

City Council Agenda Item Memo

From: Rhett D. Larsen, Detective Sergeant

Council Meeting: April 14, 2026

Subject: Brookings Police Department joining Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force as an Affiliate Agency

Presenter: Rhett D. Larsen, Detective Sergeant

Summary and Recommended Action:

The Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force Program is a national network of federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies that collaborate to investigate and prevent technology-facilitated crimes against children. The program is supported through the U.S. Department of Justice and focuses on crimes including the online exploitation of minors, possession and distribution of child sexual abuse material, online enticement of minors, and other related offenses.

ICAC Task Forces operate regionally and partner with affiliate law enforcement agencies to expand investigative capacity and enhance cooperation across jurisdictions. The Brookings Police Department has entered an agreement with the South Dakota Division of Criminal Investigation as an Affiliate Agency to strengthen the departments capacity to prevent vulnerable members of the community and ensure investigators remain current and trained on evolving investigative techniques related to internet-facilitated crimes.

There is no recommended action as the City of Brookings / Brookings Police Department has already entered into the agreement and are classified as an Affiliate Agency.

Item Details:

Affiliation with the ICAC Task Force enhances the department's ability to investigate and respond to crimes involving the exploitation of children by providing:

- Specialized training for investigators in internet-based child exploitation investigations
- Access to digital forensic tools and investigative technology
- Intelligence and case information sharing with state, federal, and local partners
- Investigative assistance for complex or multi-jurisdictional cases
- Opportunities to participate in coordinated operations targeting offenders who exploit children online

Legal Consideration:

The City Attorney has reviewed the ICAC Memorandum of Understanding and Joint Powers Agreement along with the operational standards. Currently there are no further legal considerations.

Strategic Plan Consideration:

- Safe, Inclusive, Connected Community – The City of Brookings will create an environment for inclusive programs, gathering places, and events where the community can safely live, work and come together to participate in opportunities for learning, recreation and enjoyment.

Financial Consideration:

There is no direct financial cost to the City associated with the department's participation as an affiliate agency. Many training opportunities and investigative resources are supported through grant funding administered by the ICAC Task Force. Any incidental costs, such as travel for training or overtime related to investigations, will be managed within the department's existing operating budget when possible.

Supporting Documentation:

Presentation

ICAC MOU / Joint Powers Agreement