

15. Consideration of submitting an application for Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant funds for Police Department equipment and software (\$30,546).



## LEGISLATIVE MEMORANDUM

**TO:** Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

**FROM:** Suzanne Sherman, City Manager

**THRU:** Mariano Augello, Chief of Police

**DATE:** October 17, 2024

**RE:** Consideration of submitting an application for Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant funds for Police Department equipment and software (\$30,546).

### **SUMMARY:**

On September 4, 2024, the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), within the Office of Justice Programs, opened the application process for the BJA FY 2024 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program – Local Solicitation providing funding from the U.S. Department of Justice. The BJA JAG Program is designed to provide local governments, such as the City of Palm Bay, with additional personnel, equipment, supplies, contractual support, training, technical assistance, and information systems for criminal justice. The City of Palm Bay Police Department is a FY 2024 Local Allocation eligible recipient up to the amount of \$30,546.

The FY 2024 JAG program encourages law enforcement agencies to implement programs to mitigate the current crisis in law enforcement recruitment and retention. In line with this focus, the Palm Bay Police Department would be requesting to utilize \$15,000 of this grant allocation towards implementing the use of a cloud-based recruiting and background investigation software. These types of software programs would bring an enhanced vetting process to the Police Department and help produce the highest quality of candidates to serve the citizens of Palm Bay. Through the ability to quickly identify and vet potential candidates, the Police Department will be able to increase their recruiting efforts and prevent delays in on-boarding processes that are currently handled manually by the two current full time background investigators. The software will result in a future budget request to continue funding the software after the grant funding has been exhausted.

Another use for the FY2024 JAG funding would be used to purchase humane remote restraint devices that enable law enforcement to restrain an uncooperative subject without inflicting pain. Continuing a previous program implemented within the FY21 JAG grant, the Police Department will seek to purchase ten of THE WRAP Safety Restraint systems which allow law enforcement professionals to quickly gain the control needed to de-escalate potentially volatile scenes with a

less lethal option. The WRAP Safety Restraint systems were tested and evaluated by the Police Department during which time they were providing to be an invaluable tool for Patrol Officers as a non-lethal option for dealing with non-compliant individuals. The purchase would bring the total number of units for the department to sixteen (16) which would allow for one to be assigned to each Patrol squad across all four districts and four shifts. The Police Department will be requesting to utilize the remainder of the allocation, \$15,546, to procure these systems.

The funding cycle for the FY 2024 JAG program is October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2027.

**REQUESTING DEPARTMENTS:**

Police

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The anticipated fiscal impact in FY 2025 is a revenue of \$30,456 in General Fund Account #001-0000-331-2005 for the reimbursement of the recruiting and background investigation software and purchase of the less lethal restraints that were not previously budgeted within G/L Account# 001-5011-521-5403 (\$15,000) and G/L# 001-5011-521-5206 (\$15,0460). Any overage for the purchase due to inflation will be funded from within the Police Department's FY 2025 operating budget.

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Motion to approve the application for the BJA FY 2024 Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) – Local Solicitation, and authorize the Mayor or Deputy Mayor to sign the FY 2024 Local JAG CE Certification form which is required to be included in the application submission.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

1. City of Palm Bay FY 2024 JAG Program Narrative October 2024
2. City of Palm Bay FY 2024 JAG Budget and Narrative October 2024
3. FY24 JAG Local Allocations for Florida
4. Local JAG CE Certification

# **CITY OF PALM BAY POLICE DEPARTMENT**

## **2024 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Grant (JAG) Program Local Solicitation**

### **Opportunity ID# O-BJA-2024-172239**

#### **Non-Lethal Law Enforcement Equipment and Enhanced Background Investigations Project Narratives**

The City of Palm Bay Police Department continually strives to find new or alternative law enforcement equipment options including for areas pertaining to de-escalation and non-lethal. One of the additional uses of JAG Funds within the FY2024 JAG grant solicitation, is for the purchase of humane remote restraint devices that enable law enforcement to restrain an uncooperative subject without inflicting pain. This request is to utilize JAG funding to procure ten (10) units of "The WRAP" Safety Restraint system. The implementation of the "The WRAP" Safety Restraints will significantly enhance public safety measures with a humane, non-lethal tool when dealing with an aggressive subject. The main goal of incorporating "The WRAP" Safety Restraint is to offer a secure and efficient way of controlling and restraining individuals while reducing the risk of injury to both the officers and the individuals involved. This system will contribute to the professionalism and effectiveness of our patrol officers while ensuring the safety and well-being of the communities we serve. Funding was approved through the FY2021 JAG grant to purchase an initial amount of six units that are being utilized in the Uniform Services (Patrol) Division. The FY2024 JAG funding will be utilized to procure an additional ten (10) units to allow each of the sixteen (16) patrol squads to be assigned a unit. The collection of data for this portion of the 2024 JAG program will include the number of WRAP systems purchased along with the name of the officer/supervisor being issued the equipment for use on patrol.

