

**CITY OF GAUTIER  
MEMORANDUM**

**To:** Samantha Abell, City Manager  
**From:** Dante Elbin, Chief of Police  
**Date:** March 25, 2015  
**Subject:** Request to re-submit a grant application to the K9s4COPs Foundation for a Police Department Service Dog

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**REQUEST:**

The Gautier Police Department requests City Council authorization to re-submit a grant application to the non-profit K9s4COPs Foundation to add another police service dog to the department's K9 unit.

**BACKGROUND:**

K9s4COPs is a non-profit organization located in Houston, Texas and was founded in 2010. Their mission is to place exceptionally trained police service dogs with law enforcement agencies through a simple application process. Since gifting their first dog in 2011, the organization has replaced retiring K9s, added to existing K9 units, and helped start K9 units across the country. Awards are based on an organization's financial capability to care for the police service dog and the level of previous experience using this type of highly trained asset. Awards are announced quarterly at the organization's K9 Roll Call.

**DISCUSSION:**

The Gautier Police Department originally applied in July 2013 for a replacement for the service dog Rocko. Since that application has been on file with K9s4COPS for over eighteen months, the City must submit a new application in order to be considered for future rounds of gifting.

All recipient law enforcement agencies must certify that they will be responsible for the care and maintenance of the service dog. If the grant is awarded, travel will be required to select and pick up the service dog from the organization's preferred kennel. Quarterly statistics and photos must be sent to the funding organization along with annual health reports.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Police Department recommends that City Council authorize re-submission of a grant application to the K9s4COPs Foundation for a police service dog.

The City Council may:

1. Approve submission of a new grant application as presented; or
2. Disapprove submission of this grant application.

**ATTACHMENT(S):**

Email notification regarding grant application status  
Letter of Support (blank)

From: K9s4COPs Info [<mailto:info@k9s4cops.org>]  
Sent: Tuesday, March 24, 2015 10:41 AM  
To: [info@k9s4cops.org](mailto:info@k9s4cops.org)  
Subject: K9s4COPs Application

Good morning,

K9s4COPs still has an application on file from your department, but since it was submitted over 18 months ago we wanted to check back to see if your department is still interested in receiving a grant. If not, please respond to the email letting us know so we can remove your application from the list. If your department would still like to apply for a K9, please submit a new application with up to date information. Attached is an application form along with a contact information sheet. Please contact me with any questions.

Kind regards,

Melanie Orth Boyd  
Director of Operations  
K9s4COPs  
832-509-6965  
[www.K9s4COPs.org](http://www.K9s4COPs.org)

Mayor  
Gordon F. Sollott

*City of Gautier*  
Gautier, Mississippi

City Manager  
Samantha D. Abell

City Clerk  
Cynthia Russell

Council  
At Large Mary F. Martin  
Ward 1 Johnny Jones  
Ward 2 Hurley Ray Guillotte  
Ward 3 Casey C. Vaughan  
Ward 4 Charles "Rusty" Anderson  
Ward 5 Adam D. Colledge



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April 8, 2015

K9s4COPS  
1210 West Clay St., Unit 9  
Houston, TX 77019

To whom it may concern:

I am writing this letter to support my organization's grant application to receive a police service dog(s) from the K9s4COPS Foundation.

I certify that our organization's grant application has been presented to me and that I am satisfied the statements contained therein are true and correct.

Our organization can provide for the financial expenses of a police service dog(s) and has the equipment and experience necessary for the support and maintenance of our granted dog(s).

I give the proposed K9s4COPS grant application for a police service dog(s) my fullest support. I sign this letter as an authorized official with the authority to represent my organization and accept liability for all representations made herein.

Please contact me at (228) 497-8000 if I can be of any further assistance.

Very truly yours,

Samantha D. Abell  
City Manager  
City of Gautier, Mississippi