

133 - SHERIFF NARCOTICS PROGRAM - OTHER

Operational Summary

Description:

The purpose of the Sheriff's Narcotics Program (SNP) - Other is to record costs and revenue related to narcotics law enforcement activities and is one of three funds established for this purpose. This fund includes the Sheriff's proportional share of revenue from the State of California narcotics forfeitures through the efforts of the Special Enforcement Bureau and the Department's Narcotics Detail, other grant programs and miscellaneous revenues.

At a Glance:

Total FY 2016-2017 Current Modified Budget:	799,412
Total FY 2016-2017 Projected Expend + Encumb:	39,647
Total Recommended FY 2017-2018:	1,165,831
Percent of County General Fund:	N/A
Total Employees:	0.00

Strategic Goals:

- The goal of the SNP is to investigate and prosecute narcotics violators on a proactive level. The Program is divided into two details: The North Narcotics/Parcel and Airport Interdiction Team and South Narcotics. Both the North and South Narcotics Details focus on retail drug sales and mid-level traffickers who directly influence the quality of life of Orange County citizens. The Parcel and Airport Interdiction Team concentrate their efforts on intercepting narcotics entering the County through the United States Postal Service and John Wayne Airport. The South Narcotics Detail concentrates its efforts in the South Orange County areas, from south of Irvine to San Clemente, including all South County contract cities. The North Narcotics Detail is responsible for North Orange County, including the cities of Stanton, Villa Park, Yorba Linda and John Wayne Airport. In addition, personnel participating in the Regional Narcotics Suppression Program (RNSP) investigate individuals who engage in high-level narcotics trafficking and money laundering enterprises.

FY 2016-17 Key Project Accomplishments:

- During calendar year 2016, the SNP continued a high level of investigation and enforcement regarding narcotics trafficking in Orange County communities. The SNP focused primarily on street-level and mid-level narcotics dealers, illegal marijuana operations, domestic highway interdictions, parcel interdictions, airport interdictions and narcotics currency seizures. During the year, the SNP was involved in numerous narcotics-related investigations and most of the narcotics and currency seizures were equal to or greater than calendar year 2016. The Sheriff's Narcotics Program saw substantial increases in methamphetamine, cocaine, heroin, marijuana and Fentanyl. As a result, the Sheriff's Narcotics Program served 104 search warrants, made 206 felony drug arrests and seized 582 pounds of methamphetamine, 351 pounds of cocaine, 140 pounds of heroin, 959 pounds of marijuana, 59 firearms and \$3,011,084.00 in U.S. currency.



Budget Summary

Changes Included in the Recommended Base Budget:

The SNP - Other fund is a self-balancing fund with restricted revenue from the State of California, other grant programs and miscellaneous revenues. This budget is intended to fund services and supplies and equipment related to narcotics law enforcement activities.

Recommended Budget History:

Sources and Uses	FY 2015-2016	FY 2016-2017	FY 2016-2017	FY 2017-2018 ⁽¹⁾	Change from FY 2016-2017	
	Actual	Budget ⁽¹⁾ As of 3/31/17	Projected At 6/30/17	Recommended	Amount	Percent
Beginning Fund Balance - Unassigned	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Total Revenues	634,544	301,906	406,327	59,000	(242,906)	-80.45
Total Expenditures/Encumbrances	54,255	799,412	39,647	1,165,831	366,419	45.83
Prior Year Encumbrance Balance	1,405	0	2,880	0	0	0.00
Inc/(Dec) to Obligated Fund Balances	581,694	(497,506)	369,560	(1,106,831)	(609,325)	122.48
Ending Fund Balance - Unassigned	0	0	0	0	0	0.00

(1) The above totals may not match FY 2016-17 Current Modified Budget and FY 2017-18 Recommended Budget totals included in "At a Glance" due to inclusion of increases in Obligated Fund Balances.

Columns may not total correctly due to rounding.

Detailed budget by expense category and by activity is presented for agency: Sheriff Narcotics Program - Other in the Appendix on page A127

Highlights of Key Trends:

- The SNP seized a record amount of methamphetamine in 2016. The price of methamphetamine continues to drop to a new low. The low price indicates there is an ample supply and the cost of methamphetamine has dropped below the cost of some low-grades marijuana.
- Synthetic drugs are an emerging trend with several overdoses occurring in the Sheriff's jurisdiction. In the past, synthetic drugs such as "spice" (synthetic marijuana) and "bath salts" were the hot topic. Recently, MDMA replaced Ecstasy (MDMA is ecstasy without the binder and sold in powder or rock form instead of pill form). The SNP has seen juveniles and young adults using synthetic LSD, commonly referred to as "25b". The 25b is purchased over the internet, through countries such as Britain and Canada. When the United States government declares such drugs illegal, and places them on the banned list, the drug manufacturers just alters the drug's compound or molecular structure, making a slightly altered and legal version of the newly banned substance.
- Proposition 47 continues to make enforcement difficult. Proposition 47, makes most drug possession cases a misdemeanor. The SNP has seen a sharp decrease in calls for assistance from patrol deputies regarding arrestees who will cooperate with law enforcement in exchange for consideration in their new drug cases. The arrestees know they will be cited and released, instead of being booked in the county jail. Therefore, the SNP has been unable to complete as many controlled buys as in the past.
- Heroin use among young adults remains high, and large amounts of heroin continue to be seized. SNP heroin seizures surged to a record high in 2016. Through calls intercepted during court authorized wiretap investigations, the SNP has learned that Mexico is increasing its heroin production. According to intelligence gathered during these intercepted calls, marijuana fields in Mexico are being converted to poppy fields.

