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Legislation Text

File #: 23-0737, Version: 1

TO:	Board of Supervisors
FROM:	Amanda Gibbs, Chief Probation Officer
REPORT BY:	Ferlyn Buenafe, Staff Services Manager
SUBJECT:	Agreement with Davin's Interpreting Services, Inc., Amendment No. 2

RECOMMENDATION

Chief Probation Officer requests approval of and authorization for the Chair to sign Amendment No. 2 to Agreement No. 180047B with Davin's Interpreting Services, Inc. for a maximum of \$10,000 for the term July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 with a provision for two (2) automatic fiscal year renewals at the County's option, for American Sign Language interpretation and translation services for hearing impaired clients of the Probation Department.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Davin's Interpreting Services currently provides American Sign Language (ASL) interpreting and translation services to hearing impaired clients of the Probation Department.

FISCAL & STRATEGIC PLAN IMPACT

Is there a Fiscal Impact? Is it currently budgeted? Where is it budgeted? Is it Mandatory or Discretionary? Is the general fund affected? Future fiscal impact: Yes Yes Probation, 1420000 Mandatory Yes The Agreement terminates June 30, 2024. It contains a provision for an automatic annual renewal, which allows the County the option to continue these services for two (2) additional subsequent fiscal years. Funds shall be budgeted accordingly in future fiscal years.

If this agreement is not approved, the Probation Department is unable to communicate effectively with its clients that are deaf or hearing impaired, and would be in violation of the Americans with Disability Act (ADA). Non compliance with ADA can result in potential litigation and fines.
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ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

ENVIRONMENTAL DETERMINATION: The proposed action is not a project as defined by 14 California Code of Regulations 15378 (State CEQA Guidelines) and therefore CEQA is not applicable.

BACKGROUND AND DISCUSSION

This Amendment extends the term of the agreement. The Probation Department works with clients that are deaf or hearing impaired. To comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA), Title II - Public Entities, the Department provides access to all programs and services offered. The ADA requires the use of "qualified interpreters." The implementing regulations define a qualified interpreter as one "who is able to interpret effectively, accurately, and impartially both receptively and expressively, using necessary specialized vocabulary." Davin's Interpreting Service employs Certified American Sign Language interpreters. The vendor provides on-site language interpreting, is responsible for maintaining current certifications of all interpreters and shall be available for court testimony regarding translation services, if requested.

The contractor is a local vendor and is currently providing services to clients of the Health and Human Services Agency.