

Request for Legislative Action

Res. #21094
Sponsor: Tony Miller
Date: November 14, 2022

Completed by County Counselor's Office			
Action Requested:	Resolution	Res.Ord No.:	21094
Sponsor(s):	Tony Miller	Legislature Meeting Date:	11/14/2022

Introduction
Action Items: ['Authorize']
Project/Title:
Resolution authorizing an extension to the Innovative Prosecution for Combatting Violent Crimes Grant awarded to Jackson County by the Department of Justice.

Request Summary
Resolution authorizing a 12 month no cost extension to the Innovative Prosecution for Combatting Violent Crimes Grant awarded by the Department of Justice to the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office to address gun violence in Kansas City, Missouri. The extension provides continued funding to support salaries, training, software, computer equipment, and office supplies to staff assigned to the Crime Strategies Unit within the Jackson County Prosecutor's Office as well as contractual services authorized under this grant, through the expiration date of 9/30/23.

Contact Information			
Department:	Prosecuting Attorney	Submitted Date:	11/2/2022
Name:	Gina Robinson	Email:	grobinson@jacksongov.org
Title:	Chief of Operations	Phone:	816-881-3369

Budget Information			
Amount authorized by this legislation this fiscal year:	\$ 0		
Amount previously authorized this fiscal year:	\$ 0		
Total amount authorized after this legislative action:	\$		
Is it transferring fund?	No		
Single Source Funding:			
Fund:	Department:	Line Item Account:	Amount:
			!Unexpected End of Formula

Request for Legislative Action

Prior Legislation	
Prior Ordinances	
Ordinance:	Ordinance date:
5466	November 25, 2020
Prior Resolution	
Resolution:	Resolution date:

Purchasing	
Does this RLA include the purchase or lease of supplies, materials, equipment or services?	No
Chapter 10 Justification:	
Core 4 Tax Clearance Completed:	
Certificate of Foreign Corporation Received:	
Have all required attachments been included in this RLA?	

Compliance	
Certificate of Compliance	
Not Applicable	
Minority, Women and Veteran Owned Business Program	
Goals Not Applicable for following reason: Less than \$50000	
MBE:	.00%
WBE:	.00%
VBE:	.00%
Prevailing Wage	
Not Applicable	

Fiscal Information	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This legislative action does not impact the County financially and does not require Finance/Budget approval. 	

Request for Legislative Action

History

Submitted by Prosecuting Attorney requestor: Gina Robinson on 11/2/2022. Comments:

Approved by Department Approver Jean Peters Baker on 11/3/2022 5:29:10 PM. Comments:

Not applicable by Purchasing Office Approver Barbara J. Casamento on 11/4/2022 8:16:24 AM.
Comments:

Approved by Compliance Office Approver Katie M. Bartle on 11/4/2022 10:12:18 AM. Comments:

Approved by Budget Office Approver Sarah L. Matthes on 11/4/2022 10:17:22 AM. Comments:

Approved by Executive Office Approver Troy Schulte on 11/6/2022 1:00:41 PM. Comments:

Approved by Counselor's Office Approver Elizabeth Freeland on 11/8/2022 3:53:07 PM. Comments:

Funded Award Details

Solicitation Title:	BJA FY 20 Innovative Prosecution Solutions for Combatting Violent Crime	Federal Award Amount:	\$340,000.00
Project Title:	Innovative Prosecution Solutions for Combatting Violent Crime	Funding Instrument Type:	Grant
Project Period:	10/1/20 - 9/30/23	Program Office:	BJA
Managing Office:	OJP	UEI:	FFLFQA71R3K9
DOJ Grant Manager:	Antonio Tovar	TIN:	446000524
Grant Award Administrator:	Tina Wise		
FAW Case ID:	FAW-66021		

Project Period Extension

Project Period Extension Start Date

Number of Months to extend Project Period

Extension End Date

12

Current Project Period

Current Start Date	Current Completion Date
10/01/2020	09/30/2022

Requested Project Period

Project Period Start Date	Project Period End Date
10/01/2020	09/30/2023

*

Total Period of Performance with Requested Extension



JEAN PETERS BAKER Jackson County Prosecuting Attorney

April 4, 2022

RE: Support for No-cost extension Grant Adjustment Modification (GAM) for Award 2020-YX-BX-0014

The Jackson County Prosecuting Attorney's Office is seeking a one (1) year no-cost extension for the Innovative Prosecution Solutions for Combatting Violent Crime award, number 2020-YX-BX-0014. The current period of performance for this award is 10/1/20 – 9/30/22. The most recent unobligated funds balance as of 4/4/22 is \$301,304.62.

