

Title Page

A. Program Area: ✓ A01 - Multi-Jurisdictional Task Forces Programs
 A02 - Law Enforcement Programs
 B01 - Crime Prevention Programs
 C01 - Adult and Juvenile Corrections, Community Corrections and Reentry Programs
 D01 - Courts, Defense, Prosecution and Victim Service Programs
 D02 - Specialized Dockets
 E01 - Cross-Agency and Cross-System Collaboration, Training and Research Programs

B. Title of Project: Cartel Gang Narcotics & Laundering Task Force

C. Project Period: 5/1/2023 to: 4/30/2024 Extension:

D. Continuation of Subgrant Number: 2021-RO-ETF-R580

E. Focus of Application: ✓ City County Township Village State

F. Budget Summary: OCJS Funds: \$80,049.96
 Cash Match: \$0
 Inkind Match: \$0
Total Budget: \$80,049.96

See Directives for Eligibility

G. Project Director: Prefix: Ms. First Dawn M.I.: Last Heartsong Suffix:
 Name: Name:
 Title: Grants Coordinator Agency: Cleveland Public Safety
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 Email: DHeartsong@Clevelandohio.gov County: Cuyahoga

H. Implementing Prefix: Mr. First Dornat M.I.: Last Drummond Suffix:
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 Website:

I. Subgrantee: Prefix: Mr. First Justin M.I.: M Last Bibb Suffix:
 Name: Name:
 Title: Mayor Agency: City of Cleveland Treasurer
 Address: 601 Lakeside Ave Rm 115 City: Cleveland Zip: 44114 - 1408
 Phone: 2166643900 Ext. Fax: 216-623-5853 Subgrantee
 Email: MayorBibb@clevelandohio.gov County: Cuyahoga Tax I.D.: 346000646

Vendor ID and Address code to be completed by OCJS:

Non-State Agency OAKS Vendor ID OAKS Address Code
 0000100896 018
 State Agency OAKS Vendor ID Vendor Location
 EFT-18
 Reporting Agency Use

Unique Entity YR5DREGHLC
 Identifier: Y7
 Primary Place of Performance:
 City: Cleveland
 State: Ohio
 Zip: 44113 - 1603

Demographic Information/Area Served

According to the Cuyahoga County Board of Health, Ohio has experienced nearly an 800% rise in drug overdose fatalities since 2000. Accidental drug overdose is the leading cause of injury-related death in Ohio.

Opioid related overdose deaths continue to plague the community. According to the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner's Office, in 2022 there were 654 total overdose deaths in the county. That includes 488 Fentanyl related deaths, 2 Carfentanyl related deaths, 303 Cocaine related deaths, and 28 Heroin related deaths. From January 1 through March 1, 2023 there were 103 total overdose deaths in Cuyahoga County. This includes 69 fentanyl related deaths, 2 heroin related deaths, 8 heroin/fentanyl combined related deaths, and 24 cocaine related deaths. Additionally, figures for the Cleveland Division of Police Heroin Involved Death Investigation Team (HIDI) for 2022 are as follows: 775 total drug overdose investigations, 345 fatal drug overdose investigations, and 430 non-fatal drug overdose investigations.

Greater Cleveland continues to experience unacceptable narcotics-related violent crime including homicides, assaults, burglaries, and other related crimes. Experience has demonstrated that the challenges presented by the more sophisticated of these trafficking groups are beyond the capability of any one law enforcement agency. However, the coordinated approach made possible by the Cartel Gang Narcotics & Laundering Task Force (CGNL), formerly known as the Northern Ohio Law Enforcement Task Force (NOLETF), allows for the full implementation of sophisticated investigative techniques and provides the resources necessary to respond to this challenge.

Fentanyl and heroin remain the dominate drugs preferred by drug traffickers. We have also seen an increase in the amount of cocaine, which has been adulterated with fentanyl in the Greater Cleveland area. Importation and sales of bulk marijuana remains high due to the relatively low penalties and high profit margins. Because of its strategic location, the Greater Cleveland area is increasingly identified as a transshipment point for narcotics, which reach other communities within Ohio. In addition, due to the legalization of marijuana in other states, Greater Cleveland has seen an increase in the availability of marijuana in many different forms such as wax, edibles, oils, butters and capsules.

