

Buncombe County Agenda Item Information Sheet

AGENDA ITEM: Sheriff's Budget Amendment Request	
MEETING DATE: March 5, 2013	
REQUESTED BY: Van Duncan, Buncombe County Sheriff	
Background information Current budget projections indicate that certain Sheriff's Revenue accounts will exceed the budgeted amount by \$314,910 in fiscal year 2013. We are asking to appropriate \$314,910 for the purchase of critical equipment, if approved we will be able to withdraw \$159,668 from the Sheriff's Office FY14 requested budget.	
Pro's <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Buncombe County Sheriff's Office has a mandatory Wear Policy requiring all uniformed officers to wear a bullet proof vest. This is considered best practice, optimizes the safety of our officers and is required to qualify for certain federal grant funding. The vests, in most cases have a five year useful life and an average cost of \$779 per vest. This funding will cover remaining vest purchases required in the next twelve months for current staff and detention storm team vests and equipment. • We are replacing the tasers issued to our enforcement division, the model they were issued is no longer available or supported by the manufacturer. The old model will be utilized by other divisions for their remaining useful life. The Sheriff feels strongly that this non lethal use of force option is an essential law enforcement tool. Industry standards credit tasers with the reduction of officer and suspect injuries • We will be able to purchase the remaining radio equipment required to be fully operational under the new system. A detailed breakdown is attached. 	Con's <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bullet proof vests are made to fit the individual user. Without this funding we will not be able to purchase BP vests for new employees or replacement vests required this fiscal year. We will be in violation of our mandatory wear policy and not in compliance with the DOJ BPV program requirements. • Not issuing tasers to our officers will increase the instances where the use of deadly force is required. We would not be in compliance with law enforcement best practices. The liability associated with situations when the use of force is required is greatly reduced when a non lethal weapon like a taster is used instead of a handgun. • BCAT Officers, Court Security Officers, property and evidence Officers, and 15 from other Sheriff's Office divisions will not have radio equipment required to be operational under the new radio system.
Funds required \$314,910	
Alternatives	
Action recommended: Approval of Attached Budget Amendment Request.	