



## Washington Police Department

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Michael D. McCoy

Chief of Police

TO: Honorable Mayor Gary Manier and Washington City Council

FROM: Chief Michael D. McCoy and DC Jeff Stevens

RE: Replacement of Ballistic Armor and Helmets for CIERT Members

DATE: February 27, 2018

Mayor and Aldermen,

The Department has three members active on the tactical portion of the CIERT team. These members use ballistic vests that provide a much higher level of protection than the patrol officer vests. Put simply, the patrol officer's vests stop common handgun rounds, but will not stop rifle rounds, and the tactical team member's vests are rated to stop both by using a combination of Kevlar and ceramic plates. This increased level of protection is provided due to the increased risk encountered by the team that is tasked with handling especially high-risk scenarios. Currently, all three issued vests have expired Kevlar protection and expired plates.

The same officers use ballistic helmets issued prior to incorporation of night-vision devices and hard-shell headsets that combine a communication system with hearing protection. A new model of ballistic helmet will accommodate these devices.

The Department budgeted for vest replacement specifically and Sergeant Willi assembled three bids for armor packages, including helmets, from Ray O'Herron, MEs, and Collins Law Enforcement Supply. He believes that the Collins bid provides the best value as they provide NIJ-certified armor at the lowest package cost, \$6,660, including shipping. Our budgeted plan was for \$6000 and we can accommodate the additional cost.

The Department requests the Council approval of this planned and budgeted expense.