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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

SPONSOR Vigil ORIGINAL DATE 02/18/09
LAST UPDATED _____ HB 712
SHORT TITLE New Mexico Mounted Patrol SB _____
ANALYST Weber

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY09	FY10		
	\$7.5	Recurring	General

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

Responses Received From

Department of Public Safety (DPS)

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

House Bill 712 appropriates \$7.5 thousand from the general fund to DPS to purchase ammunition for the New Mexico Mounted Patrol.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

The appropriation of \$7.5 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY10 shall revert to the general fund.

According to the February 2008 revenue estimate, FY10 recurring revenue will only support a base expenditure level that is \$575 million less than the FY09 appropriations before the 2009 solvency reductions. All appropriations outside of the general appropriation act will be viewed in this declining revenue context.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

The following information is from the New Mexico Mounted Patrol web site.

The New Mexico Mounted Patrol (NMMP) is a unique state agency created by New Mexico State Statute in 1941. The Mounted Patrol is one of the largest police agencies in New Mexico with the entire agency comprised of all part-time/volunteer commissioned Peace Officers and civilians. The New Mexico Mounted Patrol is comprised of troops located throughout the State of New Mexico.

The purpose of the Mounted Patrol is to assist in the enforcement of law by cooperating with all law enforcement agencies and regulatory bodies of the state of New Mexico when requested by them and under their direction and control; to act as an official body guard to the governor of New Mexico or to distinguished visitors upon the call of the governor (NM State Statute 1978 Section 29-6). Mounted Patrol Troopers are not New Mexico State Policemen (NMSP) however; The New Mexico Mounted Patrol and its "Troopers" may be called upon to assist any law enforcement or authorized regulatory agency and serve anywhere in the state. Upon request for support and on duty, Mounted Patrol Troopers become an agent, assume the authority and accept the control of the agency for which they work.

The New Mexico Mounted Patrol normally *does not take the place* of the full-time salaried police officer but to augment all law enforcement entities and appropriate regulatory bodies throughout the state. Troopers work on a daily basis performing an array of law enforcement, emergency management and home land security duties. The New Mexico Mounted Patrol has many specially trained officers who augment specialized teams, to include; SWAT, Rapid Water Rescue, Hovercraft, Dive Team, Bomb Team, Narcotics, DUI, Crime Scene Investigations and much more.

The authority vested to the New Mexico Mounted Patrol is outlined in the Laws of the State of New Mexico New Mexico State Statutes 1978 Sections 29-6-1 to 29-6-6.

The New Mexico Mounted Patrol's dedication to the State of New Mexico, its citizens, the law enforcement community and homeland security is best summed up by "*The Ultimate in Community Service and An Unequaled Value in Law Enforcement.*"

The New Mexico Mounted Patrol (NMMP) consists of approximately 160 officers in 20 active troops situated throughout the State of New Mexico.

Active Troop Locations:

North Zone - Northwest District

Farmington, Española, Santa Fe, Albuquerque, Grants, Moriarty

North Zone - Northeast District

Las Vegas, Raton, Roy, Santa Fe, Tucumcarri

South Zone – Southwest District

Ruidoso, Clovis, Hobbs, Lovington, Roswell, Artesia

South Zone - Southeast District

Alamogordo, Las Cruces, Deming

The NMMP has an administrative staff of approximately 12 staff members. The internal control, management, supervision and power of the organization is vested in a board of directors composed of not less than one member from each troop of the NMMP elected by the members of the organization. The Chief of the Mounted Patrol is duly elected by the members of the NMMP with the Deputy Chiefs appointed by the Board of Directors and the District Captains and State Staff appointed by the Chief.

MW/mt