Another approved use of the FY2024 JAG funds is for efforts to mitigate the current crisis in law enforcement recruitment and retention. The City of Palm Bay Police Department is currently experiencing over two dozen vacancies for sworn law enforcement positions. The exhaustive background process to identify and evaluate potential candidates is manually handled by two full time background investigators, one of which also serves as the primary recruiter for sworn law enforcement positions. The funding from the FY2024 JAG grant will be utilized to procure a cloud-based background investigations software that will allow the process to be modernize and the evaluation of candidates to be speed up significantly. This enhanced background investigations program would then allow the Investigators to focus their efforts towards identifying the highest quality candidates and proactively recruiting and retaining an inclusive, diverse, expert, and accountable law enforcement workforce that reflects the community it serves. The collection of data for this portion of the 2024 JAG program will include the number of background investigations the software is able to assist with and the number of successful candidates that are on-boarded during the grant period.

# CITY OF PALM BAY POLICE DEPARTMENT

## 2024 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Grant (JAG) Program Local Solicitation

Opportunity ID# O-BJA-2024-172239

### Non-Lethal Law Enforcement Equipment and Enhanced Background Investigations Project Budgets

#### Non-Lethal Law Enforcement Equipment Budget Detail (\$15,546)

Funding requested for this project is to provide an operating budget for the procurement of non-lethal restraint systems. This is the second phase of the WRAP restraint system program to order the remaining amount needed to ensure each patrol squad is assigned their own respective unit. This request is to purchase up to 10 units for use by our Patrol officers.

| Equipment  | Budget Computation                | Cost               |
|--|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| The WRAP Restraint System                          | \$1550.00 per unit up to 10 units | \$15,500.00        |
| Shipping   | Up to \$46.00                     | \$46.00            |
| <b>Non-Lethal Law Enforcement Equipment Total:</b> |                                   | <b>\$15,546.00</b> |

#### Enhanced Recruiting and Background Investigations Program Budget Detail (\$15,000)

Funding requested for this project will be used to fund enhanced background investigation efforts during the grant cycle period. The City of Palm Bay Police Department Background Investigations team will procure new services through a cloud-based recruiting and background investigations software that will expand and enhance the unit's ability to quickly attract, identify, and vet high quality candidates for sworn law enforcement officer vacancies. These enhanced background investigation abilities are aimed to bolster the department's recruiting efforts to fill over two dozen current vacancies.

| Equipment                                       | Budget Computation   | Cost               |
|---|--|--------------------|
| Cloud-Based Background Investigation            | Up to \$15,000 for software services during the grant period | \$15,000.00        |
| <b>Background Investigations Project Total:</b> |  | <b>\$15,000.00</b> |

#### BUDGET NARRATIVE

The City of Palm Bay Police Department will utilize the 2024 JAG Grant Funding to purchase the second phase of humane remote restraint devices, the WRAP restraint systems. Under the FY 2021 JAG grant, six of the sixteen total needed units were procured and implemented within the Uniform Services Division. The procurement of another ten devices will allow the department to assign a WRAP restraint system to each of the sixteen patrol squads. The devices have proven to be an effective less lethal and humane law enforcement tool for patrol officers to utilize when dealing with non-compliant subjects. Additionally, 2024 JAG Grant Funding will go towards funding cloud-based software services for background investigations. These online services will enhance recruiting and on-boarding efforts to aid the department's efforts to fill a large quantity of vacancies with the best qualified candidates.

## 2024 Florida Local JAG Allocations

Listed below are all jurisdictions in the state that are eligible for FY 2024 JAG funding, as determined by the JAG formula. For additional details regarding the JAG formula and award calculation process, with examples, please refer to the JAG Technical report here: <https://bjs.ojp.gov/library/publications/justice-assistance-grant-jag-program-2022> and current JAG Frequently Asked Questions here: <https://bja.ojp.gov/program/jag/frequently-asked-questions>.

