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December 12, 2014

The Honorable
Erie County Legislature
92 Franklin Street, 4th Floor
Buffalo, New York 14202

Re: Erie County Sheriff's Office – Authorization to accept gifts
Immediate Consideration Requested

Honorable Members:

Attached please find a proposed resolution and accompanying memorandum from the Erie County Sheriff's Office requesting authorization to accept unsolicited monetary and equipment donations from private citizens or corporations for the purpose of offsetting the cost of a Sheriff's unit or to purchase assets.

I kindly request the Erie County Legislature's consideration and approval at the December 18, 2014 meeting of your Honorable Body. Representatives of the Sheriff's Office will be available to answer any questions.

Very truly yours,

TIMOTHY B. HOWARD
SHERIFF OF ERIE COUNTY

Attachments

ACCOMPANYING MEMORANDUM

RE: Erie County Sheriff's Office
Accepting gifts from the public

I. Summary of Recommended Action

The attached resolution requests authorization to allow the Erie County Sheriff's Office to accept monetary or equipment donations from members of the public or from corporations to help offset costs associated with a Sheriff's unit/division operation costs or to purchase new assets. All accepted monetary donations would be forwarded to the Budget Office where the office would identify specific accounts and allocate the funds to the proper account.

II. Fiscal Implications of Proposal

None to the county

III. Reasons for Recommendation

The Sheriff's Office has been offered donations from private citizens to help fund specific operations of the office. Currently there is no policy allowing the Erie County Sheriff's Office to accept monetary or equipment donations. Authorizing the Sheriff's Office to accept donations would defer or reduce certain operating costs.

IV. Consequence of Negative Action

The County would forfeit funds or equipment that would be beneficial to public safety and to the Sheriff's budget.

V. Steps Following Approval of Measure

Certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Budget Office, County Attorney and the Office of Comptroller.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

**Re: Erie County Sheriff's Office
Authorization to accept donations from private individuals and corporations**

WHEREAS, the Erie County Sheriff's Office has received unsolicited donations from private citizens, and

WHEREAS, those funds have been rejected/returned to the individual because the county does not have a policy or procedure in place to accept such donations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Sheriff's Office is authorized to accept unsolicited private monetary and equipment donations from individuals and corporations for the purpose of offsetting the cost of operations or purchase of assets, and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby provided to the Director of Budget and Management to adjust current year budgets by increasing revenue and expenses in the amount of the donation received,

And be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to Budget Office, County Attorney and the Office of Comptroller.