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## **MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Authority Members

From: John Chojnacki, Associate Director – Federal and State Grants Unit

**Date:** October 31, 2007

**Subject:** Summary of Budget Committee Actions Taken October 24, 2007

On October 24, 2007, the Budget Committee met to discuss funding plans for the following federal program funds:

- Violence Against Women Act (VAWA)
- Victims of Crime Act (VOCA)

Authority members and designees present were Wasiu Fashina for Clerk Brown, William McHenry for Sheriff Dart, State's Attorney Devine, Barbara Engel, Director Goetten (via teleconference), Ellen Mandeltort for Attorney General Madigan, Mariyana Spyropoulos, Ted O'Keefe for Acting Superintendent Stark, Colonel Snyders for Director Trent, and Tony Small for Director Walker (via teleconference). Also in attendance were Executive Director Lori G. Levin, Authority General Counsel Jack Cutrone, Associate Director John Chojnacki, and other Authority staff members.

## **SUMMARY OF ACTIONS TAKEN**

All of the following Budget Committee actions contained in this memo were approved unanimously, including the adoption of the minutes of the August 28, 2007 Budget Committee meeting.

## **VAWA**

The Budget Committee voted to implement, if future VAWA federal awards render designation reductions necessary, the funding recommendations made by the Victim Services Ad Hoc Committee at its October 9, 2007 meeting and subsequent Authority staff recommendations. Those recommendations are:

- 1. If necessary, designation reductions would be made by determining what percentage of current funding within the particular VAWA fund areas (Law Enforcement, Prosecution, Victim Service, Court, and Discretionary) is dedicated to each continuing program and making the next year's designation recommendations per that same percentage relative to the federal award amounts dedicated to each VAWA fund area.
- 2. No program's designation will be reduced by more than 20 percent the first year, and no program's designation will be reduced by more than 30 percent, relative to current spending, the second year.
- 3. Any funding recommendations will be made per the above guidelines and brought before a future Budget Committee meeting for approval.

Any future VAWA designations, including designations for the continuations of currently-funded programs possibly reduced per the recommendations above, will be presented to the Budget Committee for approval at future Budget Committee meetings.

## **VOCA**

The Budget Committee voted to implement, if future VOCA federal awards render designation reductions necessary, the funding recommendations made by the Victim Services Ad Hoc Committee at its October 9, 2007 meeting and subsequent Authority staff recommendations. Those recommendations are:

- 1. If necessary, reductions from current funding levels of up to 20 percent would be made for future designations.
- 2. Twenty percent would be the maximum reduction to any single continuing program if fund levels stay the same, i.e. a slightly smaller reduction across the board would be necessary if the VOCA FFY08 award is equal to the VOCA FFY07 award.
- 3. Staff will exercise discretion in the use of future VOCA federal awards prior to making funding recommendations to the Budget Committee. That discretion may be influenced by future VOCA federal award amounts and/or analysis of individual grantees' budgets and/or lapsing funds.
- 4. Any funding recommendations will be made per the above guidelines and brought before a future Budget Committee meeting for approval.

Any future VOCA designations, including designations for the continuations of currently-funded programs possibly reduced per the recommendations above, will be presented to the Budget Committee for approval at future Budget Committee meetings.

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Since this memorandum is the official notification of Budget Committee action taken on October 24, 2007, the following is a reminder to the members of the Authority's organizational rules regarding committee oversight. Section 1750.340(I) of the Authority's Organizational Rules states:

i) Oversight of Committees—In order to provide for oversight by the Authority of actions taken by any committee, whether ad hoc or standing, Authority members shall be notified—by phone, mail or equivalent—of all motions passed by a particular committee, within five (5) business days of any committee meeting, or prior to the next meeting of that committee, or before the next meeting of the Authority, whichever is sooner. Within ten (10) business days of receipt of such information, a special meeting of the Authority may be convened upon the request of five (5) Authority members, for the purpose of fully discussing any action taken by a committee and to supersede the authorization granted to the committee to act on the Authority's behalf in any particular matter.

Subject to the oversight process described above, the Budget Committee action becomes the action of the Authority.

Please contact me if you have any questions.