



ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

<p>County Board Agenda Item Meeting of September 13, 2008</p>
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DATE: August 21, 2008

SUBJECT: Authorization for the County Manager to enter into reciprocal agreements with federal, state and local jurisdictions for law enforcement purposes.

C. M. RECOMMENDATION:

Authorize the County Manager or his designee to enter into reciprocal law enforcement agreements to the extent provided for in Virginia Code Sections 15.2-1724 and 15.2-1726 through 15.2-1729 and to ratify any such existing agreements.

ISSUES: This is a renewal of a previous County Board authorization and no issues have been identified.

SUMMARY: The County Manager or his designee should be authorized to enter into reciprocal law enforcement agreements that allow the Arlington County Police Department to participate in multijurisdictional and multiagency partnerships in order to effectively meet regional threats and other events that are beyond the capabilities of individual jurisdictions to manage or control.

BACKGROUND: The County Board has periodically authorized the County Manager or his designee to enter into reciprocal agreements with federal, state and local jurisdictions for law enforcement purposes for limited periods of time, typically for a five year period. The most recent renewal of this authority, granted in 2002 for a five year period, has now expired. There is no statutory requirement that limits the duration of the County Manager's authorization to enter into these reciprocal agreements. This action would not in anyway broaden the scope of or alter the authority originally granted by the County Board in previous actions; however, it would not place any time limit on the duration of the designated authority.

The Police Department has successfully used cooperative agreements, for decades, with other agencies and jurisdictions in a variety of contexts especially for the sharing of personnel and resources to establish multiagency investigative teams and task forces. These agreements typically take the form of memorandums of understanding and are limited in scope and purpose to address specific crime activities that cut across jurisdictional boundaries. The police department continues to find law enforcement cooperative agreements an effective community policing strategy and anticipates the continued creation of, and participation in, law enforcement task forces, for the investigation of a variety of criminal activities. A continuing authorization to enter into these cooperative agreements is in the best interest of public safety.

<p>County Manager: _____</p>

<p>County Attorney: _____</p>

<p>Staff: M. Douglas Scott, Chief of Police</p>

The police department maintains a hard copy and catalogues each agreement that it has with other agencies and jurisdictions. Additionally, staff regularly reviews each agreement to determine whether expired agreements need to be updated and/or renewed or if an agreement is obsolete and is no longer necessary. Currently the Department has established nearly 100 multiagency partnerships in order to develop a strategy of regional cooperation in carrying out a wide range of law enforcement activities.

DISCUSSION: The following are working examples of the types of cooperative agreements that the Police Department participates in and are not all inclusive:

- The Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) regional Joint Terrorism Task Force, a multi-agency effort, designed to combine the resources of federal, state, and local law enforcement in counterterrorism investigations.
- The Washington-Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (W/B HIDTA) founded in 1994 to foster cooperation among law enforcement agencies in the region and involve them in developing a strategy to address the region's drug-related public safety threats. The W/B HIDTA uses funding provided through Office of National Drug Control Policy to sponsor a variety of law enforcement, prevention and substance abuse treatment initiatives throughout the region.
- The Metropolitan Area Drug Enforcement Task Force (MATF) is an integral component of the HIDTA program. The MATF consists of Initiative Groups that target particular regional geographic areas and within those areas specific types of drug organizations. Arlington County also serves as the fiscal agent of both HIDTA and MATF.
- The Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force (NVRGTF) is a multidiscipline and multijurisdictional partnership established to interdict and disrupt gang activity in Northern Virginia through dedicated officers and resources.
- The Northern Virginia – DC Internet Crimes Against Children (NOVA-DC ICAC) Task Force was created to help State and local law enforcement agencies enhance their investigative response to offenders who use the Internet, online communication systems, or other computer technology to sexually exploit children. The U. S. Department of Homeland Security Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) has granted the task force use of its Cyber Center Headquarters to house their full-time investigative initiative.
- The Capital Area Regional Fugitive Force's (CARFTF) mission is to locate and apprehend the most violent and dangerous fugitives throughout Washington DC metropolitan area in order to help ensure the safety of the citizens of our nation's capital and surrounding areas.
- Cooperative agreements with the Department of Defense with regard to the Pentagon, Fort Myer, Henderson Hall, and Arlington Hall all outline concurrent jurisdiction as well as those circumstances that will activate the support the Department will provide under these agreements.

FISCAL IMPACT: None

Subject: Cooperative Agreements with Federal, State and Local Jurisdictions