



## COLLIN COUNTY

OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF  
4300 Community Avenue  
McKinney, Texas 75071

**Jim Skinner, Sheriff**

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Date: August 6, 2020  
To: Commissioners' Court  
From: Jim Skinner, Sheriff *JS*  
Re: Transfer of Federal Forfeiture Funds – FY20

The Collin County Sheriff's Office is notifying the Commissioners Court of a budget amendment for the purpose of using \$3,598.00 of federal forfeiture funds. I have assigned Deputy Mark Spears to a federal Homeland Security task force, which works at the DFW International Airport, and I plan to assign Deputy Duane Cortes to the same task force after the County hires him. In a separate matter, I'm asking you to approve salaries for both these deputy sheriffs (556) that are above the midpoint for a 556 (Deputy Spears, \$1,764.00, and Deputy Cortes, \$1,834.00) through FY20. I ask for this policy departure to help the SO recruit Deputy Cortes, in light of his valuable and extensive training and experience as an interdiction officer, and to preserve equity with Deputy Spears, who is also well-trained and experienced interdiction officer and who will work alongside Deputy Cortes and perform the same duties.

In this request, I'm asking for a budget amendment to transfer \$3,598.00 from federal forfeiture funds to fund \$3,598.00 in salaries of two deputy sheriffs (556), through FY20, to work in the Professional Standards Section. These deputies will replace the deputies assigned to the federal task force under the provision that permits the use of equitably shared federal funds to "pay the salary and benefits of current, sworn and non-sworn law enforcement personnel hired to fill vacancies created when a law enforcement agency assigns personnel to a federal task force." U.S. Dept. of Justice & U.S. Dept. of the Treasury, *Guide to Equitable Sharing for State, Local, and Tribal Law Enforcement Agencies*, at 18 (July 2018). Their routine work does not and will not involve interdiction work, seizures of contraband or illegal proceeds, or forfeiture cases under federal or state law.

JS/lld