

Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department Funding Formula

The Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department (“METRO”) is the consolidated police department organized pursuant to NRS 280 to provide police services for the City of Las Vegas and Clark County, Nevada. Briefly, NRS 280 specifies that a funding formula based upon population, calls for service, and felony crimes of the previous calendar year will be used to determine the share of the budget that the City and County will contribute to the Department. The METRO budget process undergoes three reviews of police funding by the Fiscal Affairs Committee (made up of two members each from the Clark County Commission and Las Vegas City Council, and an at-large member), The City of Las Vegas Council and the Clark County Board of Commissioners.

The funding apportionment plan was adopted by the legislature initially in 1983 and, although it has been amended since, the basic fundamentals of the funding plan are still the same as they were when the plan was originally promulgated. In essence, the plan (which is described in more detail below) uses actual event data to apportion costs and funding responsibility between the County and the City. Prior to the adoption of this plan, relative budget shares were negotiated each year as a part of the budget process.

Briefly, the funding apportionment plan excludes the cost of:

- a) Operating and maintaining a county jail or branch jail (solely a County responsibility)
- b) Rural program of resident officers (solely a County responsibility)
- c) Programs for contract services that are paid by the contracting entity (solely the responsibility of the contracting agency or entity).

The Funding apportionment plan must apportion the anticipated costs of operating and maintaining the department, and capital costs, after deducting all anticipated revenue internally generated by the department, using the formula described herein.

In developing the formula, the department must divide its budget into the following functional areas:

- a) Activities which are the responsibility of either the County or the City;
- b) Contract Services which are performed solely for another entity;
- c) Administrative or support activities.
- d) The remaining activities, services or programs are to be allocated to those functional areas which are to be jointly funded by the participating subdivisions.

Costs of activities of administration or support must be allocated to the other functional areas to which they apply based upon the ratio of the cost of each functional area to total cost of the combined functions. Thus, the administrative and support functions are allocated among the sub-units of its budget as departmental overhead.

The cost of each functional area, including administrative and support costs, must be apportioned among the participating subdivisions as follows:

- a) Cost of uniformed functions in the field apportioned on a percentage basis of permanent population, the total number of calls for service dispatched by the department (excluding calls for service with respect to felony crimes, calls for service in the rural resident officer service areas, and calls for service originating from a program of contract services), and the total number of felonies which were reported in each participating political subdivision (excluding

- calls for felonies from a rural resident officer service area or an area under contract services). The number of calls is based upon the 12 months preceding January 1 of the current fiscal year.
- b) The cost of the investigative function must be apportioned on a percentage basis of the total number of felonies reported by the participating political subdivisions in the 12 months preceding January 1 of the current fiscal year.
 - c) Other functional areas (i.e., school crossing guards) are apportioned based upon the point of service.

After the application of the formulae described above, the resulting split of funding the net amount of the budget (after deduction of self-generated revenue and the portion of the uniformed officer funding directly supported by other taxes tax), the County and City currently fund roughly 62 and 38 percent of the budget, respectively. This funding comes from the general fund of the participating entities.

The actual language appearing in NRS 280.201 is also to this summary. Also attached is a copy of the Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department's "Budget in Brief" for the current fiscal year.