This grant adjustment notice constitutes our first request for a no-cost extension pursuant to OJP Order 4200.1 ¶ 3.6.1.

Current Program Status

This grant was awarded to build a Crime Strategies Unit for Jackson County in order to collect, organize and disseminate critical crime data to police, prosecutors, City Hall, and the community. The grant included funds for technology as well as a crime analyst. It also included strategy and funding to engage with a high-crime neighborhood and implement a community diversion program there. At this time, a CSU has been established in Jackson County. The CSU has analyzed current and historical crime data and worked tirelessly to share this with the community. CSU built real-time dashboards available to anyone with an internet connection. These dashboards provide up-to-date crime data from our office and include the number and type of cases submitted, charged and disposed by our office. The dashboards also provide the most accurate data on who and for how long people have been detained pre-trial. This level of detail and transparency is unprecedented in our jurisdiction.

CSU also acquired more sophisticated technology that has provided significant help in major cases, resulting in at least one historic verdict and multiple important plea agreements. CSU has just hired a second crime analyst and made significant in-roads with the community in Blue Hills and the community police officer there. CSU has also engaged in a contract with a local restorative justice organization for the community diversion program but is yet to get any cases through the diversion.

Project Delays

The project has been delayed for a number of reasons. First and foremost, our work was thwarted by the global pandemic. Our courthouse closed in mid-2020 and our office has been working remotely for a significant portion of the last two years. All county employees were working remotely as well. As all offices, we had multiple people out sick within the county. This greatly stalled our ability to get contracts and purchases through our legislature and purchasing department. Even in the normal course, to which we have basically returned, the process of approving funds for spending through the county bureaucracy always takes longer than anticipated. This grant involves purchasing technology from vendors that were not already approved. It also included technology and software that was different than the standard technology purchased through the county IT department. This has caused substantial delays; it is not uncommon for us to order technology and not receive it many months later.

One Year Project Plan if Extension Is Granted

Our project plan has not changed substantially from our original proposal. If granted an extension we would fulfill our technology purchases and implement them to enhance prosecution, strengthen community ties, and make more data-informed decisions in our charging and sentencing decisions. We would also focus on diverting more cases to the community diversion. CSU also directs a Community Advisory Board for the office and those meetings will continue, on the same quarterly basis, through 2022. We have finally hired a second fulltime analyst with grant funds and he begins Spring 2022. He will bring much-needed capacity for additional analysis and communication skills to share our work with a broader audience.

Plan If Extension is Not Granted

If the extension is not granted, we will continue to work with IT and the county to fulfill our technology requests and then, once acquired, we will implement the software for work in CSU. However, we will do so with only one instead of two analysts. The term of the second analyst will be greatly truncated as we would only be able to pay him for a few months.

Now that Covid is receding, more in-person conferences are taking place and we would not be able to send our analysts to these gatherings if we cannot use our grant funds. We would seek online training options for our analyst.

The community diversion program has been delayed but will be able to process a few cases if the grant is not extended.

Conclusion

The IPS grant has been a force of positive change for Jackson County. It has given us the resources and capacity to implement new strategies of prosecution. Unfortunately, delays largely because of Covid have resulted in our not spending a significant portion of our funds. A no-cost extension would allow us to expend those monies, in accordance with our original proposal. This implementation of a fully functional CSU in Jackson County would be a great benefit to the community, to Jackson County, and to the federal government which helped make it possible.

Sincerely,

/s/ Jean Peters Baker

Jean Peters Baker
Prosecuting Attorney, Jackson County, Missouri