

City of Colorado Springs

**Colorado Springs Police Department**

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***FY 2022***

***Local JAG Application***

Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program

Funding Opportunity Number: O-BJA-2022-171368

CFDA: 16.738

Application Number: A-459724

Proposal Narrative

***Background***

Located at the foot of Pikes Peak along the Front Range, Colorado Springs is the second largest city in the State of Colorado. As the county seat of El Paso County, the estimated population is 737,867[[1]](#footnote-1). The majority (66%) of the residents living in El Paso County live within the city limits of Colorado Springs. Tourism in the Colorado Springs area is strong and an estimated 23.7 million[[2]](#footnote-2) people visit the area annually. Known as Olympic City USA, Colorado Springs is home to the United States Olympic & Paralympic Committee (USOPC), 24 National Olympic Governing Bodies, more than 50 National Sport Organizations, the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Training Center, and the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Museum. The Olympic Training Center trains over 10,000 athletes each year and has done so since 1978 when it was established in Colorado Springs.

Interstate 25 bisects Colorado Springs north to south and is heavily travelled. The interstate runs from northern Wyoming to the border of Mexico and is a main arterial for vehicular traffic. In 2021, an average of 127,237[[3]](#footnote-3) vehicles passed through I-25 near downtown Colorado Springs daily.

The Colorado Springs Police Department (CSPD) provides police services to residents within the city limits. CSPD works to promote the safety and welfare of the people it serves while working in conjunction with the community. CSPD employs approximately 1,153 employees. Of those employees, approximately 70% are sworn law enforcement professionals.

The individuals who reside in the 1,900 square miles of unincorporated El Paso County receive law enforcement services from the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office (EPSO). EPSO is tasked with maintaining peace and order for the residents of El Paso County. EPSO’s mission is to provide county residents with effective and efficient public safety services delivered with character, competence, and transparency.

CSPD and EPSO have a long history of collaboration and support. Together the agencies formed joint operations such as the Metro Crime Lab, Metro Vice Narcotics and Intelligence Division and the Metro Explosives Unit. They have collaborated through the Motor Vehicle Theft Task Force and regionalized resources by using the same mobile field reporting system as well as compatible equipment and/or systems (including body worn cameras).

In 2020, approximately 11.95% of all offenses reported under the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) to the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) in the State of Colorado[[4]](#footnote-4) were reported by CSPD and EPSO. The combined total for both agencies is documented as 42,227[[5]](#footnote-5).

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **2020** | **Crimes Against Person** | **Crimes Against Property** | **Crimes Against Society** | **Total Offenses** |
| **CSPD** | 6,221 | 26,504 | 3,140 | 35,865 |
| **EPSO** | 1,441 | 4,353 | 568 | 6,362 |
| ***Totals*** | 7,662 | 30,857 | 3,708 | 42,227 |
| **Colorado** | 64,221 | 257,623 | 31,282 | 353,126 |

This chart reflects historical statistics of Crimes Against Persons/Property/Society[[6]](#footnote-6) for CSPD and EPSO from 2016 – 2020[[7]](#footnote-7):

Crimes against Society is defined as but not limited to Drugs/narcotics, Prostitution, Disorderly Conduct etc.

In 2021, 309,286 calls for service (CFS) were dispatched by CSPD. During those calls, 46,127 case reports were initiated and 17,386[[8]](#footnote-8) arrests were made. During that same time, EPSO received 242,820 calls for service and initiated 15,787 case reports.

Funding from the Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) will support various law enforcement efforts for CSPD and EPSO and provide vital funding for supplies (equipment) and personnel. Funds will be used to continue employment of three civilian personnel at CSPD to support investigative efforts, and for the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office, to purchase individual first aid kits (IFAK’s)

***Description of the Issue***

El Paso County continues to experience rapid population growth. Demand for law enforcement services continue to increase for CSPD and EPSO. Law enforcement agencies continue to look for innovative ways to respond to the increase in demands for service while working as efficiently and safely as possible.

