

Date: February 2, 2012

To: David A. Hulseberg, AICP, ICMA-CM

From: Ray Byrne  
Chief of Police

**Re: Intergovernmental Agreement with the Northern Illinois  
Police Alarm System (NIPAS)**

### **Background**

Several months ago, most DuPage County Police Agencies began discussions and preparations for potential impacts of activities related to the upcoming NATO/G8 Summits planned for Chicago in May. Much of the discussion has centered on the potential for having to deal with mass crowds, unruly crowds, protestors and the potential for violence associated with such activities. The discussions also revealed that DuPage County does not have a mobile field force (MFF) that specifically deals with crowd control issues. Mobile field forces are specially equipped and specially trained to specifically deal with crowds and protests.

Hinsdale Police Chief Brad Bloom, who currently serves as the President of the DuPage County Chiefs of Police Association, undertook an initiative through the Association to ensure that DuPage County municipalities could have the services of a properly equipped and well-trained MFF. Several standing committees were formed to look at viable alternatives, all operating under an operational date of May, 2012.

### **Alternatives**

The work of the standing committees and the Association revealed two possible alternatives. The first was to form a team consisting of DuPage County police departments, similar to the DuPage County Major Crimes Task Force. The concept is to pool manpower from all of the agencies to form a team. The second alternative was to join an existing organization that already had a MFF.

The analysis conducted by the committees and the Association quickly revealed several obstacles to a county-wide team. Larger agencies (such as Lombard) would probably have to commit four (4) officers to such a team. Equipment costs would likely range in

the area of \$5,000 and all of the officers would have to commit to training on a monthly basis or at least a bi-monthly basis. This would have a significant impact on manpower. Finally, the reality of selecting officers, equipping them and adequately training them by May became an imposing effort.

The second alternative was to join an existing team with an MFF component. This led to exploration of the potential of joining NIPAS. NIPAS was originally formed by approximately 20 suburban communities to share resources, respond to emergencies involving mutual aid and to form a SWAT Team. In response to the World Cup event in the 1990's, NIPAS added a MFF as an additional component. Today, NIPAS consists of 93 municipalities, including four (4) in DuPage County. NIPAS is a very well respected organization for its personnel, equipment, training and protocols. If a municipality wishes to join NIPAS to obtain access to the MFF, the commitment would consist of paying an annual membership fee and providing one (1) officer with equipment to the team. The cost of equipping an officer to be on the MFF is approximately \$1,250.00. The annual membership fee for access to the NIPAS MFF is \$1,205.00.

### **Recommendation**

Representatives from the NIPAS Board of Directors and the MFF have met with the DuPage County Chiefs of Police Association. They have expressed a mutual interest in having DuPage County police agencies join their MFF. The NIPAS MFF currently has over 100 officers assigned to it. It consists of a command staff, arrest teams, K-9 Teams, less lethal teams and a training team. With the addition of several agencies from DuPage County, the MFF has the potential to grow to a team of 125 officers. Additionally, NIPAS representatives have indicated that they could adequately train new agency officers to be available for deployment in May.

NIPAS has also made it clear that they are here to serve their member agencies. They will not respond to the City of Chicago during the NATO/G8 Summits, but will remain on standby to serve their member agencies in the event problems arise. However, they will not respond to non-member agencies.

### **Intergovernmental Agreement**

I would respectfully request that the attached intergovernmental agreement be approved by the Village Board allowing us to join NIPAS and access the services of the MFF. The intergovernmental agreement is standard in nature in that it must be approved in the same format for all member agencies. It is not subject to modification. I believe membership in NIPAS provides many benefits to the Village of Lombard in a very cost efficient manner. It will allow us access to a well-equipped and well trained MFF in the event of any civil unrest. This brings an enhanced level of police services to our community under the model of sharing resources and manpower. If you should have any questions, or would like additional information, please do not hesitate to contact me.

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