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# Office of the Sheriff

Jesse Jahner, Sheriff

November 14, 2022

James Kapitan, Portfolio Commissioner  
Cass County Commission  
Cass County Courthouse  
Fargo, ND 58103

Agenda Item: Budget Adjustment

Chairman Rick Steen

The Cass County Sheriff's Office is requesting funding for the purchase of computer hardware. Although, initially budgeted in 2021, the project was not initiated. Upon consultation with Information Technology, a current estimate of \$31,000 and timeline of 30 days has been established.

The first part of the computer hardware project we are requesting funding for includes: the purchase of 5 laptop devices. Investigators will use these to view external media source (thumb drives) evidence. These laptops are also needed so that we are reducing the risk of introducing corrupt programs, malware, or viruses to our Cass County Government Network. Additionally, the laptops can connect to the internet so that they can be used for off-site operations or for accessing websites (as part of their job duties) that may be blocked from the Cass County Government Network.

The second part of the computer hardware project we are requesting funding for includes: the purchase of a large-capacity digital storage system for the Investigations Computer Lab. This hardware is needed to store Child Sexual Abuse Material (CSAM) Evidence and larger forensic phone downloads. CSAM is not able to be stored on our current digital evidence storage system (Axon) or cloud storage as it would be a violation of the law. Forensic phone download evidence is coming in more often and downloads are now of greater size. Many of the downloads had been getting put on DVD-Rs or thumb drives to be physically stored in the evidence room. The capacity of the cheaper version (DVD-R's) generally doesn't meet our needs for this anymore and external hard drives or thumb drives of larger capacity can be a costly way of doing business since they could be sitting in evidence until the court case is complete. The large capacity storage system for the Investigations Lab is a solution to all these problems and could expand (add more storage) later based on need.

***Suggested Motion: Move to authorize the Cass County Sheriff's Office to adjust their budget to allow Information Technologies to purchase computer network, devices in the amount of up to \$ 31,000.00 for the Cass County Sheriff's Office's computer lab that would not be associate with the Cass County network to investigate Child Sexual Abuse Material.***

Respectfully,

Dean Haaland  
Chief Deputy  
Cass County Sheriff's Office

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