



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

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Agenda Item Number: 2

Agenda Date: April 15, 2025

In Control: Public Safety Committee

DEPARTMENT: Police Department

DEPARTMENT HEAD: William McManus, Chief of Police

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Briefing and possible action on a San Antonio Police Department Grant award in an amount up to \$349,576.00 for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program to support the Child Welfare Strategic Alliance Program from the U.S. Department of Justice.

SUMMARY:

The San Antonio Police Department will provide the Public Safety Committee with a briefing on the 2024 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program to support the Child Welfare Strategic Alliance Program. This is a City/County project addressing child sexual abuse/assault.

This grant is scheduled for consideration by City Council in “A” Session on May 8, 2025.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Justice Assistance Grants were first awarded in 2005. Provisions of the grant require the City and Bexar County to submit a joint application. The grant funds are used to support a joint City/County project for addressing child sexual abuse/assault.

The funds for the 2024 JAG grant will be used to continue supporting the joint City/County project called Child Welfare Strategic Alliance Program. The purpose of the project is to conduct joint investigations with the Bexar County Sheriff's Office, the District Attorney's Office, the Bexar County Housing and Human Services Department, the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services, Christus Santa Rosa Children's Hospital, and ChildSafe.

The City's portion of the grant will be used to continue to fund two (2) Detective Investigator positions. These Detective Investigators will investigate sexual abuse/assault cases involving children. Tasked with the investigation of more than 28 different offenses, a large portion of the Special Victims Unit's caseload involves children as victims. The County will utilize the FY2024 JAG grant to continue funding grant-funded positions that are currently funded by the existing JAG programs that include problem solving courts, jail diversion, and victim advocacy. Most of the funds will go to fund various positions (Adult & Juvenile Probation Officers, Prosecutors, Court Case Managers, etc.) in the Bexar County Drug Courts, the Bexar County District Attorney's Office, and the Juvenile and Adult Probation Offices.

The total joint grant amount for the City and Bexar County is \$873,940.00. The grant funds are to be split with \$524,364.00 for the County and \$349,576.00 for the City.

Bexar County, acting as the Fiscal Agent for this grant, was responsible for submitting the grant application and all certifications, the administration of the funds, including distributing the funds, monitoring the award, submitting reports including performance measures and program assessment data.

ISSUE:

Briefing and possible action on a San Antonio Police Department grant award in an amount not to exceed \$349,576.00 for the 2024 Justice Assistance Grant Program from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance Grant for the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant to support the Child Welfare Strategic Alliance Program.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The grant award consists of \$349,576.00 from U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), and a cash match of \$8,896 from the City for a Child Welfare Strategic Alliance Program and no in-kind match is required.

ALTERNATIVES:

No alternatives.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Public Safety Committee forwards this grant acceptance to the full City Council for approval. This item is scheduled for consideration in “A” session on May 8, 2025.