



# WASHOE COUNTY

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Grant Mgt. \_\_\_\_\_

## STAFF REPORT

BOARD MEETING DATE: November 29, 2016

**DATE:** October 19, 2016

**TO:** Board of County Commissioners

**FROM:** Dexter Thomas, Court Administrator, Reno Justice Court  
325-6543, dthomas@washoecounty.us

**THROUGH:** Peter Sferrazza, Chief Judge, Reno Justice Court, 325-6550,  
psferrazza@washoecounty.us

**SUBJECT:** Recommendation to acknowledge a grant award to support the Sober24 program, from the Nevada Office of Traffic Safety to the Reno Justice Court [\$45,000.00, 20% in-kind match required], retroactive to October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017; and direct the Comptroller to make the appropriate budget adjustments. (All Commission Districts)

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### SUMMARY

In March 2016, Reno Justice Court applied to the Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) to receive funding to support the Sober24 program. The Sober24 program provides twice daily alcohol monitoring and twice weekly drug testing for persons convicted of impaired driving and other related offenses. On September 30, 2016, the Reno Justice Court received notification that the sum of \$45,000.00 had been approved with a 20% match requirement. The 20% match requirement will be satisfied by an in-kind match.

**Washoe County's Strategic Objective supported by this item:** Safe, secure and healthy communities.

### PREVIOUS ACTION

The Reno Justice Court received an initial \$45,000 grant award from OTS in February 2016 through September 30, 2016. The initial grant funding was provided to start-up the Sober24 program by providing funds to hire qualified testers and supervisors.

### BACKGROUND

In cooperation with the Department of Alternative Sentencing and Social Services, Reno Justice Court is supporting the Sober24 program by referring persons convicted of impaired driving and other related offenses to receive twice daily alcohol monitoring or twice weekly drug testing. Such monitoring is quick, simple, and inexpensive, and allows participants to maintain jobs and other family responsibilities, thereby avoiding many of

the difficulties which can otherwise so easily arise, and may indeed stimulate further use of intoxicants.

Alcohol-related traffic crashes caused 97 deaths on Nevada's roads in 2015, accounting for almost 30% of all traffic related fatalities. Between 2009 and 2015, 564 people died due to someone drinking and driving in Nevada. Although the numbers vary from year to year, on average between 20% and 35% of Nevada's traffic fatalities are alcohol related, and thousands of injuries are caused each year by impaired driving. Drunk driving was the most serious driver factor in all three crash categories - fatality, injury, and property damage. Male and female drivers between the ages of 26 and 35 remain the highest age group for crash totals, ruining their lives as well as the lives of their victims. According to a September 2016 report published by the Nevada Department of Transportation, Washoe County had 11 alcohol related crashes, resulting in 13 fatalities in 2015. In 2016 there have been seven alcohol-related crashes, resulting in 9 fatalities.

Between January and September 2016, Sober24 has conducted 12,869 PBT and 6,112 UA tests. As of September 2016, Sober24 had 116 active clients. Since its inception, Sober24 has had a total of 332 clients. During the month of September, Sober24 conducted 1,400 PBTs with a 100% success rate (0 positive tests) and 959 UA tests with a 99.99% success rate (only 9 total positive tests).

On September 30, 2016, Reno Justice Court was approved for funding of \$45,000.00 to continue to support the Sober24 program, in conjunction with the Department of Alternative Sentencing and Social Services.

### **GRANT AWARD SUMMARY**

**Project/Program Name:** Sober24

**Scope of the Project:** The scope of the Sober24 program is to develop and enhance a program that provides twice daily alcohol monitoring and twice weekly drug testing for persons convicted of impaired driving and other related offenses.

**Benefit to Washoe County Residents:** The goal of the Sober24 program is to reduce impaired driving on our roads by 10%, and thus reduce drug and alcohol-related injuries and fatalities. Sober24 aims to do this by reducing recidivism by those already convicted of impaired driving by at least 20%. Preliminary data and analysis indicate that the Sober24 program is effective at reducing non-compliance and re-offense. Using Reno Justice Court's (RJC) specialty court clients as a sample population, clients that were discharged from the specialty court for re-offense or non-compliance decreased significantly if they participated in Sober24. Before requiring Sober24, the discharge rate for re-offense or non-compliance was 44%. After requiring that all RJC specialty court clients participate in Sober24, the discharge rate for re-offense and non-compliance has decreased to 33%.

**On-Going Program Support:** On-going support of this program will be funded through program fees paid by participants. Sober24 has an internal income stream from program

fees. Fees include \$1 per PBT test per participant (\$2 per participant, per day) and \$4 per urinalysis test (\$8 per participant per week).

**Award Amount:** \$45,000.00

**Grant Period:** October 1, 2016 – September 30, 2017

**Funding Source:** Office of Traffic Safety, 2017 Traffic Safety Grant

**Pass through From:** N/A

**CFDA Number:** 20.616(d)

**Grant ID Number:** TS-2017-RJC-00070

**Match Amount and Type:** 20% in-kind match will be met by paying for program personnel support costs.

**Sub-Awards and Contracts:** N/A

### **FISCAL IMPACT**

Should the board acknowledge this grant award and approve these amendments, the adopted budget will be increased by \$45,000.00 in both revenues and expenditures in the following accounts:

Cost Object	G/L Account	Amount
Revenue:		
IO IN11303	431100 – Federal Grants	\$ 45,000.00
Expenditures:		
IO IN11303	701130 – Pooled Positions	\$ 30,000.00
IO IN11303	710300 – Operating Supplies	\$ 3,000.00
IO IN11303	710600 – Lease-Office Sp.	\$ 12,000.00

### **RECOMMENDATION**

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners acknowledge a grant award to support the Sober24 program, from the Nevada Office of Traffic Safety to the Reno Justice Court [\$45,000.00, 20% in-kind match required], retroactive to October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017; and direct the Comptroller to make the appropriate budget adjustments.

### **POSSIBLE MOTION**

Should the Board agree with staff's recommendation, a possible motion would be:  
"Move to acknowledge a grant award to support the Sober24 program, from the Nevada Office of Traffic Safety to the Reno Justice Court [\$45,000.00, 20% in-kind match

required], retroactive to October 1, 2016 through September 30, 2017; and direct the Comptroller to make the appropriate budget adjustments.”