



Child Welfare Strategic Alliance Program JAG Grant

City Council A Session
September 29, 2022

Presented by William McManus, Chief of Police

Background

Justice Assistance Grants first awarded in 2005

- Purpose of the program is to conduct joint investigations of child sexual assault and abuse cases
- Provisions require the City and Bexar County to submit joint application
- Funds will be used to continue the joint City/County Child Welfare Strategic Alliance Program

Purpose

The Special Victims Unit includes 23 Sex Crimes Detectives

- JAG Grant funds 2 Detective positions that focus on crimes involving victims under 13 years old
 - On average, JAG detectives investigate 20 cases per month
 - Work closely with ChildSafe, Department of Family and Protective Services and advocate groups to ensure care coordination for victims and families

Specialized Training

Special Victims Unit detectives receive specialized training to enhance investigations and communication

- Sexual Assault Family Violence Course (SAFVIC)
- Primary Aggression Training
- Trauma-Informed Interviews
- Crimes Against Children Conference

Role of JAG Detectives

Detectives participate in every aspect of criminal investigation

- Child Forensic Interviews
- Outcry Witness Statements
- Adult/Juvenile Suspect Interviews
- On-site Liaison for Advocacy Groups

Detectives encourage the continued active involvement of child victims and ensure their safety to support successful prosecution of criminal cases

Performance Metrics

Special Victims Unit investigates over 9,000 cases each year of which approximately 2,900 involve children

Child-related Felony Cases Handled by Grant-funded Detectives

2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022*
247	297	320	303	278	185

For the period of 2017 – 2022 , JAG Grant Detectives have handled 21% of the child-related felony sex cases investigated by the SAPD

*January 1, 2022 thru August 31, 2022

Program Funding

Total Grant Amount - \$899,516

Grant Period: October 2021 – September 2025

- Bexar County: 60% (\$539,710)
- City of San Antonio: 40% (\$359,806)
- Funds 2 SAPD detectives - Child Welfare Strategic Alliance Program
- Funds various County positions in Drug Court, District Attorney's Office and Juvenile/Adult Probation Office

Recommendation

Staff recommends City Council acceptance of the grant award in the amount of \$359,806 for the Child Welfare Strategic Alliance Program



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