COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2025

MINUTE ORDER NO. 2

SUBJECT: AUTHORIZE SINGLE SOURCE PROCUREMENT FOR TITLE IV-E FOSTER CARE CLAIMING SERVICES (DISTRICTS: ALL)

OVERVIEW

Title IV-E of the Social Security Act, administered through the California Department of Social Services (CDSS), provides federal funding to support a broad range of services for eligible children and youth (ages 0-17) who are currently in foster care or at risk of entering foster care or the juvenile justice system. These funds help counties provide prevention services, foster care maintenance and placement support, and related administrative and training activities that improve safety, permanency, and well-being outcomes for vulnerable youth and families.

Since 2015, the County of San Diego has partnered with Justice Benefits, Inc. (JBI), a national leader in Title IV-E claiming, to manage this process. JBI has consistently helped the County maximize federal reimbursement by identifying all eligible expenditures, streamlining documentation and improving operational efficiency. While Title IV-E funding presents a critical opportunity to support youth, the claiming process requires precise documentation, ongoing staff training, and strict adherence to evolving federal and state regulations. To ensure compliance, the Probation Department contracts with JBI for their specialized expertise and technical infrastructure. By utilizing proprietary technology such as their Random Moment Time Study (RMTS) system, JBI helps the Probation Department accurately capture and report staff time spent on federally eligible activities. JBI's extensive specialized experience and unique proprietary systems are unmatched by other contractors, making hem the only provider capable of delivering the level of expertise, compliance assurance, and continuity required for this work. JBI's established relationships with federal and state agencies ensure compliance with complex regulations and continuity of effective training and service delivery.

Today's action requests the Board of Supervisors, in accordance with Board Policy A-87, to approve and authorize a single source procurement with Justice Benefits, Inc. for an initial term of one (1) year, with four (4) one-year option periods, and up to an additional six (6) months if needed.

RECOMMENDATION(S) CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

In accordance with Board Policy A-87, Competitive Procurement, approve and authorize the Director of the Department of Purchasing and Contracting to enter into negotiations with, Justice Benefits, Inc. and subject to successful negotiations and a determination of a fair and reasonable price, award a contract for the delivery of Title IV-E claiming services, or an initial term of one (1) year, with four (4) one-year option periods and up to an additional six (6) months if needed, subject to the availability of funds and continued need for the services, and to amend the contract as needed to reflect changes in services and funding, subject to the approval of the Chief Probation Officer.

EQUITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The recommended actions promote equity by ensuring continued federal funding for critical programs that support youth in foster care or those at risk of entering foster care or the juvenile justice system. These programs benefit vulnerable youth and families experiencing systemic inequities, socioeconomic

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challenges, and historical barriers to accessing services, thereby advancing equitable outcomes across San Diego County.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT STATEMENT

The procurement of Title IV-E claiming services supports sustainability by maintaining federal funding streams, which ensures the ongoing delivery of effective and necessary services for at-risk youth and promotes stable, thriving communities. This procurement specifically enhances economic sustainability by optimizing staff efficiency and reducing the need for additional staff resources. Additionally, stable out-of-home placements are critical to long-term success, leading to better employment opportunities and financial stability, for the children and youth. Ensuring continued funding for administrative activities related to housing these extremely vulnerable populations is essential for achieving the goal of eliminating poverty and promoting economic sustainability for all.

FISCAL IMPACT

Funds for this request are included in the Fiscal Year 2025-26 Operational Plan in the Probation Department. If approved, this request will result in estimated costs and revenue of \$200,000 in Fiscal Year 2025-26 to administer the program. Costs and revenue for contract option years and up to an additional six (6) months, if needed, will be included in future years Operational Plans in the Probation Department. The funding source is federal funds for Title IV-E Foster Care of the Social Security Act, administered through the California Department of Social Services. There will be no change in net General Fund cost and no additional staff years.

BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT

N/A

ACTION:

ON MOTION of Supervisor Aguirre, seconded by Supervisor Desmond, the Board of Supervisors took action as recommended, on Consent.

AYES: Aguirre, Anderson, Lawson-Remer, Montgomery Steppe, Desmond

State of California)
County of San Diego) §

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of the Original entered in the Minutes of the Board of Supervisors.

ANDREW POTTER

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors

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Signed

bv Andrew Potter

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