



Legislation Text

File #: 21-333, **Version:** 1

TITLE:

Purchase of Virtual Training Simulator for Law Enforcement

INFORMATION CONTACT:

Dorothy Thomas, Business Manager, 704-283-3578

ACTION REQUESTED:

Authorize County Manager to approve contract to VirTra for the purchase of a Law Enforcement Training Simulator.

BACKGROUND:

The Union County Sheriff's Office is currently working to obtain a VirTra Law Enforcement Training Simulator, which will provide beneficial training for both our sworn, and many of our non-sworn personnel. The VirTra training simulator provides immersive, life-like training in a controlled environment. This allows personnel to utilize all tools at their disposal, to make the best decisions during use of force encounters. Additionally, VirTra provides countless scenarios in which verbal de-escalation skills can be utilized and honed to provide officers with potential avenues where a use of force does not have to be the final resort. The VirTra simulator provides up to a 300-degree, multi-screen training environment where officers are subjected to a myriad of real-life scenarios. VirTra will allow our training personnel to observe officers in tense, rapidly evolving situations, which will allow those trainers to better equip our personnel to handle any incident they may encounter. VirTra scenarios are produced with real actors in high definition, which enhances the realism of each scenario, giving the participating officers the feeling of actually being on-scene at each incident. VirTra allows scenarios to be filmed in any environment, thus allowing officers to respond to active threats in real-life locations, such as our own schools, courts, governmental facilities, and business locations. In interacting with the VirTra simulator, verbal de-escalation skills are paramount. Each and every scenario can be tailored to respond to an officer's verbal commands and cues. VirTra provides basic firearms proficiency software, which along with our current firearms phase training, will provide a cost effective means of increasing an officer's firearms proficiency. The VirTra Law Enforcement Training Simulator will increase the ability of the Union County Sheriff's Office to effectively respond to any call for service we encounter.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

This service will be provided for a term of 60 months (5 yrs.) for a total cost of \$325,668.15. The first-year cost obligation of \$76,085.63 includes a one-time Contract Initiation Payment of \$13,690.00 and the annual lease payment of \$62,395.63. The cost obligation for years 2-5 will be in the amount of \$62,395.63 per year.

