

Wilmington, Delaware  
November 7, 2019

#4739

Sponsor:

Council

Member

Walsh

**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 ("WPD"), applied for the United States Department of Justice's ("DOJ") Justice Assistance Grant ("JAG") in the amount of \$215,521; and

**WHEREAS**, the JAG program provides states and local governments with critical funding necessary to support a range of program areas including law enforcement, prosecution, crime prevention, and related law enforcement and corrections programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Wilmington Police Department proposes to utilize the JAG grant funding to subsidize two separate projects, each of which will help address violent crime trends the City is experiencing as well as cold case investigations; and

**WHEREAS**, the first program WPD seeks to fund is for an overtime Anti-Violence Initiative. This Anti-Violence Initiative would address current crime trends against persons and property within the City of Wilmington including, but not limited to, homicide, rape, robbery, burglary, and theft-related crimes. In addition, the Anti-Violence Initiative would help identify dangerous criminals and disrupt criminal enterprises, operations, and activities. This initiative would be implemented in a plain-clothes and uniformed fashion; and

**WHEREAS**, the second program identified by WPD as a priority is a civilian Cold Case Investigator for the Criminal Investigations Division. WPD proposes to maintain a civilian

position within the department that would review the evidence of thousands of crime incidents investigated within the City of Wilmington. Evidence of crimes such as homicide, sexual assault, robbery, kidnapping, and other violent crimes would be researched for any available DNA evidence. This request is a continuation of a program which began with a FY09 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant. The position has been effective and is an asset to the WPD Criminal Investigations Division; and

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

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON** that the WPD's grant application to the DOJ in the amount of \$215,521 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 U.S. Department of Justice in the amount of \$215,521. The grant will enable the Wilmington Police Department to implement an Anti-Violence Initiative and to fund a Cold Case Investigator position within the Department.

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

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