### Finding your jurisdiction:

- (1) Disparate jurisdictions are listed in shaded groups below, in alphabetic order by county.
- (2) Direct allocations are listed alphabetically below the shaded, disparate groupings.
- (3) Counties that have an asterisk (\*) under the "Direct Allocation" column did not submit the level of violent crime data to qualify for a direct award from BJA, but are in the disparate grouping indicated by the shaded area. The JAG legislation requires these counties to remain a partner with the local jurisdictions receiving funds and must be a signatory on the required Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). A sample MOU is provided online at: <https://www.bja.gov/Funding/JAGMOU.pdf>. Disparate jurisdictions do not need to abide by the listed individual allocations, which are provided for information only. Jurisdictions in a funding disparity are responsible for determining individual amounts within the Eligible Joint Allocation and for documenting individual allocations in the MOU.

| State | Jurisdiction Name      | Government Type | Direct Allocation | Joint Allocation |
|-------|------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|------------------|
| FL    | ALACHUA COUNTY         | County          | \$27,622          |                  |
| FL    | GAINESVILLE CITY       | Municipal       | \$80,130          | \$107,752        |
| FL    | BROWARD COUNTY         | County          | \$26,593          |                  |
| FL    | CORAL SPRINGS CITY     | Municipal       | \$15,381          |                  |
| FL    | DANIA BEACH CITY       | Municipal       | \$17,142          |                  |
| FL    | DAVIE CITY             | Municipal       | \$21,908          |                  |
| FL    | DEERFIELD BEACH CITY   | Municipal       | \$26,133          |                  |
| FL    | FORT LAUDERDALE CITY   | Municipal       | \$88,335          |                  |
| FL    | HALLANDALE BEACH CITY  | Municipal       | \$16,112          |                  |
| FL    | HOLLYWOOD CITY         | Municipal       | \$36,856          |                  |
| FL    | LAUDERDALE LAKES CITY  | Municipal       | \$24,833          |                  |
| FL    | LAUDERHILL CITY        | Municipal       | \$47,499          |                  |
| FL    | MIRAMAR CITY           | Municipal       | \$26,972          |                  |
| FL    | NORTH LAUDERDALE CITY  | Municipal       | \$18,090          |                  |
| FL    | OAKLAND PARK CITY      | Municipal       | \$22,449          |                  |
| FL    | PEMBROKE PINES CITY    | Municipal       | \$23,777          |                  |
| FL    | PLANTATION CITY        | Municipal       | \$17,846          |                  |
| FL    | POMPANO BEACH CITY     | Municipal       | \$70,761          |                  |
| FL    | SUNRISE CITY           | Municipal       | \$15,490          |                  |
| FL    | TAMARAC CITY           | Municipal       | \$14,569          | \$530,746        |
| FL    | LEON COUNTY            | County          | \$25,483          |                  |
| FL    | TALLAHASSEE CITY       | Municipal       | \$78,154          | \$103,637        |
| FL    | PINELLAS COUNTY        | County          | \$28,434          |                  |
| FL    | ST PETERSBURG CITY     | Municipal       | \$135,076         | \$163,510        |
| FL    | ALTAMONTE SPRINGS CITY | Municipal       | \$11,482          |                  |
| FL    | APOPKA CITY            | Municipal       | \$20,743          |                  |
| FL    | BAY COUNTY             | County          | \$26,620          |                  |
| FL    | BELLE GLADE CITY       | Municipal       | \$16,356          |                  |
| FL    | BOCA RATON CITY        | Municipal       | \$16,167          |                  |
| FL    | BOYNTON BEACH CITY     | Municipal       | \$42,408          |                  |
| FL    | BRADENTON CITY         | Municipal       | \$24,941          |                  |
| FL    | BREVARD COUNTY         | County          | \$41,758          |                  |
| FL    | CAPE CORAL CITY        | Municipal       | \$20,256          |                  |
| FL    | CHARLOTTE COUNTY       | County          | \$17,602          |                  |

