

CITY OF COCONUT CREEK
Police Department
INTER OFFICE MEMORANDUM

To: City Manager Sheila Rose **Date:** September 22, 2025
From: Chief Frederick Hofer 
Subject: Request Law Enforcement Trust Fund Monies

I am requesting a total of \$28,000 from the Federal Forfeiture Justice Fund. After review by Command Staff, these items were deemed a priority. The money will be used to purchase the following:

Federal Forfeiture Justice Fund

- 1) Axon Loki 2 Drone Starter Kit - \$2,810
- 2) Axon Sigyn Ground Robot Starter Kit - \$8,395
- 3) Axon Ground Control System Starter Kit - \$5,795
- 4) Axon Loki 2 Spare Parts Kit - \$175
- 5) Axon P7 Tactical Bag - \$500
- 6) Axon P7 Sigyn Pouch - \$75
- 7) Axon P7 Loki Pouch - \$75
- 8) Axon Sky Hero Operator Certification Course - \$995
- 9) TruckVault Drone Responder 7 - \$6,650
- 10) Samsung 27" Monitor - \$699.99

The total cost of the package is approximately \$26,169.99.

Justification

The tactics and strategies employed by SWAT teams nationwide has evolved rapidly over the past 20 years, fueled primarily by hard lessons learned at the expense of officer's lives. Just a few years ago, teams would utilize dynamic entry tactics for nearly all operational types from search warrants, to barricaded suspects, to hostage rescue. As officers were killed during these operations and access to technology increased, the pace at which operations were carried out slowed substantially. Emphasis has been placed on mitigating risk to operators using tools, technology, and time to safely clear structures.

Recently the police department purchased an armored van for the SWAT team which provided the ability to:

- 1) Close distance with target structures without endangering the operators;

- 2) Ensure equipment is readily accessible to the team instead of running back to a command post; and,
- 3) Conduct safer officer or civilian down rescue operations.

While this tool has provided critical capabilities for the team during work on the exterior of a target location, currently we do not possess any capabilities to address interior threats without sending personnel directly into the location to conduct a physical search. Using people to search structures presents several potential risks. First, the layout of any structure is likely unknown to the team, but the suspect may have intimate knowledge of the location, which provides the suspect with a tactical advantage for an ambush. Second, there may be hazardous materials inside of the structure, such as fentanyl, that could harm operators encountering these drugs unknowingly. Third, when a team searches a location, they typically have no intelligence on where the suspect is located within that location. As a result, the team becomes reactive to first contact with the suspect and much of the outcome is dictated by the suspect's actions.

Axon recently acquired Sky Hero, a manufacturer of several technological tools designed to clear structures safely while mitigating risk to personnel and providing opportunities for the team to be proactive instead of reactive. Two particular tools of interest are the Axon Loki Mk II and the Axon Sigyn Mk I. The Loki is an interior drone with the following capabilities:

- 1) It operates in congested, dark environments to place a microphone and camera for critical intelligence gathering.
- 2) Flight time is approximately 15 minutes with the ability to hot swap batteries. If stationary, the drone's video and microphone can be viewed for approximately 200 minutes.
- 3) It has an impact-resistance polycarbonate body to allow for hand-thrown launches and precise landings.
- 4) It carries a 150 degree wide-angle low-light and IR camera.
- 5) The drone can hold its exact position in total darkness so the operator can observe without controller input.
- 6) It comes with automatic altitude and speed control to simplify operations inside tight spaces.
- 7) There are specialized modes such as rover and turtle to allow the drone to maneuver under beds or vehicles and right itself in the event that it flips over.

The Sigyn Mk I is a throwable dual-camera ground robot with the following capabilities:

- 1) It operates in obstacle-rich environments where GPS and cellular devices will fail.
- 2) Operational time is 120 minutes with ability to hot swap batteries. The unit runs for 300 minutes when stationary.
- 3) It has front and rear day/night cameras with 150 degree horizontal and 120 degree vertical viewing angles.
- 4) The exterior is built from aviation-grade carbon fiber and polycarbonate.
- 5) The unit can be thrown and has been drop tested to 20'.

