

## **Staff Report**

**TO:** Board of Commissioners

**FROM:** Kerri Curtiss, Trial Court Administrator

**DATE:** May 1, 2018

**RE:** Request for support of court's intent to apply for FY2019 Swift & Sure Sanctions Program grant funding in the estimated amount of \$217,246.62

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### **BACKGROUND**

The program began in 2009 and Isabella County was the first program of this type in Michigan. Grant funding for this program started in 2011. The Swift and Sure Sanctions Probation Program is a specialty court program for local probationers who have demonstrated an inability or unwillingness to comply with traditional probation conditions. The goal of the program is to maintain community safety while providing probationers with the tools and skills they need to reduce recidivism.

This is a moderately intensive form of probation that is compliance driven. It is designed to encourage compliance by providing immediate and predictable sanctions for probation violations. Each probationer is aware as they enter the program what the expectations are and what the consequences will be if they violate.

We recently changed the minimum programming from 9 to 18 months in an effort to reduce recidivism after program completion. It is too early to tell if this effort will be successful.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

The alternative would be to cut the program or for the county to provide the funding.

### **FINANCIAL IMPACT**

Supporting the request to apply for grant funds would allow (if awarded) all program services to continue and to fund the salaries and fringes of both the S&S Case Manager and S&S Coordinator. The total estimated amount of the request is \$217,246.62.

### **OTHER CONSIDERATIONS**

For the 2018 fiscal year, the court requested \$265,000 and received an award amount of \$210,000. We were able to fully operate the program on the \$210,000 received.

The \$217,246.62 is a slight increase from our award in FY 2018, which is associated with salaries and fringes.

### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

We are asking for the BOC to support our intentions to apply for a grant in the estimated amount of \$217,246.62 to continue the S&S Sanctions Program for the 2019 fiscal year.