|    |                         |           |           |  |
|----|-------------------------|-----------|-----------|--|
| FL | CITRUS COUNTY           | County    | \$29,464  |  |
| FL | CLAY COUNTY             | County    | \$42,651  |  |
| FL | CLEARWATER CITY         | Municipal | \$37,614  |  |
| FL | COCOA CITY              | Municipal | \$15,653  |  |
| FL | COLLIER COUNTY          | County    | \$65,074  |  |
| FL | COLUMBIA COUNTY         | County    | \$12,511  |  |
| FL | DAYTONA BEACH CITY      | Municipal | \$60,524  |  |
| FL | DE LAND CITY            | Municipal | \$14,597  |  |
| FL | DELRAY BEACH CITY       | Municipal | \$31,034  |  |
| FL | ESCAMBIA COUNTY         | County    | \$121,157 |  |
| FL | FLAGLER COUNTY          | County    | \$16,600  |  |
| FL | FLORIDA CITY CITY       | Municipal | \$28,109  |  |
| FL | FORT MYERS CITY         | Municipal | \$41,568  |  |
| FL | FORT PIERCE CITY        | Municipal | \$20,960  |  |
| FL | GREENACRES CITY         | Municipal | \$10,182  |  |
| FL | HENDRY COUNTY           | County    | \$10,724  |  |
| FL | HERNANDO COUNTY         | County    | \$35,908  |  |
| FL | HIALEAH CITY            | Municipal | \$40,160  |  |
| FL | HIGHLANDS COUNTY        | County    | \$17,223  |  |
| FL | HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY     | County    | \$148,372 |  |
| FL | HOMESTEAD CITY          | Municipal | \$55,433  |  |
| FL | INDIAN RIVER COUNTY     | County    | \$16,194  |  |
| FL | JACKSONVILLE BEACH CITY | Municipal | \$10,426  |  |
| FL | JACKSONVILLE CITY       | Municipal | \$479,076 |  |
| FL | KISSIMMEE CITY          | Municipal | \$27,459  |  |
| FL | LAKE CITY CITY          | Municipal | \$13,594  |  |
| FL | LAKE COUNTY             | County    | \$38,481  |  |
| FL | LAKE WORTH BEACH CITY   | Municipal | \$29,653  |  |
| FL | LAKELAND CITY           | Municipal | \$30,195  |  |
| FL | LARGO CITY              | Municipal | \$25,970  |  |
| FL | LEE COUNTY              | County    | \$107,833 |  |
| FL | LEESBURG CITY           | Municipal | \$13,703  |  |
| FL | LEVY COUNTY             | County    | \$37,588  |  |
| FL | MADISON COUNTY          | County    | \$10,101  |  |
| FL | MANATEE COUNTY          | County    | \$113,114 |  |
| FL | MARION COUNTY           | County    | \$65,805  |  |
| FL | MARTIN COUNTY           | County    | \$25,564  |  |
| FL | MELBOURNE CITY          | Municipal | \$52,455  |  |
| FL | MIAMI BEACH CITY        | Municipal | \$64,153  |  |
| FL | MIAMI CITY              | Municipal | \$229,450 |  |
| FL | MIAMI GARDENS CITY      | Municipal | \$66,049  |  |
| FL | MIAMI-DADE COUNTY       | County    | \$383,023 |  |
| FL | MONROE COUNTY           | County    | \$14,569  |  |
| FL | NASSAU COUNTY           | County    | \$13,080  |  |
| FL | NEW PORT RICHEY CITY    | County    | \$10,019  |  |
| FL | NORTH MIAMI BEACH CITY  | Municipal | \$24,914  |  |
| FL | NORTH MIAMI CITY        | Municipal | \$38,616  |  |
| FL | OCALA CITY              | Municipal | \$36,531  |  |
| FL | OCOE CITY               | Municipal | \$12,159  |  |
| FL | OKALOOSA COUNTY         | County    | \$41,650  |  |
| FL | OKEECHOBEE COUNTY       | County    | \$12,647  |  |
| FL | OPA-LOCKA CITY          | Municipal | \$28,136  |  |
| FL | ORANGE COUNTY           | County    | \$383,673 |  |
| FL | ORLANDO CITY            | Municipal | \$197,090 |  |
| FL | ORMOND BEACH CITY       | Municipal | \$10,101  |  |
| FL | OSCEOLA COUNTY          | County    | \$57,301  |  |