***City of Colorado Springs Funding Priorities and Program Description for 2022 JAG***

The Colorado Springs Police Department continues to face the challenge of staffing, both in sworn and civilian positions. The City of Colorado Springs and the Colorado Springs Police Department recognize civilian staff as an integral component in law enforcement activities. Certain tasks in the law enforcement arena do not require law enforcement credentials and can be preformed by civilian staff. Shifting certain duties to civilian personnel results in salary savings as compared to the salaries of sworn personnel and allows sworn personnel to focus on enforcement action. Funding from the FY 2022 JAG will be used for continuing employment of three (3) existing support positions that are currently JAG funded.

CSPD employs two (2) Investigative Clerks who provide clerical support to detectives and as needed, to other areas of CSPD. Investigative clerks prepare supplements for case reports, review and assign cases to the appropriate investigative unit, generate victim contact letters, check individuals for wants and warrants and provide support for the electronic warrant program. This clerical support reduces the time detectives have to spend on administrative functions which allows the detectives to focus on investigation of crimes. With funding from the 2022 JAG, CSPD will continue employment of the investigative clerks. It is projected that the salary and benefits for both positions will be funded from the time their current grant funding is depleted in January 2023 through approximately March 2024.

CSPD currently employs one grant funded part-time Civilian Criminal Investigator (CCI) in the Adult Sexual Assault Unit. Since the inception of the CCI program in 2014, CSPD has seen great success with the CCI program. CCIs actively investigate criminal cases and work in conjunction with sworn law enforcement personnel in the Investigations Division. Due to the success of the program, CSPD expanded the program and currently employs 23 CCIs department wide.

The part-time (maximum 30 hours per week) CCI position in the Adult Sexual Assault Unit is currently funded under the 2021 JAG grant. The CCI investigates sexual assault cases seeking justice for victims and ensures CSPD’s compliance with current State legislation regarding timeframes for the testing of sexual assault nurse examiner (SANE) kits. It is projected that the current grant funding from the 2021 JAG grant will be depleted in January 2023 at which time funding will transfer to the 2022 JAG grant. The 2022 JAG grant will cover salary and benefits of this existing position from January 2023 through approximately March 2024.

***El Paso County Sheriff’s Office Funding Priorities and Program Description for 2022 JAG***

The El Paso County Sheriff’s Office (EPSO) manages law enforcement services and emergency response in one of the fastest-growing counties in the nation. The public safety mission places personnel in response postures that sometimes require emergency medical care. As part of the preparation and training for an emergency response to public safety concerns, sworn personnel are trained in emergency field care such as providing CPR, stopping blood loss, and caring for penetrating chest trauma of a victim. Such training and equipment are meant to provide a higher likelihood of survival and have become an expected standard of a community’s first responders across the nation.

In the spring of 2022, the agency identified a need to update and standardize individual first aid kits (IFAKs) that are deployed in agency vehicles for available use to care for community members and/or agency personnel. It was identified that IFAKs must be easily accessible and contain the proper equipment that is consistent with the training received by Deputies.

Currently, trauma-only kits are located in marked vehicles, but some kits have products that are nearing the end of their operational life span. There are many unmarked or administrative vehicles that do not have any supplies necessary for treating traumatic injuries.

Research was conducted to identify a standardized IFAK that would meet the needs of law enforcement units and other personnel to address:

* Bleeding control
* Penetrating chest trauma
* Shock / CPR

Having a single type of deployable IFAK that provides a compact, easily accessible kit, greatly improves the speed of deployment and consistency of training.

The North American Rescue (NAR) IFAK was chosen as best fitting EPSO’s needs. Contents include:

* Bleeding control equipment (2 C-A-T Tourniquets, 2 wound packing gauze, 4 in trauma dressing, triangular bandage)
* Penetrating chest trauma equipment (2 Hy-Fin chest seals)
* Shock/CPR equipment (1 MicroShield CPR barrier mask, 1 survival blanket)
* Minor first aid equipment (20 1x3 in bandages)
* Deployment Platform (Headrest deployment that allows for the kit to be pulled from the mounting straps for quick use in the field)

Requested funding would enable the Sheriff’s Office to purchase 165 IFAKs for field deployment. The full JAG allocation for Sheriff’s Office will be used towards the purchase of the IFAK’s. In the event there are any additional costs, they will be paid for using El Paso County General Funds. The Sheriff’s Office will follow the formal procurement process established by the El Paso County Procurement Office. The delivery timeframe for the purchase of the equipment will be approximately one hundred twenty (120) days after the award is received and accepted.

