



AGENDA STAFF REPORT

Control: 26001263

MEETING DATE: 06/23/2026

LEGAL ENTITY TAKING ACTION: Board of Supervisors

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS DISTRICT(S): District 3

SUBMITTING AGENCY/DEPARTMENT: Sheriff-Coroner

DEPARTMENT CONTACT PERSON(S): Kirsten Monteleone, 949-206-6101
Dwayne Chapple, 949-248-3522

SUBJECT: City of Rancho Santa Margarita Law Enforcement Services Contract

CEO CONCUR	COUNTY COUNSEL REVIEW	CLERK OF THE BOARD
Concur	Approve agreement to form	DISCUSSION
		3 Votes Board Majority

Budgeted: N/A	Current Year Cost: N/A	Annual Cost: FY 2026-27 \$12,512,782
Staffing Impact: No	Funding Source: Other: City of Rancho Santa Margarita : 100%	Sole Source: No
Current Fiscal Year Revenue: N/A		County Audit in Last 3 years: No

Levine Act Review Completed? N/A

Prior Board Action: 6/24/2025 #33, 6/25/2024 #31, 6/27/2023 #46, 5/23/2023 #9

RECOMMENDED ACTION(S):

1. Approve the FY 2026-27 charges for law enforcement services with the City of Rancho Santa Margarita in an amount not to exceed \$12,512,782.
2. If no law enforcement services contract between the County of Orange and the City of Rancho Santa Margarita has been entered into by June 30, 2027, delegate to the Sheriff-Coroner authority to execute a written amendment to this law enforcement services contract that extends the term for a specified term between July 1, 2027, and August 31, 2027, and provides that the County will continue during the period of extension to provide all or a specified part of the law enforcement services previously provided to the City of Rancho Santa Margarita, and that the City of Rancho Santa Margarita will pay the full costs of such services.
3. Delegate to the Sheriff-Coroner or designee authority to execute written amendments to this law enforcement services contract that increase or decrease the total FY 2026-27 cost of service by one percent or less of \$12,512,782, including adding, changing, or reducing staff or equipment, that do not materially change other provisions of the contract.

4. Delegate to the Sheriff-Coroner or designee authority to execute an amendment to this contract to substitute the City of Rancho Santa Margarita's amended or new Traffic Violator Apprehension Program resolution, as long as the amendment does not materially change any other provision of this contract.
5. Delegate to the Sheriff-Coroner or designee authority to execute an amendment to this contract to reduce the level of service, terminate the service or adjust the costs for the Traffic Violator Apprehension Program service to the City of Rancho Santa Margarita as long as the amendment does not materially change any other provision of this contract.
6. Delegate to the Sheriff-Coroner or designee authority to charge the City of Rancho Santa Margarita for any potential salary or benefit changes for County employees.

SUMMARY:

Approval of the contract with the City of Rancho Santa Margarita will allow the Sheriff-Coroner Department to continue to provide law enforcement services to maintain the safety and welfare of residents of Rancho Santa Margarita.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The City of Rancho Santa Margarita has been contracting with the County of Orange (County) for the Sheriff-Coroner Department (Sheriff) to provide law enforcement services since 2000.

The table below notes when the Board of Supervisors (Board) approved the most recent contracts and each contract's annual adjustment amount.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Amendment Number or Contract</u>	<u>Date Approved By Board or Adjusted</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Comments</u>
FY 2022-23	First	May 23, 2023	\$6,436	Amendment changed the Crime Prevention Specialist from an extra help position to a regular employee position.
FY 2023-24	Contract	June 27, 2023	\$10,607,898	Establish service levels for FY 2023-24
FY 2023-24	n/a	February 13, 2024	\$10,985,365	Adjusted as a result of ratified labor union contract negotiations
FY 2024-25	Contract	June 25, 2024	\$11,853,107	Establish service levels for FY 2024-25.
FY 2025-26	Contract	June 24, 2025	\$12,486,050	Establish service levels for FY 2025-26.

* These amounts were adjusted as a result of ratified labor union contract negotiations.

Proposed law enforcement services for FY 2026-27 include the positions and service levels as noted on the table below.

<u>Position Title</u>	<u>Service Level</u>
Captain	1.00
Sergeant - Administrative	1.00
Sergeant - Patrol	2.00
Deputy Sheriff II - Patrol, Traffic, Community Support, and Special Enforcement Services	21.00
Investigator	1.00
Investigative Assistants	1.33
Community Services Officers	2.00
Crime Prevention Specialist	1.00

The total cost to the City of Rancho Santa Margarita for the FY 2026-27 contract is \$12,512,782, which includes regional/shared staff.

Contract costs include salaries, wages, employee benefits, services and supplies, transportation expenses, as well as division, department and County (County-Wide Cost Allocation Plan) overhead. The FY 2026-27 contract cost is -0.12 percent lower (\$15,289) than the current fiscal year final adjusted contract of \$12,528,071. The decrease is due primarily to a reduction in retirement rate costs.

Some of the Sheriff’s law enforcement contracts historically included a separate Operations Agreement, which contained provisions that were applicable to all of the Sheriff’s contract cities, such as response times. In order to standardize the Sheriff’s law enforcement contracts, the Operations Agreements were eliminated and those terms were absorbed into Attachments A and B of all of the Sheriff’s law enforcement contracts. Any city-specific terms are in Attachment H. The Sheriff also updated the indemnity provision to better align with the County’s standard indemnity clause.

This contract is submitted for approval less than 30 days prior to the start of the proposed contract due to an extended negotiation period over the terms and conditions in the contract, and the need to have the Rancho Santa Margarita City Council approval before presenting the contract to the Board for approval. The Rancho Santa Margarita City Council agendaized this contract for approval at its June 10, 2026, meeting.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The City of Rancho Santa Margarita is responsible for 100 percent of the costs related to this contract. Appropriations and Revenue for this contract are included in Budget Control 060, Sheriff-Coroner FY 2026-27 Recommended Budget. Adjustments to reconcile positions with related appropriations and revenue to the adopted FY 2026-27 contract will be requested in the FY 2026-27 Mid-Year Budget Report.

STAFFING IMPACT:

N/A

REVIEWING AGENCIES/DEPARTMENTS:

N/A

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A - City of Rancho Santa Margarita Contract