

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

09-0704R

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A JOINT POWERS AGREEMENT WITH THE STATE OF MINNESOTA FOR CONTINUED ACCESS TO THE MIDWEST AFIS NETWORK FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$17,300.

CITY PROPOSAL:

RESOLVED, that the proper city officials are hereby authorized to execute a joint powers agreement, substantially the same as that on file in the office of the city clerk as Public Document No. _____, with the state of Minnesota for continued access by the Duluth police department to the Midwest Automated Fingerprint Identification Network (MAFIN) database and equipment through June 30, 2010, for a total amount of not to exceed \$17,300, payable from Fund 110-160-1610-5441.

Approved:

Approved for presentation to council:

Department Director

Chief Administrative Officer

Approved as to form:

Approved:

Attorney

Auditor

DPD/ATTY GBJ:cjk 11/12/2009

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE: This resolution authorizes the proper city officials to execute a joint powers agreement with the state of Minnesota for access by the Duluth police department to the Midwest Automated Fingerprint Identification Network (MAFIN). The MAFIN is a shared regional database involving South Dakota, Minnesota and North Dakota. The system enables speedy comparison of fingerprints and detects matching records under alias names for all records among the three states. The database also contains latent prints left at crime scenes, all new arrest fingerprint searches go against that unsolved file as well as the normally stored images.

Equipment and access to MAFIN was initially granted to the police department this past June and has been utilized until the present. The state is authorized to charge for the maintenance and upkeep of the MAFIN system pursuant to Minnesota Statutes Section 299C.46. The cost of this maintenance and upkeep is apportioned among all criminal justice agencies using the system. The city's portion of that cost for June of 2009 through June of 2010 is \$17,300.

In the past months the MAFIN system has been used to identify suspects and victims in all manner of crime and incidents ranging from homicide, stranger initiated sexual assault, robberies, burglaries, and motor vehicle thefts. There have been 22 cases where such identification was made quickly by using this system. Within a matter of a few days suspects and/or victims were identified enabling a successful investigation and disposition of the incident. MAFIN has been instrumental in allowing the investigative division of the police department to maintain above average clearance rates through quick identification. Not having this ability as part of the overall investigative effort would lead to a lower clearance rate for crimes and more cases growing cold.