

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF

RICHARD J. DALEY CENTER
COOK COUNTY
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602

THOMAS J. DART SHERIFF
October 28, 2019

Honorable Kevin B. Morrison Cook County Board of Commissioners 118 N. Clark Street, Room 567 Chicago, IL 60602

Dear Commissioner Morrison:

Thank you for reaching out to the Sheriff's Office with questions regarding our Fiscal Year 2020 budget. Please find our responses below.

1. Under the Sheriff's Administration, there is a \$50,662 increase for Institutional Supplies. What will that money be used for?

The Sheriff's Office will use these additional funds for supplies for our employee wellness programs, including the Peer Support program, which offers 24/7 free and confidential support for all staff; the Early Intervention System, which is a supervisory tool for proactive identification and mitigation of risk; and the employee wellness programs in Human Resources, which honor, showcase and award staff members in an effort to elevate morale and promote staff well-being.

2. Under the Information Technology fund, there is an almost \$3 million increase for Institutional Supplies. What will that money be used for?

This \$2.9 million is an institutional supplies account set up by the County Budget Department specifically for the Axon contract, which was approved by the Board in September and covers the purchase of body-worn cameras and TASER devices. This contract would typically be paid for using capital funds; however, this account was set up so it could be paid for using operating funds.

3. Under the Court Services Division, what will the \$21,209 additional funds for Communication Services be used for?

These funds will be used to continue installing rugged modems in the vehicles used by Courts Services staff in the field serving process and enforcing evictions. Rugged modems essentially turn an officer's vehicle into a wi-fi hotspot, improving connectivity, increasing accountability and eliminating the need for additional equipment. Rugged modems enable staff to get more work done while they are in the field without having to return to the office.



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4. Similarly, what will the additional \$87,117 for Communication Services be used for under the Police Department?

Similar to answer #3 above, the Sheriff's Office is using these funds to install rugged modems in all Police patrol cars.

Thank you for your support during this year's budget process. If you have any additional questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Bradley Curry Chief of Staff