The CGNL Task Force continues to see an increase in methamphetamine use and sales within Cuyahoga County. The CGNL Task Force has been successful in investigating and criminally charging several persons and DTO's for methamphetamine sales. CGNL will continue enforcement efforts to attempt to curb methamphetamine sales and use in the community.

The major issues facing CGNL are:

- 1) An increase in drug trafficking organizations (DTOs). Cuyahoga County residents account for over 20% of the overall state jail population but only 10% of the general population. 37.97% of the residents of the City of Cleveland (10% of Cuyahoga County) live at or below the poverty line. Only 34% of Cleveland school children finish high school. 80% of crimes committed in the City of Cleveland are drug related. These facts, combined with a steady supply of cocaine and heroin across the Mexican border, create a high demand for narcotics. Cash strapped governments in metropolitan Cleveland have little or no funding for long-term drug investigations. The confidential funds provided by the grant will be spent on undercover drug buys, source payments for information, and miscellaneous expenses in the field. Without the confidential funds, the task force would be unable to obtain the probable cause required for federal title III electronic surveillance warrants which are the basis for our multi-state and multi-national drug conspiracy investigations, as well as dangerous forms of Fentanyl being shipped from overseas. These title III warrants are the most efficient tool in DTO dismantlements.
- 2) An increase in associated gang and drug violence. Through 2022, the City of Cleveland experienced a significant increase in gun violence which in many cases often related to gang violence fueled by the drug trade. The CGNL Task Force needs more resources to target and investigate violent gangs.
- 3) Budget cuts have reduced the number of police officers employed by many cities. The overall manpower of Cleveland Police remains considerably low. Individual agencies simply do not have the resources to investigate these major cases on their own. This has been exacerbated by the extreme fiscal challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. The member agencies of the CGNL Task Force serve as a force-multiplier. CGNL has assisted in countless investigations of home invasions, murders, felonious assaults by firearm, and lower-level drug conspiracies in the surrounding suburbs. The task force targets entrenched sophisticated organized narcotics trafficking groups operating in the Cleveland area; especially those organized drug gangs with a propensity for violence. Not surprisingly, law enforcement in the Cuyahoga County area continues to identify drug trafficking and its related violence as the major crime problem facing the community.

Demographic Information/Area Served

The population served includes residents of Cuyahoga County, however, most of the activity is concentrated in the City of Cleveland. Cleveland has a population of 360,040 and is one of the country's poorest cities, with 37.97% percent living below the poverty level.

CGNL serves one county (Cuyahoga) with a population of 1,260,227.

Cleveland has struggled with sustained levels of violent crime well above the national average. Cleveland's violent crime rate far exceeds the national average per 100,000. For example, Cleveland's homicide rate per 100,000 is 33.72. The national average is 5.3. Cleveland is 6th in the nation for rape, 2nd for robbery, 23rd for aggravated assaults, and 7th in the nation for total violent crimes.

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Please see the Request For Proposal (RFP) for this grant program for guidance on completing this section. The RFP can be found at www.ocjs.ohio.gov

CGNL Proposal to Decrease the Supply of Drugs:

CGNL will partner with the Cleveland Police Heroin Involved Death Investigation Team (HIDI) to conduct investigations and prosecutions of drug traffickers responsible for selling fatal doses of narcotics to their victims. The CGNL Task Force will act as force multiplier to assist the understaffed HIDI Team with these complex investigations. CGNL and HIDI investigators will analyze HIDI cases to determine which cases and offenders would be qualified candidates for federal adoption/prosecution. The CGNL Task Force will then adopt those cases for prosecution at the federal level.

The HIDI Team specializes in investigating overdose deaths, responds to all fatal overdose deaths in Cleveland, and treats the scene as a homicide investigation. The HIDI Team conducts detailed interviews, collects evidence, and processes the crime scene along with the Cuyahoga County Medical Examiner Investigators that respond to the scene. The HIDI Team may also respond to the scene of a non-fatal overdose to interview the victim, offer treatment options, and collect intelligence related to narcotics trafficking.

CGNL has the ability to assist with the processing of intelligence, digital evidence such as cell phone data extractions, as well as the resources to further the HIDI investigation with both physical and electronic surveillance resources. The CGNL Task Force also has the personnel and resources to look into the big picture and investigate the entire Drug Trafficking Organization or Cartel related to the overdose death.

