

**SEMINOLE COUNTY GOVERNMENT  
AGENDA MEMORANDUM**

**SUBJECT:** Law Enforcement Trust Fund Expenditure Requests

**DEPARTMENT:** Sheriff's Office      **DIVISION:** \_\_\_\_\_

**AUTHORIZED BY:** Sheriff Eslinger      **CONTACT:** Penny Fleming      **EXT.** 6617

<b>Agenda Date</b> <u>3/25/03</u> <b>Regular</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Consent</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <b>Work Session</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Briefing</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Public Hearing – 1:30</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <b>Public Hearing – 7:00</b> <input type="checkbox"/>
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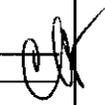
**MOTION/RECOMMENDATION:**

Approval by the Board of County Commissioners to utilize \$18,750 in Law Enforcement Trust Funds for the following: a contribution to the YMCA's Youth Scholarship program, a contribution to Teen Challenge of Florida, Inc. and a contribution to the "Take Stock in Children" Mentoring and Scholarship Program administered by The Foundation for Seminole County Public Schools, Inc.

**BACKGROUND:**

1.     **\$1,000 contribution to the YMCA for the Youth Scholarship program.**  
 The Sheriff's Office is a strong supporter of youth programs, especially those that target at risk youth. These programs help build the self-esteem of impressionable youths and provide an enriching diversion to potential criminal activity. The YMCA is a well-known leader in providing youth programs. Supporting the YMCA's Youth Scholarship program will allow youths, regardless of their ability to pay, to attend programs they would otherwise be unable to afford such as basketball, soccer, after school care, summer camp and many others. By making a \$1,000 contribution to the Youth Scholarship program, the Sheriff's Office is investing in the area's youth and hopefully providing a diversion to criminal activity, which benefits all Seminole County residents.

2.     **\$1,000 contribution to Teen Challenge of Florida, Inc.**  
 Teen Challenge of Florida, Inc. operates numerous programs aimed at assisting at risk youth within both Seminole County and Central Florida. Specific programs include; residential treatment centers with 690 beds in Florida/Georgia for youths, crisis and prevention counseling centers for outpatient programs, runaway centers for youths who have lost their way, educational programs that interdict cycles that lead to drug and alcohol abuse and other such programs. Support activities include vocational life and

Reviewed by:
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Other: _____
DCM: <u>SS</u>
CM: <u>PK</u>
File No. <u>CSH000</u>

job training, mentoring and tutoring, after school activities, crisis hotlines, and formal/ informal support groups.

One program of particular significance is the STAY SHARP Prevention and Outreach Program, which has as its message "Love Yourself, Don't Drug Yourself". Benefits of this program to the community include; better educated youth, learned crime prevention, a decline in drug and alcohol use by teenagers, a reduction in teen pregnancies and stronger, healthier family relations. The Seminole County Sheriff's Office strongly supports the STAY SHARP program and the mission and goals of Teen Challenge of Florida, Inc. In order to assist with the continuation of these programs, the Sheriff's Office desires to contribute \$1,000.00 to Teen Challenge of Florida, Inc.

**3. \$16,750 contribution to the 'Take Stock in Children' Mentoring and Scholarship Program administered by The Foundation for Seminole County Public Schools, Inc.**

Since 1995, the Sheriff's Office has utilized Law Enforcement Trust Fund money to recognize one graduating student from each high school in Seminole County; a program referred to as the "Good Student Incentive Program". Up until recently, the selected high school student was awarded a used car that he/she could then use as transportation for college. As is the policy within the Sheriff's Office, all programs instituted by the Sheriff's Office, no matter how successful, are subject to periodic review in order to determine if improvements can be made or a change in program direction is warranted.

After conducting such a review, and beginning this year, the Sheriff's Office will re-define the "Good Student Incentive Program" by joining the 'Take Stock in Children' Mentoring and Scholarship Program administered by The Foundation for Seminole County Public Schools, Inc. This program provides deserving low income, at risk students in Seminole County with an opportunity to earn a full scholarship to a college or vocational school. Students are selected for the program in middle school and the student and their parents must sign a contract upon being selected for the program, agreeing to stay drug and crime free, maintain satisfactory grades and exhibit good behavior in school. Selected students are also assigned a mentor, a program volunteer, who meets with the child weekly from middle school through the completion of high school. The mentor becomes a tutor, role model and advisor to the student and helps build the child's foundation of basic values.

The "Take Stock in Children" program has been in place for several years and is considered a huge success. Funding for the program comes from both public and private sources. The Sheriff's Office has been so impressed with the success of the program that it has decided to contribute \$16,750 in Law Enforcement Trust Fund money to the program beginning this year. The donated funds represent \$2,000 towards the scholarship program for each of the eight Seminole County High Schools.

**MEMORANDUM: Office of the Sheriff 1701-03-104**

TO: Kevin Grace, County Manager  
FROM: Sheriff Donald F. Eslinger  
DATE: February 26, 2003  
SUBJECT: Board of County Commissioners Meeting – Agenda Items

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Attached to this correspondence are three (3) agenda items requesting Board of County Commission approval for the following items;

- Law Enforcement Trust Fund expenditure in the amount of \$1,000.00 for a contribution to the Central Florida YMCA in support of a Youth Scholarship program for at risk youth.
- Law Enforcement Trust Fund expenditure in the amount of \$1,000.00 for a contribution to Teen Challenge of Florida, Inc.
- Law Enforcement Trust Fund expenditure in the amount of \$16,750.00 for the Good Student Incentive Program, in conjunction with the Foundation for Seminole County Public Schools “Take Stock in Children” Mentoring and Scholarship Program.

It is respectfully requested that the above agenda item be placed on the agenda for the Board of County Commissioners meeting on Tuesday, March 25, 2003.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Chief Penny Fleming at 665-6617 or George Sellery at 665-6532.

attachment

c: Cindy Hall, Director  
Department of Fiscal Services