

Program # 60028 - MCSO False Alarm Reduction Program

Version 2/17/2006 s

Priority: Safety
Program Offer Type: Existing Operating
Related Programs:
Program Characteristics:

Lead Agency: Sheriff
Program Contact: Kathleen Walliker

Executive Summary

The citizens of Oregon have designated certain activities to be regulated to facilitate a safe and livable community. Through an alarm permitting program, burglar alarms are regulated to ensure validity of the alarm and reliability of alarm equipment.

Program Description

The False Alarm Reduction Program regulates burglary and robbery alarms in unincorporated Multnomah County, and through collaborative contracts with east Multnomah County cities. Alarm regulation increases the probability that police respond to a valid alarm, saving scarce Public Safety resources. False alarm penalties promote good equipment maintenance technology.

Program Justification

Protecting property through criminal apprehension is an important tool to feeling safe at home, work, school, and play. False alarm response is a non-productive use of police time and resources. Properly functioning alarms promote safety through quick police response and increased probability of holding offenders accountable. Citizens using alarms partner with police to promote safety in their community, resulting in a feeling of safety for citizens in their homes and businesses.

Performance Measures

| Measure Type | Primary Measure | Previous Year Actual (FY04-05) | Current Year Purchased (FY05-06) | Current Year Estimate (FY05-06) | Next Year Offer (FY06-07) |
|--------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Output | Alarms | 2,443 | 0 | 2,722 | 2,722 |
| Outcome | % Alarms that are false alarms | 97% | 0% | 96% | 96% |
| Output | Active Alarm Permits | 6,625 | 0 | 6,021 | 6,021 |

Performance Measure - Description

Current year purchased data is not available. Since monitoring of false alarms (starting in the mid 1970's), the false alarm ratio has not dramatically changed. Nationally it is .98%. What has changed is the increase in the number of alarm systems in 30 years. Alarm Ordinances reduce the number of false alarms per user - 2.85 false per user per year in 1977 vs .41 false alarms per user per year in 2005 (1 false alarm every two years). Most police depts chose to respond to alarm calls even though the majority of alarms will be false.

Legal/Contractual Obligation

Alarm permitting is mandated in Unincorporated by MCC 15.703 and contracts with the cities of Gresham, Troutdale, Fairview, Wood Village and Maywood Park.

Revenue/Expense Detail

| | Proposed General Fund | Proposed Other Funds | Proposed General Fund | Proposed Other Funds |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|
| Program Expenses | 2006 | 2006 | 2007 | 2007 |
| Personnel | \$0 | \$154,743 | \$0 | \$99,247 |
| Contracts | \$0 | \$75,556 | \$0 | \$121,014 |
| Materials & Supplies | \$0 | \$2,566 | \$0 | \$2,565 |
| Internal Services | \$0 | \$22,825 | \$0 | \$22,174 |
| Capital Outlay | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Subtotal: Direct Exps: | \$0 | \$255,690 | \$0 | \$245,000 |
| Administration | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Program Support | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Subtotal: Other Exps: | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Total GF/non-GF: | \$0 | \$255,690 | \$0 | \$245,000 |
| Program Total: | \$255,690 | | \$245,000 | |
| Program FTE | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 1.00 |
| Program Revenues | | | | |
| Indirect for dep't Admin | \$8,732 | \$0 | \$9,025 | \$0 |
| Fees, Permits & Charges | \$0 | \$254,691 | \$0 | \$245,000 |
| Intergovernmental | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Other / Miscellaneous | \$0 | \$1,000 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Program Revenue for Admin | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Total Revenue: | \$8,732 | \$255,691 | \$9,025 | \$245,000 |

Explanation of Revenues

Fees, Permits & Charges: \$245,000 are alarm permit fees and fines.

Significant Program Changes

Last year this program was: #60028, MCSO Regulatory Services - Alarms & Concealed Weapons