|    |                        |           |                    |  |
|----|------------------------|-----------|--------------------|--|
| FL | PALM BAY CITY          | Municipal | \$30,546           |  |
| FL | PALM BEACH COUNTY      | County    | \$121,292          |  |
| FL | PALM SPRINGS CITY      | Municipal | \$15,571           |  |
| FL | PANAMA CITY BEACH CITY | Municipal | \$10,128           |  |
| FL | PANAMA CITY CITY       | Municipal | \$20,879           |  |
| FL | PASCO COUNTY           | County    | \$118,530          |  |
| FL | PENSACOLA CITY         | Municipal | \$28,922           |  |
| FL | PINELLAS PARK CITY     | Municipal | \$14,786           |  |
| FL | PLANT CITY CITY        | Municipal | \$15,571           |  |
| FL | POLK COUNTY            | County    | \$103,501          |  |
| FL | PORT ST LUCIE CITY     | Municipal | \$22,314           |  |
| FL | RIVIERA BEACH CITY     | Municipal | \$30,303           |  |
| FL | SANFORD CITY           | Municipal | \$36,802           |  |
| FL | SANTA ROSA COUNTY      | County    | \$18,009           |  |
| FL | SARASOTA CITY          | Municipal | \$27,974           |  |
| FL | SARASOTA COUNTY        | County    | \$34,907           |  |
| FL | SEMINOLE COUNTY        | County    | \$32,984           |  |
| FL | ST JOHNS COUNTY        | County    | \$18,740           |  |
| FL | ST LUCIE COUNTY        | County    | \$25,239           |  |
| FL | SUMTER COUNTY          | County    | \$11,725           |  |
| FL | SUWANNEE COUNTY        | County    | \$11,292           |  |
| FL | TAMPA CITY             | Municipal | \$157,634          |  |
| FL | TITUSVILLE CITY        | Municipal | \$25,347           |  |
| FL | VOLUSIA COUNTY         | County    | \$53,998           |  |
| FL | WEST PALM BEACH CITY   | Municipal | \$74,416           |  |
| FL | WINTER GARDEN CITY     | Municipal | \$13,242           |  |
| FL | WINTER HAVEN CITY      | Municipal | \$14,406           |  |
|    |                        |           |                    |  |
|    | <b>Local total</b>     |           | <b>\$5,808,926</b> |  |

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS**

**Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant Program FY 2024 Local Solicitation**

**Certifications and Assurances by the Chief Executive of the Applicant Government**

On behalf of the applicant unit of local government named below, in support of that locality's application for an award under the FY 2024 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant ("JAG") Program, and further to 34 U.S.C. § 10153(a), I certify to the Office of Justice Programs ("OJP"), U.S. Department of Justice ("USDOJ"), that all of the following are true and correct:

1. I am the chief executive of the applicant unit of local government named below, and I have the authority to make the following representations on my own behalf as chief executive and on behalf of the applicant unit of local government. I understand that these representations will be relied upon as material in any OJP decision to make an award, under the application described above, to the applicant unit of local government.
2. I certify that no federal funds made available by the award (if any) that OJP makes based on the application described above will be used to supplant local funds but will be used to increase the amounts of such funds that would, in the absence of federal funds, be made available for law enforcement activities.
3. I assure that the application described above (and any amendment to that application) was submitted for review to the governing body of the unit of local government (*e.g.*, city council or county commission), or to an organization designated by that governing body, not less than 30 days before the date of this certification.
4. I assure that, before the date of this certification— (a) the application described above (and any amendment to that application) was made public; and (b) an opportunity to comment on that application (or amendment) was provided to citizens and to neighborhood or community-based organizations, to the extent applicable law or established procedure made such an opportunity available.
5. I assure that, for each fiscal year of the award (if any) that OJP makes based on the application described above, the applicant unit of local government will maintain and report such data, records, and information (programmatic and financial), as OJP may reasonably require.
6. I have carefully reviewed 34 U.S.C. § 10153(a)(5), and, with respect to the programs to be funded by the award (if any), I hereby make the certification required by section 10153(a)(5), as to each of the items specified therein.
7. If the applicant named below is not the unit of local government itself, I certify that it is an instrumentality of the unit of local government and is approved to serve as the applicant and recipient of FY 2024 JAG funding on behalf of the unit of local government.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Chief Executive of the Applicant Unit of  
Local Government

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Certification

\_\_\_\_\_  
Printed Name of Chief Executive

\_\_\_\_\_  
Title of Chief Executive

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Applicant Unit of Local Government