

Memorandum

City of Lawrence

Police Department

To: Tarik Khatib, Chief of Police
From: Paul Fellers, Captain
Date: November 17, 2011
Re: Rifle Lease Purchase Agreement _____

BACKGROUND

Law Enforcement agencies and communities across the United States have recognized the value of providing officers with appropriate equipment to protect themselves and the communities they serve. Many departments have adopted the use of patrol rifles as part of the equipment being made available to officers.

The Department has embraced the use of the patrol rifle since 2003, but only for individuals who were willing to make an individual purchase. In evaluating the training and equipment needs of the Department it is clear that all officers should have training on the use of and access to a patrol rifle.

FINDINGS

There are two ways to accomplish the current deficiency of equipment available to the officers. The first would be to have Department owned rifles. The second would be to continue to allow for individual officer purchase of rifles. After a great deal of discussion about the pros and cons of both options, it has been determined the best option for the officers, Department and the City would be the individual officer purchase.

Personal ownership of the rifles provides much better familiarity with the weapon, availability for practice and better overall care for the equipment. This is consistent with the current practice of officer owned pistols.

During the discussions it was determined officers would be provided guidelines on which rifle models would be approved for purchase. As the rifles are part of the equipment used for ensuring a safe community, it would be appropriate for the purchases to be made using the current Lease Purchase Agreement that is used for duty pistols.

As there are a few rifle options which will be approved for purchase as well as a few options for optics a specific price per weapon is not available. On average an officer wishing to participate in the Lease Purchase Agreement should be able to make the purchase for \$1,600.00.

BUDGET EFFECT/FUNDING SOURCES

Money from the Equipment Reserve Fund is used for purchases of this type. The number of officers interested in making a purchase is not known at this time since a

memorandum has not yet been posted. For purposes of identifying the Budget Effect it should be calculated at \$1,600.00 per officer. This amount would allow the officer to purchase the rifle in addition to an optic if desired. Monies would be paid back to the Equipment Reserve Fund at \$61.54/pay period and paid in full in 26 pay periods.

RECOMMENDATION

I recommend approval of the Patrol Rifle Lease Purchase Agreement for all officers who wish to participate in the program.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Paul Fellers", with a stylized, cursive script.

Paul Fellers
Captain, CSD