



# OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

HALL OF JUSTICE

ROBERT G. LUNA, SHERIFF



March 7, 2023

**ADOPTED**

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

#50 March 7, 2023

CELIA ZAVALA  
EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**REQUEST TO AUTHORIZE THE ACQUISITION OF ONE CELL SITE SIMULATOR  
(ALL DISTRICTS) (3 VOTES)**

**SUBJECT**

The Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's Homicide Bureau is requesting approval to authorize the acquisition of one cell site simulator system which includes one cell site simulator with three-year support and maintenance, one 5G enabler with three- year support and maintenance, vehicular geo-location software, two-week on-site cell site simulator training, two vehicles, two laptops, two batteries, and hardware installation, costing approximately \$1,375,452.98. This purchase exceeds the \$250,000 capital asset threshold established by the Board and requires your approval to move forward with the acquisition process.

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT THE BOARD:**

Authorize the Internal Services Department (ISD), as the County's Purchasing Agent (CPA), to proceed with the solicitation and acquisition of one cell site simulator system costing approximately \$1,375,452.98.

211 WEST TEMPLE STREET, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

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### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

The purpose of the recommended action is to purchase one cell site simulator system. Worldwide, law enforcement personnel deal with suspects who commonly utilize cellular telephone technology and network capability before, during, and after the commission of their crimes, as well as to conduct business for their own benefit, the benefit of their criminal street gang, and/or narcotics (fentanyl) trafficking, and/or human trafficking organization.

Often, law enforcement personnel are required by state law to not only take immediate action regarding crimes in progress, conspiracy to commit crimes, and the immediate threat to the harming or killing of a human being, but to locate, rescue, and assist victims before further victimization occurs.

Currently, Detective Division investigative units are forced to expend many hours locating suspects and victims of crimes. This cell site simulator system will be housed in two respective vehicles for field deployment which will assist investigators in identifying a precise location of a cellular device. This will allow personnel to gain a tactical advantage and increase officer safety when investigating violent crimes.

Procurement of a cell site simulator would greatly enhance the ability of Detective Division personnel to efficiently locate these suspects and their victims.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals**

The recommendations are consistent with the County's Strategic Plan, Goal 5, Public Safety, by providing the Department with greater capabilities to ensure the safety of the public.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

The total estimated cost of a cell site simulator system is approximately \$1,375,452.98. The purchase will be funded using Asset Forfeiture Funds (Project Code AFF 22- 341; Fund DN2 – 41051). There is no impact on net County funds.

### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

Law enforcement is tasked with the primary mission of protecting lives and property. The acquisition of a cell site simulator will support Departmental investigative units in the apprehension of high-risk offenders wanted for murder, arson, organized crime, human trafficking, robberies, narcotics (fentanyl) trafficking, and violent gang crimes.



The product will facilitate electronic surveillance to locate suspects, while mitigating the cost of lengthy surveillance operations and increasing deputy and public safety.

The Department has operated a cell site simulator since 2011. However, the proliferation of 4G LTE and newer technologies has rendered the current cell site simulator obsolete and inoperable. Currently, each of these units, along with all other investigative units under Detective Division, are forced to expend many man hours in identifying and locating suspects who are in the commission of committing crimes and those avoiding capture. The increased time and expenditure of hours decreases public safety and officer safety while simultaneously increasing the cost of locating suspects. The Department seeks a replacement simulator that supports the latest technologies.

California Government Code §53166 sets usage and privacy measures for local law enforcement agencies, including this Department. The Department has operated and will operate the technology in compliance with state law.

On October 16, 2001, the Board approved the classification categories for fixed assets and new requirements for major fixed assets (now referred to as capital assets) acquisitions requiring County departments to obtain Board approval to purchase or finance equipment with a unit cost of \$250,000 or greater, prior to submitting their requisitions to ISD.

### **ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTATION**

The acquisition of a special response vehicle with integrated command post equipment is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act as it will not result in a direct or reasonably foreseeable impact on the environment in accordance with Section 15061(b)(3) of the State of California Environmental Quality Act guidelines.

### **CONTRACTING PROCESS**

The procurement of a cell site simulator system is a commodity purchase under the statutory authority of the CPA. The purchase will be requisitioned through and accomplished by the CPA in accordance with the County's purchasing policies and procedures.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS)**

The cell site simulator system will greatly enhance the Department's ability to protect lives and apprehend violent suspects and/or locate, rescue, and assist victims before further victimization occurs in a safe, efficient, and cost-effective manner.

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
March 7, 2023  
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**CONCLUSION**

Upon Board approval, please return two copies of the adopted Board letter to the Department's Detective Division.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "R. Luna", is written below the word "Sincerely,".

ROBERT G. LUNA  
SHERIFF