Fentanyl is now often found in crack cocaine and other drugs where the victim of a fatal overdose had no idea that the drug they purchased contained a deadly dose of fentanyl. The main source of these lethal narcotics is often related to cartels or highly organized criminal gangs/DTO's that smuggle the narcotics over the border and across state lines for distribution into the streets of Cleveland. The CGNL Task Force provides the ability to disrupt and dismantle these Cartel and Gang operations. The CGNL Task Force has already partnered with the HIDI Team on numerous occasions to assist with surveillance; arrests, controlled purchase operations, and follow up with federal prosecution when appropriate.

The nature of these investigations is overtime intensive. The HIDI Team and CGNL personnel are on call twenty four hours a day, seven days a week to be called in for narcotics related investigations and operations. Investigators from the Cleveland Division of Police HIDI Team are called out and respond to every fatal or potentially fatal overdose in the City of Cleveland.

The CGNL Task Force is available to respond to assist with these investigations at any time. Often investigators must act immediately to conduct an operation to apprehend a suspect in a fatal overdose before the drug trafficker learns that their victim has died. Upon learning of the death of a victim, drug traffickers often change phones/phone numbers and destroy crucial evidence that could assist in the prosecution of the case. This is why it is important and necessary to have the ability to raise a large amount of personnel and resources on short notice.

The CGNL Task Force will further strengthen the role of law enforcement by seeking out advanced training opportunities related to overdose death investigations and cartel investigations to enhance their ability to conduct these complex investigations.

CGNL Task Force Proposal for Prevention / Harm Reduction / Treatment and Recovery Support:

To reduce overdose deaths and engage in prevention efforts with the community, CGNL created a partnership with the Alcohol, Drug Addiction & Mental Health Services (ADAMHS) Board of Cuyahoga County, Project Dawn, and Metro Health Hospital. CGNL will receive Fentanyl Test Strips along with recovery/treatment literature from the ADAMHS Board and Narcan "Safe Use Kits" from Project Dawn / Metro Health. CGNL will share this supply with the HIDI Team. The testing strips give users the ability to easily and quickly test their narcotics to determine if the product contains fentanyl. The user will know if what they thought to be crack cocaine actually contains lethal fentanyl. This could result in the user making a safer choice by taking a smaller dose, seeking out Narcan prior to use, or choosing not to take the drugs at all. The Project Dawn "Safe Use Kits" contain Narcan that could prevent an overdose death.

The HIDI Team regularly interacts with family and friends of overdose victims. The HIDI Team will have the ability to offer the fentanyl testing strips, Narcan / Safe Use Kits, and recovery/ treatment literature to the family and friends of the victims of fatal overdose

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immediately on scene. This will make testing strips and kits available at ground level to users who would not otherwise seek out or travel to pick up these kits. Getting them in the hands of users at the street level is where they will have the strongest impact. CGNL and HIDI personnel will also work to distribute fentanyl testing kits and educate citizens about the dangers of fentanyl at community events, neighborhood meetings, and areas where data shows there are spikes in overdose fatalities. Many community events and meetings are held outside of normal working hours and will generate overtime for the investigators.

CGNL consistently seizes large quantities of illegal narcotics. To ensure the jurisdictions impacted by these seizures can mitigate negative effects stemming from the disruption of the drug supply chain, CGNL notifies pertinent community organizations of large seizures through the BRIDGE program. The goal of this notification is to help prevent an increase in overdose deaths by preparing medical, law enforcement, and community entities to support potential overdose victims that are forced to seek alternate drug suppliers when their consistent suppliers are disrupted.

Project Objectives**FIRST PROJECT OBJECTIVE****OBJECTIVE**

During the grant period, The CGNL Task Force will increase by one the investigations into a cartel related DTO connected to an overdose death investigation while working with the HIDI Team to prosecute drug traffickers connected to overdose deaths at the federal level.

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR

The number of DTO connected overdose cases investigated. A case is a wiretap worthy investigation. They are labor intensive, requiring multiple months to complete, involving multiple search warrants, target background investigation, ping orders and surveillance in order to identify the entire drug trafficking organization and dismantle as much of it as possible. They can take 2,000 - 4,000 man hours to complete.

BASELINE NUMBER

The baseline is one.

HOW WILL PERFORMANCE DATA BE COLLECTED?

