



City of Cleveland Memorandum

Justin M. Bibb, Mayor

TO: Blaine A. Griffin, Chair
Committee of the Whole

Michael D. Polensek, Chair
Safety Committee

FROM: Karrie D. Howard, Chief/ Director
Department of Public Safety

DATE: December 4, 2023

SUBJECT: Ordinance No. 1340-2023 Authorizing the Directors of Public Safety and Law to apply for and accept grants from Cuyahoga County Public Safety and Justice Services for the FY 2023 STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) program for a sexual assault advocate and for the Law Enforcement and Prosecution components of the Cleveland Domestic Violence Program; and authorizing one or more contracts with the Cleveland Rape Crisis Center, and other entities to implement the grants

If passed by Council, Ordinance No. 1340-2023 will authorize the Directors of Public Safety and Law to apply for and accept three (3) grants from Cuyahoga County for the FY 2023 STOP Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Grants. This legislation will provide funding for the operation of the Cleveland Domestic Violence Program (Law Enforcement and Prosecution), and the Cleveland Sexual Assault Advocate. The cash matches will be funded by the General Fund operating budgets for the Departments of Public Safety (Domestic Violence Program and the Sexual Assault Advocate) and Law (Prosecution Program).

Purpose of Grant:

The goal of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Grant is to provide funding to enhance the investigation, prosecution, and victim advocacy of domestic violence, stalking and sexual assault. The City of Cleveland will be reimbursed for costs associated with operating the Cleveland Domestic Violence Program. This is a partnership with Cleveland Police Detectives, Cleveland Prosecutors, Cleveland Municipal Court, and Victim Advocates from County Witness/ Victim Services. Cleveland will also be reimbursed for the costs associated with a victim advocate from the Cleveland Rape Crisis Center being assigned to the Police Sex Crimes Unit.

DV Program – Law Enforcement:

The Cleveland Police Domestic Violence Unit detectives investigate reports of DV and stalking and present them to the Prosecutor. The detectives share an office at police headquarters with victim advocates. The grant pays for the partial salaries of two detectives.

Expenses to be reimbursed:

Personnel:	\$ 173,276.30 (Detectives)
Travel:	\$ 4,500.00 (Annual DV conference)
Supplies:	\$ 3,698.06 (Office supplies and bus tickets)
Total:	<u>\$ 181,474.36</u>

Grant Award:	\$ 136,105.77
Matching Funds:	<u>\$ 45,368.59</u>
Total Project Amount:	<u>\$ 181,474.36</u>

Sexual Assault Program:

The Cleveland Rape Crisis Center assigns a Victim Advocate full-time to the Police Sex Crimes Unit. They help Sexual Assault survivors traverse the justice system and locate any needed support.

Expenses to be reimbursed:

Contractual:	\$ 72,800.00 (Cleveland Rape Crisis Center)
Supplies:	1,343.21
Phone:	<u>1,260.00</u>
Total:	<u>\$ 75,403.21</u>

Grant Award:	\$ 56,552.41
Matching Funds:	<u>\$ 18,850.80</u>
Total Project Amount:	<u>\$ 75,403.21</u>

DV Program – Prosecution:

The City of Cleveland Prosecutor’s Office provide prosecutors who focus on charging and prosecuting domestic violence and its related crimes (i.e., menacing by stalking, aggravated menacing and violation of protection orders) to provide specialized attention to this issue and the specific concerns that arise with handling such cases and working with individuals affected by violence and abuse.

This grant is used to pay all or a portion of the salaries for Prosecutors to continue to assist in the prosecution of domestic violence offenders in the City of Cleveland through this specialized program.



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Expenses to be reimbursed:

Personnel:	\$ 225,146.12 (Prosecutors, law clerks)
Travel:	\$ 16,660.00 (Annual DV conference)
Supplies:	\$ 9,071.45 (Office supplies)
Other:	\$ 6,000.00 (Printing informational pamphlets)
Total:	<u>\$ 256,877.57</u>

Grant Award:	\$ 192,658.18
Matching Funds:	<u>\$ 64,219.39</u>
Total Project Amount:	<u>\$ 256,877.57</u>

- Grant Period is 1/01/2024 thru 12/31/2024
- This is the seventh year we have received the Sexual Assault grant.
- We have received the DV grants since 1997. Funding has been reduced at the federal level. We are now receiving less than half of what we used to receive but are processing more cases.