

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
Non-Lethal Law Enforcement Equipment Total:		\$15,546.00

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
Background Investigations Project Total:		\$15,000.00

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	
	Local total		\$5,808,926	

**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