



MEMORANDUM

Date: September 22, 2021

To: Commissioners Court

From: Jim Skinner, Sheriff *JS*

Re: FY 2022 Compensation of Task Force Members and Federal Forfeiture Funds

Background: In FY 2021, I assigned Deputy Sheriff Mark Spears and Deputy Sheriff Duane Cortes to a federal Homeland Security task force, which works at the DFW International Airport. In FY 2021, you approved salaries for both of these deputy sheriffs (556) that were above the County's minimum starting level for a 556 (Deputy Spears \$13,387, and Deputy Cortes \$13,924) (See Agenda Item AI-49285). I plan to renew this assignment for these deputy sheriffs in FY 2022.

Request: For FY 2022, I ask you to approve salaries for Deputy Sheriff Mark Spears and Deputy Sheriff Duane Cortes that are above the minimum starting salary for a 556 (Deputy Spears \$14,392, and Deputy Cortes \$ 14,735) (See attachment from HR).

Note: In a separate request, I am asking for a budget amendment to transfer \$29,127 from Federal Forfeiture funds to an SO salary line item or other SO budget line item to fund (1) \$29,127 in salaries of two deputy sheriffs (556) for FY22, to work in a part of the SO whose responsibilities do not include participation in highway or airport interdiction or related forfeitures, such as the Professional Standards Section or the Collin County Detention Facility or (2) \$29,127 in other FY22 expenses that are a permissible use of Federal Forfeiture funds. Under option (1), the PSS or other deputies will replace Deputies Spears and Cortes, while they work on the HSI task force, and their responsibilities will not involve highway or airport interdiction or participation in related forfeitures. I would use the funds for option (1) 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). Under option (2), I would use federal funds only for a permissible purpose as outlined in federal law or the *Guide*.