

Wilmington, Delaware
June 20, 2019

#4677

Sponsor:

**Council
Member
Williams**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-363 of the City Code, the Council deemed it necessary and proper to specify the requirements for review and approval of City-sponsored grant applications and proposals, including authorization for expedited grant applications when necessary prior to Council’s approval by resolution; and

WHEREAS, the City, through the Wilmington Police Department, applied for a grant from the Delaware Criminal Justice Council (“CJC”) in the amount of \$100,000; and

WHEREAS, the Wilmington Police Department intends to use the grant money to address the growing number of unsubmitted Sexual Assault Kit (“SAK”) in law enforcement custody, and to help provide resolution for victims of sexual assaults when possible, and

WHEREAS, there is broad consensus that this must be accomplished through a comprehensive approach to the problem; and

WHEREAS, grant funding will be used to inventory the existing numbers of untested SAKs, test these kits, and pursue new investigative leads and potential prosecution, and ensure that support is provided throughout the investigation and prosecution process; and

WHEREAS, the grant funds will allow the Wilmington Police Department to coordinate with the CJC to help create or improve an evidence-tracking system, provide training on sexual assault investigations, and increase the collection of offender DNA for Combined DNA Index System (“CODIS”) evidence upload purposes; and

WHEREAS, this may lead to the identification of potential suspects and even serial sex offenders; and

WHEREAS, the Council deems it necessary and proper to authorize the grant application, for the aforesaid purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON that the Wilmington Police Department’s grant application to the CJC in the amount of \$100,000 is hereby authorized.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief of the Wilmington Police Department, or his designee, shall be authorized to take all necessary actions to accept any and all funds associated with the grant application and to fulfill the grant requirements.

Passed by City Council,

ATTEST: _____
City Clerk

SYNOPSIS: This Resolution authorizes the Wilmington Police Department’s application for a grant from the Delaware CJC in the amount of \$100,000. The grant will enable the Wilmington Police Department to fund the testing of Sexual Assault Kits (“SAK”) to identify evidence, prosecute suspects, and provide support to victims of sexual assault.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT: There is no negative fiscal impact on the City as no local matching funds are required.