



APPLETON POLICE DEPARTMENT

COMPASSION ★ INTEGRITY ★ COURAGE

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To: Alderperson Christopher Croatt – Chairperson Safety & Licensing Committee

From: Captain Jack Taschner

Date: November 13, 2024

RE: Sole Source Memo for ARPA Funding of the APD Load Bearing Vests

The Police Department has been allocated \$66,000 from ARPA funds for the purpose of getting our officers into Load Bearing Vests with Ballistic Rifle Plate capabilities. The expiration of our current Ballistic Rifle Plate system and the changeover from the standard uniform has created the need for this system.

Currently officers are issued Soft Body Armor (bulletproof vests) in a 5-year rotating cycle. We have used Armor Express brand vests for the last 8 years, with Nelson Tactical as our vender. Due to the exact nature in which each individual vest is measured, and the copyrighted style that each brand works under, it is a necessity that we stay with Armor Express vests to allow this transition to work.

The Armor Express Raven 2.0 is what we are transitioning to. New officers in 2025 and those that are up in the rotation cycle will be put in this vest and issued a Ballistic Rifle Plate. The rest of the officers would be offered the “Bravo” cut version of the Raven 2.0, which would work in conjunction with their current soft body armor.