The Sheriff’s Office will provide CSPD with quarterly and semiannual reports on the progress of the purchases in a narrative format.

***Subgrant Award Process and Timeline for JAG 2022***

CSPD and EPSO are in funding disparity; CSPD acts as the fiscal agent for the JAG grant as agreed upon in the enclosed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). Once the aggregate of the JAG funds has been obligated by the City of Colorado Springs (typically 4-6 weeks post award), CSPD issues a statement of grant award (SOGA) to EPSO reflecting their portion of the award along with budget items as outlined in the joint application. The SOGA also includes special conditions and assurances that mirror those in the JAG award. As expenses are incurred, EPSO submits reimbursement requests to CSPD who ensures expenses are consistent with the approved grant budget and are following federal financial guidelines. CSPD conducts sub-recipient monitoring on a regular basis and remains in frequent communication with EPSO throughout the grant cycle. If EPSO has any unobligated funding at the end of the grant cycle, CSPD will ask EPSO if they want to reallocate funding and draw down the remaining balance, or if the funds should be deobligated.

The funding requested by CSPD is for continued employment of three existing employees, who are currently funded through the 2021 JAG. As the current funding is depleted (anticipated to occur January of 2023), employees will switch over to the new funding source. The transition will be seamless for the employees and their employment will not be interrupted.

EPSO will use their full JAG allocation to purchase 165 Individual First Aid Kits (IFAK’s). In the event there are any additional costs, they will be paid using El Paso County General Funds. EPSO will follow the formal procurement process established by the El Paso County Procurement Office to purchase the IFAK’s. The delivery timeframe for the purchase of the supplies will be approximately one hundred twenty (120) days after the award is approved by CSPD and according to the El Paso County Procurement timelines.

EPSO will provide CSPD with quarterly and semiannual reporting on the progress of the purchases in a narrative format to be included as part of the reporting requirements of the grant program.

**Project Design and Implementation**

The City of Colorado Springs' Strategic plan sets forth City priorities and commitments from 2020 to 2024. The Strategic Plan is developed by the City’s Strategic Advisory Team, in conjunction with City Department Heads, Chiefs, and Managers, and in consultation with City Council, El Paso County, Colorado Springs Utilities, other regional governments, community organizations, and stakeholders. Through brainstorming workshops and interviews, the city involved more than 30 diverse community partners including military representatives, local chambers, arts, and cultural organizations, and more[[9]](#footnote-9). The five-year Strategic Plan is updated annually to ensure that the plan is still relevant to the environment and to reassess progress made towards the strategic plan. The annual update includes feedback and input sessions from City Department Heads, Chiefs, and Managers, as well as a community partner meeting to solicit feedback that is considered for approval by the Mayor’s Office. The Strategic Plan is the City’s guiding document for the annual budget process, and budget requests are tied to a Strategic Plan initiative. The city tracks progress towards the Strategic Plan on a quarterly basis, presents this information to City Council, sends it to all stakeholders and posts it on the City’s website for citizens to view.

The City’s Strategic Plan has four platform goals, three of which contain law enforcement initiatives:

1. **Goal: Promoting Job Creation** 
   * **Initiative:** Address public safety issues that impact our image and attractiveness to new business and residents.
   * **Performance Measures:** 
     + Affect positive change in driver behavior as indicated through crash data.
     + Increase the number of resources, to include staffing, addressing homelessness issues and enforcement by 2021.
     + Increase the number of referrals of persons experiencing homelessness to service providers.
     + Collaborate with the City Attorney’s Office to evaluate ordinances that address illegal street racing by 2022.
     + By the end of 2020, examine the feasibility of a fifth police station in the downtown area.
2. **Goal: Building Community & Collaborative Relationships**

* **Initiative:** Continually build on a solid foundation of public trust and engage the community in public safety efforts.
  + **Performance Measures:** 
    - Maintain an average citizen trust score of at least 69/100 as measured by a digital, continuous survey.
    - Implement a community-wide traffic safety steering committee.
    - Evaluate the feasibility of implementing CDOT/DOT highway signs as an educational tool in traffic safety.
    - Expand and enhance the operations of the community   
      response team (CRT) by 2021.
    - Implement appropriate recommendations from the Illumination Project.

