

LEGISLATIVE FACT SHEET

2014-0189

DATE: 02/25/14

BT or RC No: 14-041
(Administration Bills)

SPONSOR: FIRE AND RESCUE DEPARTMENT
(Department/Division/Agency/Council Member)

PURPOSE/SUMMARY:

To purchase 1030 personal escape systems as recommended by NFPA 1983 Life Rope Safety & Equipment for Emergency Services 2012 edition. Currently we have no escape system for firefighters in the event they become lost in a structure fire or have to egress a multi-story structure due to high heat or flame. Recent line-of-duty deaths and close calls within the JFRD have highlighted this vulnerability in our operations. These personal escape systems include a NFPA rescue hook, 40' of rescue rope, one descender, and one belt that is woven into our bunker pants. A majority of fire departments have adopted these systems to offset their exposure to risk and liability. Giving a member a fighting chance when bailing out of a four-story window cannot be overstated.

APPROPRIATION: Total Amount Appropriated: \$309,000.00 as follows:

(Name of Fund as it will appear in title of legislation) FIRE EQUIPMENT

Name of Federal Funding Source: _____ Amount: _____

Name of State Funding Source: _____ Amount: _____

Name of City of Jax Funding Source: Transfer From 329 Amount: 309,000.00

Name of In-Kind Contribution: _____ Amount: _____

Name of Bond Acct: _____ Amount: _____

Bond Account Number: _____

IMPACT - FINANCIAL / OTHER:

One time large purchase of 1030 systems. All the components have long duty life with the exception of the units being burned. Also, no-match grants have been applied for an additional 100 escape systems from the Firehouse Subs Foundation. The financial impact of injuring or losing a firefighter or firefighters and not having a system as suggested by NFPA and adopted by numerous fire departments both locally and nationally exposes the COJ to liability issues.

ACTION ITEMS:

	Yes	No	
Emergency?	x		Justification of Emergency: On 2-27-14 a fire fighter had to jump out of a two story window to escape from being burned alive. A personal escape system could have allowed him to egress safely out the structure; instead he's in a burn unit at Shands-Gainesville. We are averaging over one working structure fire per day with some days having multiple fires. We cannot afford to wait on these systems through the normal process.
Federal or State Mandates?		X	
Fiscal Year Carryover?		X	(Attach CIP Form(s))
CIP Amendment?		X	
Contract / Agreement (C/A) Approval?		X	(Attach a copy)
C/A Negotiations On-going?		X	Name of Dept.: _____
Oversight Department Required?		X	
Related RC/BT?		X	(Attach a copy)
Waiver of Code?		X	Identify Code: _____
Code Exception?		X	Identify Code: _____

Continuation of Grant?

Surplus Property Certification?

Related Enacted Ordinances?

Report Required to City Council or
Council Auditors?

X

X
X
X
X

(Attach a copy)

Ordinance #:

2011-631-E
2010-577-E

Date:

Frequency: