



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

Agenda Item Number: 3

Agenda Date: November 16, 2021

In Control: Public Safety Committee Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Police

DEPARTMENT HEAD: William P. 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 \$345,702.00 from the U.S. Department of Justice

SUMMARY:

The San Antonio Police Department will provide the Public Safety Committee with a briefing on the 2021 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) for a Child Welfare Strategic Alliance Program, a City/County project addressing child sexual abuse/assault and an Interlocal Agreement with Bexar County. The grant award for the City is \$345,702 for the period of October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2024. The grant funds 2 detective positions in SAPD.

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 2021 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.

The County will utilize the FY2021 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. The majority 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 \$864,255.00 (\$134,325 more than FY2020). The grant funds are to be split with \$518,553.00 for the County and \$345,702.00 (\$53,730 more than FY2020) 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:

The Public Safety Committee will be briefed by the Police Department on a Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) from the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ), Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) for a Child Welfare Strategic Alliance Program, a City/County project addressing child sexual abuse/assault; and an Interlocal Agreement with Bexar County regarding the distribution of grant funds and designating Bexar County as the grant fiscal agent. The grant award for the City of San Antonio is \$345,702.00 for the period of October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2024.

ALTERNATIVES:

This grant provides the City with the opportunity to augment its efforts to address child sexual abuse/assault. There are no other similar grants available to the City.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The City's portion of the 2021 Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) from the U.S. Department of Justice, Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) for a Child Welfare Strategic Alliance Program is \$345,702.00.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the Public Safety Committee supports moving forward the acceptance of the grant and the execution of an Interlocal Agreement with Bexar County to the full City Council for approval.

The acceptance of the grant will be scheduled for City Council approval at the December 2, 2021 City Council "A" Session.