

## **AGENDA ITEM 8.F.**

**RE:** Approval of Associate of Applied Science in Law Enforcement

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:** The staff recommends the approval of an Associate of Applied Science in Law Enforcement.

**BACKGROUND:** The proposed **Associate of Applied Science in Law Enforcement** is designed to prepare students for employment and career advancement in law enforcement and related protective service fields by emphasizing hands-on, job-ready competencies aligned with industry standards and employer expectations. This applied degree responds to sustained regional demand for trained personnel in municipal, county, and state law enforcement agencies serving the Laredo and South Texas border region. Institutional curriculum processes and curriculum committee approval confirm the AAS in Law Enforcement has been intentionally structured as a workforce-focused credential, incorporating applied coursework, lab-based instruction, and capstone or field-based learning experiences to verify entry-level workplace competencies.

**BUDGETARY CONSIDERATIONS:** Laredo College has the financial base and stability to support the development of the Associate of Applied Science in Law Enforcement degree program. The operation and management of the program will fall under the Protective Services Department of the Workforce Education Division. The budget will be included within the general budget for the College. The projected cost of this program is approximately \$75,000 for the first year. Equipment purchases for the program will be acquired through the general operating budget and supplemented by Carl Perkins Grant.

### **CONTACT PERSONS:**

Dr. Minita Ramirez, President

Dr. Marisela Rodriguez Tijerina, Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs

Dr. Heriberto Hernandez, Associate Provost