

**TOWN OF PRESCOTT VALLEY
REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION
Date: April 14, 2016**

SUBJECT: Criminal Investigations Computer Forensics Training and Equipment – Contingency Transfer

SUBMITTING DEPARTMENT: Police Department

PREPARED BY: Christy Awtrey-Tieman, Assistant to Police Chief Bryan Jarrell

AGENDA LOCATION: Comments/Communications , Consent , Work/Study ,
New Business , Public Hearing , Second Reading

ATTACHMENTS: None

SUMMARY/BACKGROUND: The Prescott Valley Police Department has recognized the need for proper acquisition and examination of digital evidence. Digital Evidence is defined as information and data relevant to an investigation that is stored on, received or transmitted by an electronic device, such as a computer or a cellular telephone. The successful resolution of many criminal investigations requires law enforcement's ability to retrieve this evidence in a timely manner. The appropriate and proper methods of collection of digital evidence, as with all types of evidence, are vital to the outcome of any case.

Currently, the criminal investigations section has very limited ability to properly acquire and analyze digital evidence and although the Department of Public Safety can assist in this endeavor, their processing time can be up to 1 ½ years.

We are requesting funds that will be used to purchase the following items:

1. X-ways Software, produced by Software Technology AG, recognized as the industry leader for digital forensics work. This software is used for the imaging and analysis of memory taken from computer systems.
2. Mobilyze software, produced by BlackBag Technologies, a cellular telephone forensics software used to extract the data from cellular devices. The software analyzes the data and identifies evidence from program files, call logs, and the apps on the device, as well as deleted data.
3. Sumuri Talino KA-101 forensic workstation. This is a powerful forensic computer with the capability of running the software effectively, and efficiently.

Funds are also being requested to obtain the following training necessary to operate this hi-tech equipment and provide the investigator with the ability to properly interpret the information extracted during the analysis. These certifications are imperative when testifying about the collection methods of the evidence and the interpretation of the information during criminal proceedings.

1. Basic Computer Forensics Examiner training to become a Certified Forensic Computer Examiner. This training is provided by the International Association of Computer Investigative Specialists, a world renowned non-profit organization dedicated to forensic certification.
2. X-Ways Forensics training certification.

The estimated costs for the computer hardware and software are \$9,400. The estimated costs for training to include registration fees, per diem, lodging and travel are \$8,300.

ACTION OPTION: Motion to approve budget transfer from the Contingency Funds in the amount of \$17,700.00 to Police Criminal Investigations Operating and Capital budgets, **OR** Motion not to approve this transfer. **VOTE.**

RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends approval of this transfer.

FISCAL ANALYSIS: Since this training and equipment was not budgeted in FY 2015/2016, staff will transfer \$17,700.00 from the General Fund Contingency Account (101-9500-619-8999) to the following Criminal Investigations Section accounts:

Transfer Amount	Description	Line Item
\$9,400.00	Capital : Computer related	101-6310-700-7435
\$8,300.00	Operating : seminar fees/training	101-6310-621-5920

REVIEWED BY:

Management Services Director _____

Town Clerk _____

Town Attorney _____

Town Manager _____

COUNCIL ACTION:

Approved Denied Tabled/Deferred Assigned to _____