

CITY OF SANTA ROSA  
CITY COUNCIL

TO: MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
FROM: SEAN MCGLYNN, CITY MANAGER  
CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE  
SUBJECT: ANNUAL REPORT AND APPROVAL OF PROFESSIONAL  
SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH ROBERT HUNTER AARONSON,  
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR TO REVIEW THE POLICE  
DEPARTMENT

AGENDA ACTION: RESOLUTION

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RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended by the City Manager's Office that the Council: 1) by motion, accept the first year report from Robert Aaronson, Independent Police Auditor (IPA); and, 2) by resolution, approve the Professional Services Agreement with Robert Hunter Aaronson, Palo Alto, CA, in an amount not to exceed \$100,000.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this contract is to continue the services of Mr. Aaronson as an independent auditor of the Santa Rosa Police Department (SRPD). He will conduct audits of the Police Department's policies, practices and records, meet with various stakeholders in the community, ride-along with patrol, and respond to and assist complainants.

BACKGROUND

Mr. Aaronson began his role as the IPA in January 2016. During the first twelve months' efforts included:

- Conducting ongoing audits and evaluations of the Santa Rosa Police Department's personnel investigations and accountability processes.
- Meeting with various stakeholders in the Santa Rosa community.
- Assisting people with complaints about the Santa Rosa Police Department.
- Working closely with the City Manager and Police Department administration to make recommendations for appropriate changes to systems, procedures, or policies.
- Acting as a resource to assist Police Department supervisors and managers to discuss ongoing personnel investigations.
- Reporting to the City Manager regularly regarding any recommendations for improvement.

### PRIOR CITY COUNCIL REVIEW

Not applicable

### ANALYSIS

Moving forward, the Independent Police Auditor will continue meeting with and listening to concerned community members; working with complainants to help address their concerns; auditing and reviewing SRPD investigations of employee conduct, use of force, and other critical incidents; meeting with and listening to other stakeholders; meeting with, listening to, and providing feedback to SRPD staff, its chain of command, and the City Manager.

In addition, specific efforts in the upcoming year will be focused on improvements in the Professional Standards Unit (PSU) including establishing a clear mission, defining its role in the chain of command, and developing a written scope of its activities.

### FISCAL IMPACT

Funding for this contract is appropriated in the General Fund and managed by the City Manager's Office.

### ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

This action is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it is not a project which has a potential for resulting in either a direct physical change in the environment, or a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment, pursuant to CEQA Guideline section 15378.

### BOARD/COMMISSION/COMMITTEE REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Not applicable.

### NOTIFICATION

Not applicable.

### ATTACHMENTS

- Attachment 1 – Independent Police Auditor Report
- Resolution/Exhibit

### CONTACT

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