

# ALAMEDA COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT

June 10, 2014

Honorable Board of Supervisors Administration Building Oakland, CA 94612

SUBJECT: APPROVAL TO REIMBURSE TRAVEL COSTS FOR 12 CAMP SWEENEY YOUTH, KEVIN GRANT, VIDEOGRAPHER AND INSTRUCTOR FROM ALAMEDA COUNTY OFFICE OF EDUCATION TO PARTICIPATE IN FIELD TRIP TO MEMPHIS, TN AND LOS ANGELES, CA

Dear Board Members:

#### **RECOMMENDATION:**

• Authorize reimbursement of travel-related expenses up to \$2,020 each for (12) Camp Sweeney youth, Kevin Grant, a videographer, and one Alameda County Office of Education (ACOE) instructor to participate in a 7-day field trip to Memphis, TN and Los Angeles, CA from August 24-August 30, 2014.

### **SUMMARY AND DISCUSSION:**

In September 2013, Alameda County Probation Department took twelve (12) Camp Sweeney youth on a week-long excursion to Memphis, TN and Los Angeles, CA to visit key multi-cultural landmarks significant to American history and culture. Youth were accompanied by chaperones and mentors consisting of seven (7) Probation staff and two (2) community providers, Kevin Grant and Victor Diaz.

This year's field trip, dubbed the "Tolerance Tour", will consist of touring the National Civil Rights Museum, Stax Museum, the Museum of Tolerance, and Fulcrum, a leadership and team development rope challenge course. Last year's tour was impactful and a learning opportunity for all who participated. Adults were given a unique peek into the minds of our youth that resulted in a deeper understanding of them. The movie Freedom Writers is the motivational theme of the Tolerance Tour.

The Probation Department will invite twelve (12) Camp Sweeney youth who have the most potential to benefit from participating. In addition, Kevin Grant, a videographer, and one ACOE instructor will participate. Kevin Grant is a nationally renowned expert in street outreach and violence mediation helping youth and young adults find alternatives to violence and crime. The videographer will chronicle the activities throughout the trip and create a documentary. The ACOE instructor will provide a daily curriculum and co-facilitate roundtable discussions that will include impactful dialogue on the day's events to create a platform for youth to journal their experiences.

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Your Board is requested to approve the costs for airline, hotel accommodations, food and attraction fees, not to exceed \$2,020 per person or \$30,300 total for 15 participants.

### **FINANCING:**

The costs associated with the travel-related expenses incurred by the non-county employees are included in Probation's FY 2014-15 budget. There is **NO** increase in Net County Cost.

Very truly yours,

LaDonna M. Harris

CHIEF PROBATION OFFICER

## LMH:tal

ce: County Administrator County Counsel Auditor-Controller

Administrative/Financial Services, Probation