SHERIFF- CORONER

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## COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

MARK TRACY
SHERIFF-CORONER

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11/10/98

**Agenda:** 11/24/98

Board of Supervisors County of Santa Cruz 701 Ocean Street Santa Cruz, California 95060

Contribution Of \$1,000 Towards The Inplementation Of The County Office Of Education's Student Survey Of Teen Alcohol and Drug Use.

Dear Members of the Board:

The Sheriff's Office is committed to assisting with community efforts to identify causes and solutions for drug and alcohol abuse in Santa Cruz County. This Department has been approached by representatives of the United Way and the Santa Cruz County Office Of Education to obtain financial support to conduct the 1998 Santa Cruz County Student Survey of Teen Alcohol and Drug Use.

Our County has a history of high rates of substance abuse among teens, with tragic consequences. In response, various County agencies have developed positive and award winning prevention and intervention programs which save lives. These programs cannot document their effectiveness or plan for inportant changes without current information about drug use trends among our young people. In the past, this student alcohol and drug use survey has been used to help make critical decisions about funding priorities and program changes. The survey data has also been used to secure grant funding for various programs in the areas of substance abuse prevention, student counseling, after school recreation and parent education.

The Sheriff's Office will also benefit from a more accurate understanding of the changing nature of drug and alcohol abuse in this County. Our own Sheriff's Office programs aimed at prevention and intervention as well as our more traditional law enforce-

ment efforts in responding to calls for service will be enhanced by a better understanding of current trends in alcohol and drug use among Teens.

The Sheriff's Office wishes to contribute \$1,000 towards the implementation of this survey. The FY 98/99 Sheriff's Office budget contains appropriations for contributions to other agencies and we have already realized savings in this component of our budget to make this additional contribution possible to the Santa Cruz County Office Of Education.

Therefore, it is Recommended that your Board approve this request to authorize the Sheriff to make a \$1,000 contribution to the Santa Cruz County Office of Education for implementing the biannual American Drug and Alcohol Survey.

Very truly yours,

Mark Tracy Sheriff Coroner

MT/PC:

**RECOMMENDED:** 

SUSAN A. MAURIELLO

County Administrative Officer