

Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) 2019

Organization: Cleveland Department of Public Safety

2019-JG-A01-6444
Version Date: 03/24/2020 13:42:24

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: Northern Ohio Law Enforcement Task Force

C. Project Period: 1/1/2020 to: 12/31/2020 Extension:

D. Continuation of Subgrant Number: 2018-JG-A01-6444

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

F. Budget Summary: OCJS Funds: \$75,000.00
 Cash Match: \$0
 Inkind Match: \$0
 Total Budget: \$75,000.00

See Directives for Eligibility

G. Project Director: Prefix: Ms. First Dawn M.I.: Last Heartsong Suffix:
 Name: Name:
 Title: Grants Coordinator Agency: Cleveland Department of Public Safety
 Address: 1300 Ontario St, Room 828 City: Cleveland Zip: 44113 - 1648
 Phone: 216-623-5126 Ext. Fax: 216-623-5853
 Email: dheartsong@city.cleveland.oh.us County: Cuyahoga

H. Implementing Prefix: Mr. First Calvin M.I.: D Last Williams Suffix:
 Name: Name:
 Title: Chief Agency: Cleveland Division of Police
 Address: 1300 Ontario St City: Cleveland Zip: 44113 - 1648
 Phone: 216-623-5005 Ext. Fax: 216-623-5853
 Email: CWilliams3@city.cleveland.oh.us County: Cuyahoga
 Website:

I. Subgrantee: Prefix: Mr. First Frank M.I.: G Last Jackson Suffix:
 Name: Name:
 Title: Mayor Agency: City of Cleveland
 Address: 601 Lakeside Ave City: Cleveland Zip: 44114 - 1015
 Phone: 216-664-3990 Ext. Fax: 216-420-7700 Subgrantee
 Email: mayorjackson@city.cleveland.oh.us 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

Primary Place of Performance:

State Agency OAKS Vendor ID Vendor Location

Duns Number: 074303483
 City: Cleveland
 State: Ohio
 Zip: 44113 - 1648

Overage

Title Page

Split Funding

Problem Statement/Target Population

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

Greater Cleveland experiences 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 NOLETF allows for the full implementation of sophisticated investigative techniques and provides the resources necessary to respond to this challenge. Heroin has become the dominate drug for major traffickers. The Mexican Drug Cartels are also increasing the importation of methamphetamine and Fentanyl to Northern Ohio. Because of its strategic location, the Greater Cleveland area continues to be a transshipment point for narcotics, which reach other communities in Ohio. Ohio has become a shipping location for high grade marijuana coming from source states, such as California and Colorado.

The major issues facing the NOLETF are as follows:

1) Ever evolving drug trafficking organizations and the exponential rate of increase of heroin and Fentanyl . In 2018 there were 404 Fentanyl related deaths in Cuyahoga County. There were also 24 fatal overdose cases from carfentanil, which is 100 times more toxic than Fentanyl. During 2018, within the City of Cleveland there were 206 fatal, and 659 Non Fatal overdoses

attributed to heroin and Fentanyl. Methamphetamine and Fentanyl seizures continue to be on the rise. Cuyahoga County residents account for over 20% of the overall state jail population but only 10% of the general population.

Over 30% 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. These title III warrants are the most efficient tool in DTO dismantlement.

2) An increase in associated drug violence: The associated violence to the drug trade result in nearly two shootings each day on the streets of Cleveland. According to the Cleveland Police Crime Analysis Unit, in 2018 there were 2,225 Part 1 crimes committed with a firearm in Cleveland. There were 2,222 in 2017 and 2,389 in 2016. Intelligence gleaned from our title III warrants relating to shootings and homicides is relayed to the Cleveland Gang Impact Squad, Narcotics Unit, and Homicide Unit frequently resulting in successful prosecutions for these crimes and the incarceration of the shooters.

3) Budget Cuts, attrition, and struggles to hire and train qualified officers in police agencies throughout Greater Cleveland . As a result of recent layoffs and attrition, cities and police departments are struggling to maintain service with a decreased work force. Urban and suburban law enforcement is facing tough budget decisions and many have laid- off officers over the last few years. Individual agencies simply do not have the resources to investigate these major cases on their own. The member agencies of the NOLETF serve as a force-multiplier in the region. The NOLETF has assisted in countless investigations of home invasions, murders, felonious assaults by firearm, and lower-level drug conspiracies in the surrounding suburbs.

NOLETF targets organized gangs perpetrating these types of crimes and other 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 Cuyahoga County continues to identify drug trafficking and its related violence as the major crime problem facing the community.

The short-term consequences of not funding the NOLETF include a reduction in the number of investigations we are able to conduct. If we are unable to fund additional overtime hours or provide important confidential funds and equipment for investigations, we will not be able to complete the complex investigations necessary to disrupt and dismantle these organizations.

The long term consequences are an increase in narcotics-related violent crime in the Greater Cleveland area. If we are unable to complete multiple long-term investigations, the DTOs and gangs will continue to grow and contribute to violent crime .

Problem Statement/Target Population

The target population includes residents of Cuyahoga County, however, most of the activity is concentrated in the City of Cleveland. Cleveland is one of the country's poorest cities, with 34 percent living below the poverty level.

The City of 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.