- 6) It contains numerous sensors and adjustable IR lights to provide operators with advanced driving modes to include object avoidance, auto-selection of forward cameras, and the ability to flip itself over.

Both of these tools can be simultaneously operated by one officer using the Ground Control System Mk II controller. The controller utilizes an encrypted RF signal to control both the Loki and Sigyn from one remote. The user can swap between systems instantly to overcome most obstacles even when the units are not within sightline. The controller is standalone and does not require access to GPS or internet. Additionally, the controller contains jacks that allow for external audio and video feeds at the command post or on the entry team.

The controller, drone, robot, and Loki refresh kit (spare parts) can all be carried in a single P7 tactical bag kit, allowing the team to deploy the tools in real time at the target location as opposed to returning to a command post to retrieve each item from various cases.

Some examples of how this kit could be utilized are as follows:

- 1) On a high-risk arrest warrant where the team initially conducts a surround and callout of all occupants, the drone and robot could be sent into the structure to conduct an initial clearance prior to the team making entry. This would ensure there were no additional suspects setting up an ambush and provide the Entry Team Leader with an accurate layout of the interior.
- 2) On a barricaded suspect, the drone and robot could be sent into the structure to determine the exact location of the suspect, identify any fortifications or hazards, and establish communication with the suspect. This would allow the Commander to determine where and when to deploy additional force options like chemical munitions.
- 3) On a vehicle barricade, the drone and robot could be sent up to the vehicle to obtain visual intelligence on the suspect without pushing officers into harm's way.
- 4) On a search warrant for narcotics, the initial clearance could be conducted by the drone and robot to identify any chemical threats such as a lab or fentanyl in open air.
- 5) When to a bomb threat of potential IED event, the drone and robot could be used to locate and identify suspicious packages and provide better intelligence to responding bomb techs.

The request also includes a certification course in which Axon sends a training team to the Coconut Creek Police Department. That team certifies four agency members in the use of all of the equipment and provides hands on training in various environments to ensure we are prepared to deploy the technology in live operations on day one.

As previously stated, the department purchased an armored van which replaced the retrofitted ambulance. The ambulance was utilized both for equipment and as a central command post vehicle. While the van certainly upgraded the SWAT team's capabilities, it is mission-specific and cannot serve the role of a command post. As a result, I am

requesting the purchase of the TruckVault Drone Responder 7 with a 27" monitor to outfit an already newly acquired Ford Explorer as a standalone command post vehicle.

The Drone Responder 7 comes equipped with three drawers, a monitor cabinet, and a power station. The first drawer contains a two-sided white board and tray that allows the user to setup a laptop and write out vital operational intelligence. The second and third drawers are locking bays that allow the user to outfit with various mission-specific equipment as needed. The 600-watt inverter unit provides the user with two 120v outlets, two USB plugs, one USB-c plug, a radio panel, and an HDMI port. The HDMI port is linked to the onboard monitor (the 27" monitor is not included and is a separate purchase), allowing the user to plug in a laptop or the Axon ground controller to live stream footage from the drone and robot. As the team now utilizes the Intrepid Response application, access to a large screen on scene would allow the commanding officer to more efficiently organize the response of personnel in the application, live stream body cameras, display maps and floorplans, and complete operational plans. The radio is not included but could be retrofitted using a decommissioned vehicle's in-car radio. This would allow more efficient management of large-scale incidents working off multiple channels.

The Drone Responder 7 unit would provide our agency with a true command post vehicle that would seamlessly integrate with the Loki and Sigyn technology. It would also further enhance our on-scene management capabilities by improving our access to visual intelligence and Intrepid Response.

In conclusion, the purpose of this LETF request is to enhance officer safety and increase response efficiency to high-risk incidents through the strategic purchase of forward-reconnaissance technology and an incident command center. Attached you will find quotes. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

As of September 04th, 2025, the Finance Department's fund reconciliation showed \$1,869,783.88 in the Federal Forfeiture Justice Fund.

FCH/jcm

Attachment:

LETF Fund Reconciliation

APPROVED

DATE

DENIED


SHEILA ROSE
City Manager

9/22/25


SHEILA ROSE
City Manager
never mind