

# **MUSCATINE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

## **MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Gregg Mandsager, City Administrator

**FROM:** Brett Talkington, Chief of Police  
Phil Sargent, Asst Chief of Police

**SUBJECT:** City Council Agenda Item for January 8, 2014 – Cellebrite UFED Purchase

**DATE:** December 30, 2014

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### **INTRODUCTION:**

The Police Department would like city council permission to purchase a Cellebrite UFED Touch Ultimate mobile forensic system and software from Cellebrite USA. The cost for this purchase is \$12,083.00. Funding for this purchase will come from the Muscatine Police forfeiture fund.

### **BACKGROUND:**

Cellebrite mobile forensic systems are used by law enforcement to extract information and data from cellphones, portable GPS devices, tablets and memory cards. With the proliferation of personal electronic devices law enforcement officers are routinely obtaining owner consent or applying for search warrants to extract the data and information stored on the above devices. The Muscatine Police Department uses data from these devices in at least half of our investigations and close to 100% in the higher profile felony investigations.

For a number of years, the police department has been borrowing an older version of the Cellebrite forensic system from the Muscatine County Drug Task Force. This unit is getting old, out of date and cannot extract deleted information and other data. Many times we have to rely on other agencies to conduct this forensic analysis which delays investigations by weeks and months. The Muscatine Police Department is by far the most active user of the Cellebrite technology county wide.

The police department would like to purchase a new Cellebrite Touch Ultimate mobile forensics system and associated software out of our forfeiture fund.

There are annual fees associated with this purchase. The annual update cost is \$3600 and includes new hardware as needed and software updates. We have spoken to the Sheriff's Office and the County Attorney's office regarding these annual maintenance costs and they have agreed to evenly split those costs with the City.

**RECOMMENDATION/RATIONALE:**

It is our recommendation that City Council authorized the department to purchase the Cellebrite UFED Touch Ultimate mobile forensics system and software from Cellebrite for the amount of \$12,083.00. This is a sole source item.