GPS location and navigation;
- Are tied to the TASER and gun holster, so when either are drawn, cameras automatically start recording if not active at the time;
- Create audio and video files that, once downloaded, can be labeled and filed to provide files for each Constable including information related to such things as evictions and orders of protection.

The cost of the supplemental budget request also includes the acquisition of TASERs for the nine Constables. Frequently used by law enforcement personnel, TASERs offer an effective yet less lethal use of force option.

The total amount of the supplemental request for Fiscal Year 2022/23 is \$10,500. If approved, a total of \$15,350 will be included in the Constables' base budget for Fiscal Year 2023/24.

The Honorable Chair and Members, Pima County Board of Supervisors
Re: **Body Worn Cameras (BWC) and TASERs for Pima County Constables**
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This amount represents a total cost of \$78,250 for the purchase of the equipment for nine (9) Constables paid over a 60 month lease. The BWC and TASER equipment will be replaced every 60 months.

Recommendation

I believe it is appropriate that the Constables be provided necessary funds to purchase and operate Body Worn Cameras and TASERs. I recommend approval of a supplemental budget request of \$10,500 for Fiscal Year 2022/23.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jan Leshner", with a stylized, cursive script.

Jan Leshner
County Administrator

JKL/anc – November 3, 2022

c: The Honorable William Lake-Wright, Presiding Constable
Ellen Moulton, Director, Finance and Risk Management
Michelle Campagne, Senior Advisor, Pima County Administrator's Office