

Agenda Item Report



Winnebago County
The Wave of the Future

DATE: November 21, 2022
FROM: Sheriff John Matz
RE: Amending the Table of Organization

General Description:

Eliminate one position and add one supervisory position in the Detective Division.

Action Requested:

Motion to approve the elimination of one position in order to create one additional supervisory position in the Detective Division.

Procedural Steps:

(Show each level of committee and board approval needed, with meeting dates.)

Committee of Jurisdiction: Judiciary_____	Meeting date: 12/03/22
Action taken: _____	Vote: _____
Other Committee: Personnel and Finance_____	Meeting date: 12/01/22
Action taken: _____	Vote: _____
County Board	Meeting date: ____

Background:

The current Winnebago County Sheriff's Office Crime Analyst and Internet Crime Investigator position is a highly specialized and unique position. The position was originally created in 2013 as a shared Crime Analyst position with the District Attorney's Office. After significant successes, the position was moved to the Sheriff's Office full-time in 2016. In 2017, the position evolved further into a sworn law enforcement officer position, so that the position could be utilized for additional capacities. The specialty nature of the position was created with an atypical side-bar with the Deputies' Association based largely upon the unique skill set required for the position. Since its creation, the service the position provides has evolved into being much more highly specialized and sought-after. Currently this position provides forensic analysis of electronics and media, and utilizes forensic tools to analyze the contents of digital media in support of criminal investigations; identifies social media and internet predators through the use of specialized training and equipment; conducts undercover operations utilizing social media and other internet resources to identify, locate, and apprehend subjects in the community engaging in human trafficking, child exploitation, and other crimes against children; investigates and documents internet crimes and cybertips assigned to the Sheriff's Office Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Initiative by the Wisconsin Department of Justice (DOJ), the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children (NCMEC), and Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI); and ensures ICAC investigative standards and best practices are followed, while coordinating with local, state, and federal partners to advance jurisdictional compatibility and prosecutorial congruence.

These are very high-profile cases, and involve the most vulnerable of society's victims – our children.

Policy Discussion:

While the list above is extensive, the program has grown substantially and now needs a separate supervisory component to oversee the highly technical skills required. This supervisory component will be the commander of the newly created Special Victims Unit (SVU). The focus of the SVU is child abuse or neglect, child sexual abuse, Internet Crimes against Children (ICAC), human trafficking, sextortion, identify fraud, child protective services requests, elder abuse or neglect, other internet crimes with victims, and any cases determined to require SVU expertise and resources. The supervisory component will also serve to complement the existing command structure at the agency.

Within the Detective Division the case load of major crimes, drug related crimes, and property crimes has drastically increased. The collecting, processing, analyzing, and storing digital evidence associated with these crimes grows every day. New laws and new technologies have created new types of crime to investigate. The current supervisory structure no longer supports the diverse and specialty skills needed to solve these crimes.

In this specific case, it is difficult to talk about a position modification without taking about the person in the position. The person currently in this position has become the regional expert for technology based legal processes. It has taken years of experience and training to reach this high-performance level, which is a significant asset to Winnebago County. He possesses a skill set that cannot be replicated. The investment that has been made to victims is unmatched.

Finally, it is most appropriate that the Winnebago County Sheriff's Office has a supervisor in the role of Federal task force liaison.

This proposal effectively eliminates the Crime Analyst and Internet Crime Investigator position and replaces it with a Lieutenant position, with no change in personnel.

The elimination of one position and the addition of one position is an increase of \$9,252 which will be absorbed in the existing budget.

Attachments:

Attachment 1 - Draft Resolution

Attachment 2 - Amended Job Description

Attachment 3 - New Position Request