- The SNP continues to encounter mid-level drug dealers using vehicles to stash their narcotics as opposed to their residences, storage facilities and/or stash pads. The dealers move their stash vehicles frequently, making finding the vehicles difficult.
- The SNP continues to see that narcotics traffickers are more aware that law enforcement officers are using GPS trackers to monitor their vehicle's movements. It is common for members of the SNP to observe narcotics traffickers check the undercarriage of their vehicles for GPS trackers that may have been installed by members of law enforcement. Additionally, the SNP has discovered GPS trackers placed on load vehicles have the ability to not only track the vehicle's movement, but can also monitor audio of the interior of a load vehicle.
- The amount of firearms possessed by drug dealers and narcotics traffickers remains high, and is a serious concern to the safety of law enforcement personnel. In 2016, the SNP seized 61 firearms. The steady seizure of firearms is not known, but the SNP believes that the investigation into and the targeting of more mid-level narcotics traffickers may be the reason.
- In the airport interdiction realm, smugglers of narcotics proceeds are carrying smaller amounts of cash in order to avoid detection. Drug trafficking organizations are using more than one person on the same flight to smuggle narcotics proceeds, by either splitting the cash into multiple bags or by using a lay-off person to distract law enforcement from the actual smuggler. Also, drug trafficking organizations are using commercial airlines and parcel carriers, such as United States Postal Service, United Parcel Service, FedEx and independent freight carriers to transport large amounts of currency and narcotics.
- In the parcel interdiction arena, drug trafficking organizations continue to utilize parcels to send narcotics to states east of California and narcotics proceeds are sent from states in the east to California. Many parcels are gift wrapped and currency is often concealed with other items, such as electronics, clothing, magazines and carbon paper. The trafficking organizations are using vacuum sealed bags, distracting odors and gluing the seams of the parcels to avoid detection.
- The continued partnerships with the United States Postal Service, the United Parcel Service, the Department of Homeland Security, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Drug Enforcement Agency, and the Santa Ana Police Department, has been successful in the interdiction of narcotics and narcotics proceeds through parcel, freight and mass transit carriers. The Sheriff's Narcotics Program has significantly increased narcotic and narcotic currency seizures at the John Wayne Airport and United States Postal Service through increased enforcement efforts.

133 - Sheriff Narcotics Program - Other

Summary of Recommended Budget by Revenue and Expense Category:

Revenues/Appropriations	FY 2015-2016	FY 2016-2017	FY 2016-2017	FY 2017-2018	Change from FY 2016-2017	
	Actual	Budget As of 3/31/17	Projected At 6/30/17	Recommended	Budget Amount	Percent
Revenue from Use of Money and Property	\$ 5,375	\$ 4,200	\$ 9,160	\$ 9,000	\$ 4,800	114.29%
Intergovernmental Revenues	533,108	282,706	334,790	0	(282,706)	-100.00
Miscellaneous Revenues	96,061	15,000	62,377	50,000	35,000	233.33
Obligated Fund Balances	0	497,506	0	1,106,831	609,325	122.48
Fund Balance Unassigned	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Total Revenues	634,544	799,412	406,327	1,165,831	366,419	45.83
Services & Supplies	39,296	457,484	39,647	174,778	(282,706)	-61.80
Other Charges	14,960	0	0	0	0	0.00
Special Items	0	341,928	0	991,053	649,125	189.84
Obligated Fund Balances	581,694	0	369,560	0	0	0.00
Total Requirements	635,949	799,412	409,207	1,165,831	366,419	45.84
Beginning Fund Balance - Unassigned	0	0	0	0	0	0.00
Current Year Revenue	634,544	301,906	406,327	59,000	(242,906)	-80.46
Current Year Expenses	(54,255)	(799,412)	(39,647)	(1,165,831)	(366,419)	45.84
Prior Year Expenses	(2,033)	0	0	0	0	0.00
Decrease/(Increase) Reserve for Encumbrances	3,438	0	2,880	0	0	0.00
Decrease/(Increase) to Obligated Fund Balances	(581,694)	497,506	(369,560)	1,106,831	609,325	122.48
Ending Fund Balance - Unassigned	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	0.00%

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