



City of Arts & Innovation

City Council Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL **DATE: APRIL 24, 2018**

FROM: POLICE DEPARTMENT **WARDS: ALL**

SUBJECT: PURCHASE OF BALLISTIC VESTS FROM TYR TACTICAL OF PEORIA, ARIZONA, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$62,764.65

ISSUE:

Approve the purchase of ballistic vests for the Police Department's Special Weapons and Tactics Team from TYR Tactical of Peoria, Arizona, in the amount of \$62,764.65.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the City Council approve the purchase of ballistic vests for the Police Department's Special Weapons and Tactics Team from TYR Tactical of Peoria, Arizona, in the amount of \$62,764.65 in accordance with Purchasing Resolution No. 23256, Section 602(c).

BACKGROUND:

The Riverside Police Department's Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team is a highly trained unit that tackles situations beyond the capability of conventional police forces. The SWAT team is called in when an incident presents significant risk to law enforcement officers or the public. These incidents include high risk search warrants, barricaded subjects, hostage rescue and suicidal subjects.

During these critical incidents, members of the SWAT team are placed in extremely dangerous situations where they may be faced with armed subjects with high caliber rifles or handguns. This is why it is necessary for all SWAT team members to be equipped with ballistic vests. The current sets of ballistic vests are set to expire in June 2018.

SWAT ballistic vest offer additional protection not offered on traditional standard vests and include an external cummerbund with plate pocket, bicep, deltoid and upper arm ballistic protection as well as an armor carrier bag which allows the operator to change and adapt to mission sets with minimal effort and maximum efficiency.

DISCUSSION:

The Police Department would like to purchase a set of forty (40) ballistic vests for the SWAT team from TYR Tactical in accordance with Purchasing Resolution No. 23256, Section 602(c), which authorizes exceptions to competitive procurement... "When the Procurement can only be obtained

from a sole source or timely from a single source and the Manager is satisfied that the best price, terms and conditions for the Procurement thereof have been negotiated.”

TYR Tactical is the sole manufacturer and distributor of these ballistic vests to law enforcement and is recognized by other law enforcement agencies for providing quality, reliable tactical gear. Aside from the material, these vests also meet the 5 functions necessary to the team.

1. Vests are easily re-assigned when the designated wearer leaves the team. Standard sizing with large adjustment capability is necessary to reduce replacement costs and facilitate interchangeability.
2. Vests are modular, to allow the replacement of ballistic materials and/or damaged components without replacing the entire vest system and to allow greater wearer mobility. Mission specific ballistic material must be readily attachable and removable.
3. Vests are supported from the hips as well as the shoulders to reduce fatigue and allow greater flexibility.
4. Equipment and accessories attach to the vest via the military MOLLE system. Few accessories remain available that utilize the Velcro and snap system found on vests purchased prior to 2011.
5. Hard ballistic plates can be readily installed and replaceable.

TYR Tactical ballistic vests have been tested and approved by the National Institute of Justice (Soft Armor Level IIIA NIJ0101.06). Level IIIA is a type of soft armor that will provide protection from many small arm weapons. The 9 mm, 44 magnums, and most other handguns will not be able to cause serious injury to someone that is shot in the chest while wearing this type of body armor. When the armor is used in conjunction with other protective panels, maximum protection is provided.

The TYR Tactical PICO-MV Assaulters Plate Carrier is a state-of-the-art body armor system that has a multi-platform modular design which allows the operator to change and adapt to mission sets with minimal effort and maximum efficiency. It's engineered utilizing a patented Pluma Vires (PV) material which offers significant weight reduction with increased resistance to abrasion. PV has been tested to have 7-10 times higher abrasion resistance than standard mil spec nylon. PV also enhances the ballistic attributes of armor within the vest.

The Purchasing Manager concurs with the recommendation and that this purchase meets the current purchasing resolution.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The total fiscal impact of the action is \$62,764.65. Sufficient funds are available in State COPS Grant Account No. 9335600102-44021000.

Prepared by: Sergio G. Diaz, Chief of Police
Certified as to
availability of funds: Adam Raymond, Chief Financial Officer/City Treasurer
Approved by: Alexander T. Nguyen, Assistant City Manager
Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Attachments – TYR Tactical US Patent US9435614