1. **Goal: Excelling in City Services** 
   * **Initiative:** Improve public safety response.
   * **Performance Measures:** 
     + Demonstrate a positive impact on crime rates.
     + Demonstrate a positive impact on response times.
     + Develop and implement a comprehensive strategic technology plan by 2022.
     + Implement an intelligence-led policing model as a crime prevention and crime reduction tool by 2022.
     + Expand the use of red-light enforcement cameras by seeking opportunities to use them in crash-prone locations on state highways by 2022.

**Capabilities and Competencies**

Historically CSPD has collaborated with other agencies at the local, State and Federal level. Through various partnerships which include MOU’s, mutual aid agreements, data sharing and task forces, CSPD has been and continues to be a reliable agency when working with other law enforcement agencies.

CSPD continues to act in the lead agency capacity for the Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force. The task force is comprised of 98 law enforcement entities [[10]](#footnote-10) located within the State of Colorado. Further, CSPD and EPSO contribute to the centralized database for sexual offender tracking and registration (SOTAR). This database is utilized by over 90 Colorado law enforcement agencies and is an important tool for tracking and monitoring sexual offenders.

**Plan for Collecting the Data Required for this Solicitation’s Performance Measures** -

CSPD utilizes a variety of systems to track data for the JAG performance measures. The system used depends on the data point being tracked. For instance, expenditures related to the grant are tracked in sub-ledgers in the City of Colorado Springs’ financial management system, PeopleSoft. Data required for the PMT funding module can be queried in PeopleSoft, resulting in accurate reporting. The Fiscal Services Grants Unit of the Colorado Springs Police Department will track expenditures against the grant while the Human Resources Section will track employment status. The Fiscal Services Grant Unit will also be responsible for providing programmatic reports according to the funder’s specifications and timeline.

1. <https://www.census.gov/quickfacts/elpasocountycolorado> [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. https://www.visitcos.com/about-us/tourism-promotion-funding/tourism-pays [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
3. <https://dtdapps.coloradodot.info/otis/TrafficData#ui/0/0/1/station/000520/criteria/16000//true/true/> [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
4. https://crime-data-explorer.app.cloud.gov/pages/downloads [↑](#footnote-ref-4)
5. https://crime-data-explorer.app.cloud.gov/pages/downloads [↑](#footnote-ref-5)
6. https://ucr.fbi.gov/nibrs/2012/resources/crimes-against-persons-property-and-society [↑](#footnote-ref-6)
7. https://crime-data-explorer.app.cloud.gov/pages/downloads [↑](#footnote-ref-7)
8. Colorado Springs Strategic Information Center (STIC) [↑](#footnote-ref-8)
9. Apartment Association, Independence Center, Better Business Bureau, Innovations in Aging, Bee Vradenburg Foundation, Library District, Bike Colorado Springs, Military Installations, Colorado College, Pikes Peak Community College, Colorado Springs Chamber & Economic Development Corporation, Colorado Springs Utilities, Pikes Peak Small Business Development Center, Pikes Peak Workforce Center, Council of Neighbors and Organizations, Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments, Continuum of Care, Pikes Peak Rural Transportation Authority, Cultural Office of the Pikes Peak Region, Quad Innovation Partnership, Downtown Partnership, School District Superintendents, El Paso County Public Health, Silver Key, El Paso County, Springs Rescue Mission, El Pomar Foundation, Trails & Open Space Coalition, Historic Preservation Alliance of Colorado Springs, University of Colorado, Colorado Springs, Visit COS, Housing & Building Association, YMCA [↑](#footnote-ref-9)
10. Police departments, Sheriff’s offices, District Attorney’s Offices, Federal law enforcements offices, and state law enforcement offices [↑](#footnote-ref-10)