

-COUNTY OF MILWAUKEE-
INTEROFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE : July 1, 2013

TO : Supervisor Marina Dimitrijevic, Chairwoman, Board of Supervisors

FROM : Joshua Fudge, Interim Fiscal & Budget Administrator, DAS-Fiscal

SUBJECT : 2013 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG).

REQUEST

Retroactive approval to apply for and accept Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant funds for Federal Fiscal Year 2013 is requested.

BACKGROUND

On May 30 2013, the Department of Administrative Services-Fiscal Division (DAS-Fiscal) was notified by the U.S. Department of Justice (U.S. DOJ) that it had released applications for the 2013 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG). DAS-Fiscal was notified that the deadline for the application is July 9, 2013, prior to the scheduled July cycle Committee meetings. Rather than hold a special public meeting ahead of the deadline, the County Board opted to hold the public hearing and review for the application during their regular July cycle meetings. The JAG Grant application allows for the public hearing to be held after the submission of the application.

In order to mitigate the risk of losing grant funding, DAS-Fiscal plans to submit the grant application on July 9, 2013. Then, the public hearing and review of the application will occur on July 11, 2013 and/or July 18, 2013 depending on which Committee receives this referral.

JAG funding is awarded to municipalities based upon the average annual number of Part 1 violent crimes reported by the unit to the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI). Since Milwaukee County bears the cost of prosecution and incarceration that arise out of Part 1 violent crimes, the DOJ has declared Milwaukee County a disparate jurisdiction and therefore eligible to share in the funding awarded to municipalities located within Milwaukee County.

The funding also requires the qualifying localities to negotiate a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding the administration and distribution of funds. Milwaukee County is not eligible for a direct grant award from the Bureau of Justice Assistance.

The following is a list of municipalities that are eligible for funding and their award amount:

Municipality	Award Amount
MILWAUKEE	\$772,401
WAUWATOSA	\$10,427
WEST ALLIS	\$23,499
TOTAL	\$806,327

The total allocation of \$806,327 represents a reduction of \$59,803 or 7 percent from the FY 2012 version of the grant. Since 96% of all the local funds are earmarked for the City of Milwaukee, no attempt was made to extract funding from the municipalities other than the City of Milwaukee. After discussions with Milwaukee Police Department, it was agreed that funding would first be allocated to fund the Community Justice Council Coordinator position housed at the Public Policy Forum at a cost of \$85,000, with Milwaukee Police Department and Milwaukee County each providing one-half of the funding. The net award to the City of Milwaukee is then \$687,401. Of that, Milwaukee County will receive \$343,401 or 50% of the City of Milwaukee's net award.

Milwaukee County has agreed to act as the fiscal agent for the 2013 JAG grant as it is for the prior year JAG grants.

Matching Funds Requirement

The JAG grant does not require a local match.

Trust Fund Requirement

The JAG funds, which are forwarded to the County and pursuant to grant guidelines, must be held in a separate trust account.

Spending Plan

The spending plan is attached.

RECOMMENDATION

In order to strengthen the collective ability of local jurisdictions to combat violent crime, it is recommended that DAS-Fiscal be authorized to apply for and accept JAG funds. In addition, a separate trust fund must also be authorized and established to meet grant requirements and to deposit the grant monies that will be forwarded to the County.

FISCAL NOTE

Approval of this request will result in total 2013 JAG funds of \$806,327 being provided to the following localities:

Municipality	Award Amount
MILWAUKEE COUNTY	\$386,201
MILWAUKEE	\$386,200
WAUWATOSA	\$10,427
WEST ALLIS	\$23,499
TOTAL	\$806,327

This grant does not require a local match; however, staff time is required because Milwaukee County will be the fiscal agent for the grant. DAS-Fiscal, upon verification that expenses submitted for reimbursement are consistent with the approved joint spending plan, will transfer the funds to the appropriate departmental account from the trust account where the funds will be held. In addition, DAS-Fiscal, upon verification that expenses submitted for reimbursement are consistent with the approved joint spending plan, will make payment to the municipalities from the trust account where the funds will be held.

PREPARED BY:

Veronica Rudychev, Fiscal and Management Analyst



Joshua Fudge
Interim Fiscal and Budget Administrator
Department of Administrative Services – Fiscal Division

pc: Chris Abele, County Executive
John Chisholm, Milwaukee County District Attorney
Jeffrey A. Kremers, Chief Judge, Milwaukee County Circuit Courts
David A. Clarke, Milwaukee County Sheriff