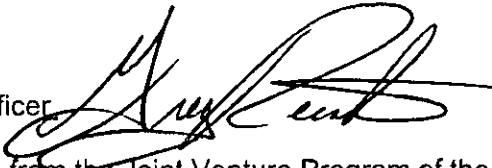




Agenda Item 8

DATE: January 29, 2008
 TO: Board of Supervisors
 FROM: Linda M. Penner, Chief Probation Officer 
 SUBJECT: Adopt Resolution accepting donation from the Joint Venture Program of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Adopt Resolution accepting and expressing gratitude for donations to the James Rowland Crime Victim Assistance Center from the Joint Venture Program of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (\$30,985.49).

The Fresno County Probation Department's James Rowland Crime Victim Assistance Center received two donations (\$12,549.35; \$18,336.14) from the Joint Venture Program, totaling \$30,985.49. These donations will be used for operational costs to provide services to victims of violent crime in Fresno County and be utilized as matching funds for grant purposes.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The recommended action will defray net County costs. The Fresno County Probation Department receives regular donations from the Joint Venture Program and, therefore, includes these estimated revenues in its annual budget. The Fresno County Probation Department's James Rowland Crime Victim Assistance Center recently received two donations from the Joint Venture Program, totaling \$30,985.49. These donations will be used for operational costs to provide services to victims of violent crime in Fresno County and will also be utilized as matching funds for grant purposes.

IMPACT ON JOB CREATION:

Acceptance of this donation will have no impact on the Regional Jobs Initiative.

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Brandi O'Neil Page 1 of 2
 BOARD ACTION: DATE January 29, 2008 APPROVED AS RECOMMENDED OTHER



Official Action of Board of Supervisors

Deputy
 UNANIMOUS ANDERSON _____ CASE _____ LARSON _____ PEREA _____ WATERSTON _____

DISCUSSION:

The Joint Venture Program (JVP) was established in 1990 upon the passage of Proposition 139, the Prison Inmate Labor Initiative, as a rehabilitative endeavor providing opportunities for inmates to gain valuable work experience and job skills training. JVP mandates allow for the establishment of private business operations within California State Prisons utilizing inmate labor. The program is a model of public-private cooperation, benefiting businesses, crime victims, and the State while preparing inmates for successful integration into the community.

Under the program guidelines, inmates are paid a comparable wage that is subject to deductions for Federal, State, and local taxes. Twenty percent (20%) of the net wages are distributed to Victims Compensation. The amount collected for victims compensation is provided to groups who meet several criteria at the discretion of the Warden.

From July 1991 until September 2007, the JVP collected \$3,942,222.00 for victim compensation. Combining payroll taxes, room and board payments, and victim compensation, VJP employees (inmates) have returned over 11 million dollars to the public during that time period.

Many of the JVP employees (inmates) have been able to save thousands of dollars which will be available to them upon their release. The money can then be used to secure shelter, food, transportation, and other essentials necessary for a successful reintegration into the community.

Allwire – Joint Venture Electronics is a business working with the Joint Venture Program since 1991 and has been instrumental in making these funds available to the Fresno County James Rowland Crime Victim Assistance Center.

It is recommended the Fresno County Board of Supervisors accept the donations from the Joint Ventures Program and adopt the Resolution expressing gratitude for continued support of the James Rowland Crime Victim Assistance Center in providing services to victims of violent crime.