Wilmington, Delaware
October 15, 2026

#0293

Sponsor:

Council Member McCoy

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-363 of the City Code, City 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 Wilmington Police Department submitted a grant application to the State of Delaware Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund (SLEAF) in the amount of $117,000; and

WHEREAS, grant funding in the amount of $50,500 will allow for the purchase of a digital x-ray system that will be used by the Department's Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) team. The system is a portable tool that can be quickly deployed to a location to quickly and safely scan suspicious packages; and

WHEREAS, grant funding in the amount of $10,500 will be used to purchase a CarbonFire Tactical Pan Kit and adapter system, which will also be used by the EOD team. The equipment is capable of remotely disabling explosive devices and rendering them safe for disposal while operators can monitor at a safe distance to minimize the risk of injury; and

WHEREAS, grant funding in the amount of $56,000 will support the replacement of duty handgun holsters for all police officers, which are needed because the currently issued holsters are reaching the end of their service life; and

WHEREAS, this grant funding will cover expenses that would otherwise have to be paid for out of the Police Department's annual operating budget, thereby continuing the Police

Department's efforts to identify funding opportunities to negate increases to the City's annual operating budget; and

WHEREAS, no matching funds are required; and

WHEREAS, City 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 State of Delaware Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund (SLEAF) in the total amount of $117,000, or such other amount that the SLEAF awards, is hereby authorized.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief of Police, or 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

Approved as to form this 13th day of October, 2026.

Elizabeth D. Powers
Senior Assistant City Solicitor

SYNOPSIS: This Resolution authorizes the Wilmington Police Department's grant application to the State of Delaware Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund (SLEAF) in the amount of $117,000, or such other amount that the SLEAF awards. The grant funds will be used to purchase (i) a digital x-ray system that can scan suspicious packages as part of Explosive Ordnance Disposal unit investigations, (ii) a CarbonFire Tactical Pan Kit and adapter system that can remotely disable explosive devices, and (iii) new duty handgun holsters for all police officers to replace equipment that is reaching the end of its service life. No local matching funds are required.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT: The Office of Management and Budget has reviewed and analyzed this Resolution, which authorizes the Wilmington Police Department to apply for grant funding from the State of Delaware Special Law Enforcement Assistance Fund (SLEAF) in the amount of $117,000, or such other amount as the SLEAF awards, which will be used to fund a number of items, including: $50,500 for the purchase of a digital x-ray system; $10,500 for a CarbonFire Tactical PAN Kit and adapter system that can remotely disable explosive devices; and $56,000 for new duty handgun holsters for all police officers to replace equipment that is reaching the end of its service life.

This grant does not require City matching funds, and per State law, may not be used to supplant (replace) already budgeted City funds. As such, this grant is expected to have no direct net impact, either positive or negative, on General Fund expenditures. Any costs that are later found to be ineligible, exceed the amount awarded, or are otherwise not covered by the grant would need to be paid from another authorized funding source.

The items included in this grant have limited lifespans and may eventually require replacement. While the Wilmington Police Department intends to apply for grant funding to cover these potential future replacement costs, if these subsequent grant applications are not approved, or sufficient grant funding is not available, these costs may need to be covered, in whole or in part, by the General Fund. Per the Wilmington Police Department, duty handgun holsters have a lifespan of approximately five years; the lifespan of the digital x-ray system and tactical PAN kit is unknown, but is expected to be several years (and no additional funding is expected to be required in FY 2028).

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