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REPORT TO MAYOR AND THE CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Gregory S. Taylor – Deputy Chief of Police

DATE: April 25, 2019

SUBJECT: 2019 NH Charitable Foundation Grant Application

Recommendation

Through the City Manager, authorize the Police Department to apply for grant funding through the 2019 NH Charitable Foundation Grant Program. Funds from this grant will be used by the Department to provide training for personnel and the Department's Comfort Dog in conducting canine assisted interviews of victims who have experienced trauma.

Background

The NH Charitable Foundation provides grant funding to 501(c)(3) organizations as well as schools, municipalities, and other governmental subdivisions for programs that benefit the community. The Concord Police Department would like to utilize funding provided through this grant program to obtain training for Department personnel as well as the Department's Comfort Dog in conducting canine assisted victim interviews. Comfort Dogs have been proven to be highly effective in assisting victims who have experienced trauma with interviews and other interactions in the criminal justice system. Funding from this grant would allow the Department to send Liberty, the Department's Comfort Dog, as well as two of her handlers to specialized training in conducting these types of interviews. This funding would cover registration costs as well as travel expenses associated with the training.

Discussion

This grant will allow for the Concord Police Department to obtain specialized training for Department personnel and Comfort Dog in canine assisted interviewing. This training will be of significant benefit to the Department in assisting victims of trauma in the community. It is recommended that the City Council authorize the Department to apply for up to \$5,000 in grant funding through the NH Charitable Foundation.