



AGENDA MEMO

CITY COUNCIL MEETING DATE: September 16, 2009

DEPARTMENT: Detention and Enforcement

ITEM DESCRIPTION: Discussion and possible action regarding an Interlocal Agreement between the Board of Regents on behalf of the College of Southern Nevada (CSN), the City of Henderson Police Department, the City of North Las Vegas Police Department and the City of Las Vegas Department of Detention and Enforcement

The municipalities listed above have enjoyed a long standing and productive relationship by patterning to provide academy level instruction for police and corrections officers for the past 27 years. The Department of Detention and Enforcement hosted those academies, exclusively until 2006, when our facilities could no longer adequately accommodate the high intensity of academy instruction, given the growth in our communities. At that time, the cities of Henderson and North Las Vegas entered into an agreement with the College of Southern Nevada (CSN) to provide academy instruction for their employees. CSN also opened academy instruction to non-affiliates, or students of the college who were not actively employed by a law enforcement agency. This unique arrangement created an excellent recruitment tool and maintains the continuity of law enforcement instruction for our collective recruits. This agreement eliminates the need to formally petition the college for credit hours, after completing the academy, a practice of the past, as each course is sanctioned by the college and therefore credit hours are earned through the instruction process. While the Department of Detention and Enforcement has continued to provide corrections officer academy instruction, they began sending police officer recruits to the Southern Desert Regional Academy in 2006 and have been pleased with the product.

Today, the above listed groups have elected to embark upon a new program in which academy instruction for police and corrections officers will be integrated. This structure will further break down perceived barriers between these professionals, standardize training and, to an extent, offer cross training opportunities and will build camaraderie amongst the officers. The participating agencies envision this partnership will benefit our communities in a variety of ways including, but not limited to, enhancing our succession planning efforts, sharing resources, and potentially saving time and money for future training, particularly in those cases where officers choose to change the focus of their law enforcement careers, from one discipline to another. The agreement before you has been in place for nearly three years between CSN, the City of Henderson and the City of North Las Vegas, the amendment simply adds the City of Las Vegas to that partnership.