The OIC will maintain records of investigations. The OIC will forward this information to the Grants Coordinator quarterly.

SECOND PROJECT OBJECTIVE**OBJECTIVE**

During the grant period, the CGNL Task Force will work with the HIDI Team to provide education on the dangers of fentanyl and distribute a minimum of 500 Fentanyl Testing Kits and 100 Project Dawn Safe Use Kits to the community via community events, neighborhood meetings, and fatal overdose scenes.

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR

The number of Fentanyl Testing Kits and Project Dawn Safe Use Kits distributed at community events, neighborhood meetings and overdose scenes by CGNL and HIDI detectives.

BASELINE NUMBER

The baseline is zero.

HOW WILL PERFORMANCE DATA BE COLLECTED?

The OIC will maintain records of all kits that are distributed. The OIC will forward this information to the Grants Coordinator quarterly.

THIRD PROJECT OBJECTIVE**OBJECTIVE****PERFORMANCE INDICATOR****BASELINE NUMBER****HOW WILL PERFORMANCE DATA BE COLLECTED?**

Personnel Costs

Salaries and Personnel:

| Name/ Vacant | Title | No. Hrs. | Hrly Rate | Total |
|------------------|------------|----------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Kevin Kincaid | Lieutenant | 150 | \$55.00 | \$8,250.00 |
| Michael McNeeley | Sergeant | 150 | \$50.00 | \$7,500.00 |
| Alex Gumucio | Detective | 100 | \$45.00 | \$4,500.00 |
| Cynthia Moore | Detective | 100 | \$45.00 | \$4,500.00 |
| John Graves | Detective | 100 | \$45.00 | \$4,500.00 |
| Tom Klamert | Detective | 100 | \$45.00 | \$4,500.00 |
| Charles Robinson | Detective | 100 | \$45.00 | \$4,500.00 |
| Robert Kowza | Detective | 100 | \$45.00 | \$4,500.00 |
| Glen Detrick | Detective | 100 | \$45.00 | \$4,500.00 |
| | | | \$45.00 | \$0 |
| | | | Salary Subtotal: | \$47,250.00 |

Employer's Share of Fringe Benefits:

| Fringe Benefits | Rate (%) | Total Yearly Wages | Total Cost |
|---|----------|--|--------------------|
| PERS (government agencies) | % | | \$0 |
| FICA (private agencies) | % | | \$0 |
| Retirement (private agencies) | % | | \$0 |
| Worker's Compensation | % | | \$0 |
| Unemployment Comp. (max 2.00% on the first \$9,500) | % | | \$0 |
| Medicare | % | | \$0 |
| Health Insurance | | | |
| | | <i>Fill in the formula: \$ (Monthly Rate) x (# Months) x (FTE)</i> | \$0 |
| | | Fringe Subtotal: | \$0 |
| | | Personnel Total: | \$47,250.00 |

Provide justification for each position; list job duties.

The Overtime Category will be used to cover the cost of Overtime for Cleveland Officers assigned to the Task Force as well as Cleveland Police Narcotics Detectives that work on the Heroin Involved Death Investigation Team (HIDI) involved in the project. Benefits will be paid by the city of Cleveland. The nature of the investigations worked by the Task Force is overtime intensive.

Travel

Mileage rate cannot exceed federal mileage rate.

If this page is not applicable, check this box and click **SAVE**.

| | | | |
|---|--------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| A. Auto | No. Miles | Per Mile | Total |
| | | | \$0 |
| | | | \$0 |
| B. Commercial | Destination | Fare | Total |
| Airfare | Various | \$950.00 | \$950.00 |
| | | | \$0 |
| C. Per Diem: (Meal & Lodging Only) | No. of days | Rate | Total |
| Lodging | 10 | \$150.00 | \$1,500.00 |
| Per Diem | 10 | \$55.00 | \$550.00 |
| D. Other: (Specify) | No. Items | Rate | Total |
| Training seminar fees | 4 | \$500.00 | \$2,000.00 |
| | | | \$0 |
| | | Travel Total: | \$5,000.00 |

Provide justification for travel (Costs must relate to the project staff & objectives).

