SUSPENSION

# COUNTY OF ERIE

**MARK C. POLONCARZ**
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

March 9, 2015

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

**Re: Acceptance of FY 2014 Technical Rescue Grant**

Dear Honorable Members:

Enclosed please find an accompanying memorandum and proposed resolution from the Department of Emergency Services requesting authorization to accept $100,000.00 in federal funding for the FY 2014 Technical Rescue Grant.

Should your Honorable Body require further information, I encourage you to contact Commissioner Dan Neaverth Jr. at the Department of Emergency Services. Thank you for your consideration on this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Mark C. Poloncarz, Esq.
Erie County Executive

MCP/mc
Enclosure

cc: Commissioner Dan Neaverth Jr., Department of Emergency Services

# MEMORANDUM

**To:** Honorable Members of the Erie County Legislature
**From:** Department of Emergency Services
**Re:** Acceptance of FY 2014 Technical Rescue Grant
**Date:** March 9, 2015

## SUMMARY

The Department of Emergency Services is seeking authorization for the County Executive to enter into contract to accept $100,000.00 in Federal Assistance for the FY 2014 Technical Rescue Grant.

## FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

There is no fiscal impact on the county operating budget. Said grant is 100% reimbursed.

## REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Department of Emergency Services will be allowed to manage expenditures for $100,000.00 in Department of Homeland Security funds and utilize the funds to enhance the ability of Erie County to manage emergency and disaster situations.

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

As a result of existing threats to homeland security, the federal government, through various State agencies, has allocated funds to be utilized to improve the preparedness of local technical rescue teams. This grant has given local stakeholders the opportunity to strengthen our CBRNE Preparedness and Response Capabilities. This grant is a "regional" grant which is defined as multiple agency teams who provide technical rescue services countywide or regionally to multiple counties. Our grant application was made up of five (5) fire departments, one (1) swift water rescue team, one (1) not for profit search and rescue team and the Erie County Sheriff's Office.

## CONSEQUENCES OF NEGATIVE ACTION

Without this Legislation the Technical Rescue Grant Year 2014 contract will not be signed, the funding will not be received by the Department of Emergency Services and the original purpose of what these funds were intended to be utilized will not be completed.

## STEPS FOLLOWING APPROVAL

The County Executive will sign the contract, the $100,000.00 in Homeland Security grant funds will be received, and the Department of Emergency Services will fulfill the grant requirements.

# A RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY:
# DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY SERVICES

RE: Acceptance of FY 2014 Technical Rescue Grant

WHEREAS, the Department of Homeland Security through the NYS Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services has agreed to provide funding in the amount of $100,000.00 in federal assistance to provide local stakeholders that provide technical rescue services the opportunity to strengthen their CBRNE Preparedness and Response Capabilities which will ultimately enhance the ability of Erie County to manage emergency and disaster situations; and

WHEREAS, authorization is required from the Erie County Legislature for the County Executive to enter into contact and accept $100,000.00 in federal resources to provide funding for training of personnel and the purchase of necessary equipment to enhance the ability of Erie County to manage emergency and disaster situations; and

WHEREAS, this is a regional grant and Erie County will purchase the necessary equipment and training for the five (5) local Fire Departments (Gowanda Fire Company, Orchard Park Fire Company, Hillcrest Fire Company, West Falls Fire Company, East Aurora Fire Department), the Erie County Sheriff's Office, the Niagara Frontier Search & Rescue Team and the Western New York ALERT Swift Water Rescue Team; and

WHEREAS, authorization is requested from the Erie County Legislature for the County Executive to enter into Memorandums of Understanding to give the purchased equipment from this grant to those agencies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature does hereby authorize the County Executive to enter into contract with the NYS Department of Homeland Security to receive $100,000.00 in grant funding for the Department of Emergency Services; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this grant, under the Department of Emergency Services, will meet the goals and objectives of the grant and enhance the ability of Erie County to manage emergency and disaster situations; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the authorization is hereby provided to the Division of Budget and Management to establish funding in the Grant Fund 281, as follows:

Erie County Department of Emergency Services – Business Area 167
FY 2014 Technical Rescue Grant

| **Revenue** | **Increase** |
|---|---|
| Account 414000 Federal Aid | $100,000.00 |

| **Appropriations** | **Increase** |
|---|---|
| Account 516020 Professional Contracts & Fees | $31,740.00 |
| Account 505200 Clothing Supplies | $12,149.00 |
| Account 561410 Lab & Technical Equipment | $56,111.00 |
| Total Appropriations | 100,000.00 |

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Director of Budget and Management is hereby authorized to establish and adjust budgets as required to comply with State and Federal approved funding levels; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to the County Executive's Office, the Division of Budget and Management, the Department of Personnel, the Department of Emergency Services c/o Melissa Calhoun, the County Comptroller, and the County Attorney.