



To: Len Flood
Finance Director

From: Larry McGhinnis, I.T. Manager
Pat Rollins, Deputy Police Chief

Date: September 8, 2004

Subject: Police Squad Car Laptop Replacement

Four years ago, IT and the Police Department embarked on a project that required the installation of CF27 laptops for 27 of the police squad cars. Since that time we have added one additional CF28 laptop to bring the total to 28. When the program began, IT established a reserve account to be used for replacement of the laptops.

The goal of IT is to replace one third of the squad car laptops each year. The reasons for doing this is to minimize the interruption of service, keep up with technology, and keep from having a major expense occur in one year should we have to replace all the laptops at one time.

Last year, IT budgeted and replaced the first nine CF27 laptops with the newest model CF29 laptops. This year IT budgeted to replace 9 more laptops bringing the total number of replacements to 18. However, software changes and operational changes described below are dictating that we replace all the remaining 18 CF27 laptops with the new CF29 models at this time. There is currently \$90,000 reserved for the replacement of the remaining 18 CF27 models.

DuPage County ETSB has purchased with \$3 million of their funds, a countywide law enforcement, jail management, records software package from Motorola. Included in this countywide application is replacing all communication software in every squad car at \$750 per car. In order to run the program on the laptops, Windows 2000 operating system was required. IT completed the change over from Windows 98 to Windows 2000 in all the LPD laptops August 25, 2004. DuComm then installed the new software program, Premier MDC in our squads.

The CF27 laptops are experiencing long lag times and constant re-booting of the software every time the squad sits idle for more than 15 minutes. The connection to the vehicle radio modem with the laptop loses connectivity and hangs up the laptop. The CF27 laptops are taking 5-7 minutes to boot up and open the Windows 2000 operating system each time, causing undue delays in getting information from DuComm on calls through the computer. The frustration level of officers is increasing due to the time delay. The delay is due to the operating system on the old CF27 laptops, not the new software program, PMDC. Once the operating system opens, the officers can then launch the new software program to communicate with DuComm. We currently have five CF29s deployed in the field and the response time and interruption of service is not a factor.

The new PMDC software allows officers to directly access information with the county records management program, I-CLEAR, criminal history, mug shots, NCIC, and many more suites. Information is available at the officer fingertips now. Future enhancements allow officers to scan in pictures, scan in the bar coding on the drivers license to populate fields, as well as, printable citations.

PMDC will also serve as the connection for officers to eventually do field based reporting in the squad cars, allowing them to stay on the street to complete their reports and transmit the data electronically to a server at DuComm and the Sheriffs' office.

IT and The Police Department are jointly recommending a contract be awarded to CDS Office Technologies for an amount not to exceed \$82,314 for the replacement of 18 police squad car laptops. State contract pricing number TCUS-04-03.