The Travel budget will be used for case related travel outside of the Cleveland area for investigators . It will also be used for training seminars for Task Force Members or HIDI Investigators assisting with this project . These funds will be for training opportunities that are not free or not available locally. Due to the current COVID 19 crisis we are unable to find any specific Training Seminars or Conferences that we would be willing to commit to at this point. However, having the ability to send Task Force members and HIDI Investigators assigned to this project to training is extremely important. We must continue to enhance our knowledge skills and abilities as technologies, trade craft, and intelligence gathering are constantly changing in the drug trafficking world .

Other Costs

Audit costs are only supported for Non-Federal entities that expend \$750,000 or more in Federal funds in the organization's fiscal year and are required to arrange for a single organization-wide audit.

If this page is not applicable, check this box and click **SAVE**.

| Other Charges | Cost | Terms | Total |
|--|------------|-------|-------------------|
| Rent-Facilities | | | \$0 |
| Cost of Ownership | | | \$0 |
| Telephone | \$291.66 | 6 | \$1,749.96 |
| Utilities | | | \$0 |
| Bookkeeping/Audit | | | \$0 |
| Maintenance | \$2,000.00 | 1 | \$2,000.00 |
| Clerical | | | \$0 |
| Auto Lease/ST Rental | | | \$0 |
| Equipment Lease/ST Rental | | | \$0 |
| Photocopying | | | \$0 |
| Printing | | | \$0 |
| Other (Specify) <u>Professional Dues</u> | \$550.00 | 1 | \$550.00 |
| Other (Specify) | | | \$0 |
| Other (Specify) | | | \$0 |
| Other Costs Total: | | | \$4,299.96 |

Provide justification for other costs; provide allocation methods where appropriate.

\$1, 74.96 will cover some of our current Verizon Data Plan for \$ 291.66 x 6 Months. \$2,000 will be spent on maintenance of vehicles assigned to the Task Force. The \$550 will be used for Professional Dues for the Ohio Task Force Officers Association (OTFCA).

Confidential Funds (Applies to Drug Task Force Projects Only)

If this page is not applicable, check this box and click **SAVE**.

| | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| Implementing Agency | |
| Confidential Funds | Total |
| \$20,000.00 | \$20,000.00 |
| Confidential Fund Total: | \$20,000.00 |

Provide justification for Confidential Funds.

Confidential Funds will be used for undercover purchases of evidence, source payments, and other case related expenses related to our investigations.

Budget Request By Resource & Cost Category

| | 1. Matching Funds | | 2. OCJS Funds | 3. Total |
|-------------------------|-------------------|--------|---------------|-------------|
| | Cash | Inkind | | |
| 1. Personnel | | | \$47,250.00 | \$47,250.00 |
| 2. Consultant/Contracts | | | \$0 | \$0 |
| 3. Travel | | | \$5,000.00 | \$5,000.00 |
| 4. Equipment | | | \$3,000.00 | \$3,000.00 |
| 5. Supplies | | | \$500.00 | \$500.00 |
| 6. Other Costs | | | \$4,299.96 | \$4,299.96 |
| 7. Confidential Funds | | | \$20,000.00 | \$20,000.00 |
| 8. Total Project Budget | \$0 | \$0 | \$80,049.96 | \$80,049.96 |
| OCJS decision | | | | |

Please list other Federal, State and Local funding sources received or projected to be received by your Agency in support of the proposed project. If funding is pending please state the projected award date.

| Funding Source | Amount | Award Date | Projected Award Date (if applicable) |
|--------------------|-------------|------------|---|
| FY20 Recovery Ohio | \$82,800.00 | 1/1/2021 | |
| FY21 Recovery Ohio | \$20,000.00 | 4/1/2022 | |

What other funding sources are received by your agency in support of your overall program?

The CGNL Task Force is largely funded by the City of Cleveland and the agencies that provide officers to the task force . We have received numerous grants including JAG funds and ODLEF grants

| | Amount | Percentage % |
|------------------------------|--------------------|---------------|
| OCJS Funds | \$80,049.96 | 100.00 |
| Requested: | | |
| Cash Match: | \$0 | 0.00 |
| In-Kind Match: | \$0 | 0.00 |
| Total Project Budget: | \$80,049.96 | 100.00 |

Federal, State and Local Funding Sources-please provide information on funding that is received by your Agency that is relevant to this project.

Include the source, amount received, and year funds were awarded.
 FY20 Recovery Ohio - \$82,800
 FY21 Recovery Ohio - \$20,000

Do you have other funding resources not identified above? Yes No