Population served: 1,243,857

Counties: 1

Project Description

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

In order to combat the identified problems, the NOLETF will do the following:

1) The NOLETF will aggressively target, disrupt and dismantle DTO's in 2019. NOLETF brings together state, federal, and local agents and investigators in collocated space, adjacent to federal prosecutors, with close communication with local prosecutors to ensure that the most sophisticated and evidence-based investigative and prosecutorial resources are directed against organized drug trafficking groups. The collocation of the investigators fosters the development of intelligence in a timely fashion which helps to facilitate the utilization of the information and provides maximum flexibility in selecting the means most likely to result in the disruption or dismantling of organized criminal activity. Among the investigative tools used by the NOLETF are the following:

- Intelligence Gathering
- Search Warrants
- Cultivating Information Sources
- Arrests
- Surveillance
- Interviews of Sources/Witnesses
- Debriefing of Defendants
- Testimony in Grand Jury, Trials, Court
- Evidence Gathering
- Financial Investigations
- Federal Title III Warrants
- Seizure of evidence, drugs, weapons, assets
- Undercover Operations
- State/Federal Indictment, Prosecutions, Trials

Court authorized electronic surveillance, one of the most effective and sophisticated investigative tools available, is a frequently used investigative technique. It should be noted that the NOLETF in conjunction with the FBI- Cleveland the US Attorney's Office, is consistently one of the leading narcotics investigations unit in the country utilizing the federal wiretap law according to FBI Director James Comey.

The variety of law enforcement agencies making up the NOLETF provides access to critical national intelligence which is used in local investigations and has promoted the NOLETF's participation in several national project investigations which substantially impact organizations that are shipping large quantities of controlled substances into the area. In 2018, the NOLETF's operation resulted in the arrest of three members of the Sinaloa Mexican Cartel and the seizure of 18 kilos of cocaine. The NOLETF is also an initiative within the Ohio High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA). As such, the NOLETF participates in the Ohio HIDTA intelligence gathering, coordination and deconfliction program.

2) Intelligence gathered from our title III warrants relating to shootings and homicides will be relayed to the Cleveland Police Gang Impact Squad, Narcotics Unit, and Homicide Units as well as the appropriate regional, state and federal agencies. This information will aid these units and agencies in arresting violent criminals and will result in the successful prosecutions for these crimes.

3) The NOLETF will also continue and expand its outreach to smaller agencies in Cuyahoga and Lake Counties. The task force allows the region to operate more efficiently by sharing information and resources. Smaller jurisdictions simply do not have the manpower or technological resources to handle the large scale investigations necessary to dismantle large drug trafficking organizations. The NOLETF continues to assist local police departments including loaning surveillance equipment and providing additional manpower to support investigations ranging from Homicide Investigations to Drug Trafficking Investigations.

This action plan will address all three of the problems identified above. It will reduce the number of DTOs and the number of violent crimes associated with the DTOs. And, by sharing resources, we will further aid each of the agencies that are facing budget deficits.

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Sustainability/Accomplishments/Obstacles

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Originally called the Caribbean Gang Task Force, the Northern Ohio Law Enforcement Task Force has been in operation for over 30 years and is likely to continue although a reduction in grant funding would result in reduced manpower availability and, therefore, a reduction in the number of investigations completed.

The city of Cleveland has shown an unwavering commitment to the sustainability of this task force by dedicating full-time officers to the program throughout the entire 30+ years of its history. These officers have always been paid for by the city. The grant funds assist in paying for some of the overtime for these officers, which is vital in lengthy investigations.

The Northern Ohio Law Enforcement Task Force is a collaborative effort of local, state, and federal law enforcement. NOLETF is collocated in the offices of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force of the United States Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio. NOLETF targets major drug trafficking organizations operating in the Greater Cleveland Area and employs a multitude of methods to dismantle DTOs including Title III electronic surveillance, conventional surveillance, use of informants, money laundering investigations, and highway interdiction.

Participating agencies contribute over \$1.5 million annually in salaries and other task force expenses.

The Cleveland Division of Police along with the FBI, are the lead agency for NOLETF. They have established strong partnerships with all of the agencies that form the task force. The Ohio HIDTA provides investigative support for both task forces in the form of phone number analysis (this is the genesis of wire taps), research on targets, addresses, and de-confliction.

Since 2007 the NOLETF has:

- Opened 40 OCDETF cases
- Completed 40 TIII, wiretap investigations. (The average wiretap investigation takes between 6-12 months.)

2018 stats for the NOLETF include:

76 New Cases
25 Federal Indictments
28 State Indictments
67 Search Warrants (Houses, Vehicles, Cell Phones, etc)
103 Firearms Seized
652 Grams of Fentanyl
17 Kilos of Cocaine
84 Grams of Crack Cocaine
363 Grams of Heroin
388 Grams of Methamphetamine
432 Pounds of Marijuana
(3) Three Wire Tap Investigations

There have been no major obstacles. Although these investigations take thousands of man-hours to complete, that is considered standard and not an obstacle. Most of the situations that could be considered obstacles have involved unanticipated delays in obtaining local legislation to accept these grants. We have obtained permission to request legislation earlier in the process so that should aid in resolving that situation.

Project Objectives

FIRST PROJECT OBJECTIVE

OBJECTIVE

The NOLETF will increase by two the number of Fentanyl cases investigated in 2020.

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR

The number of Fentanyl cases the task force investigates in 2020. 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 NOLETF investigated four Fentanyl cases in 2018.

HOW WILL PERFORMANCE DATA BE COLLECTED?

The NOLETF will track the number of Fentanyl cases investigated and report it quarterly to the Grants Coordinator.

SECOND PROJECT OBJECTIVE

OBJECTIVE

The NOLETF will maintain the number of Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTOs) investigated with a Gang Nexus in 2020.

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR

The number of DTOs investigated by the task force with a Gang Nexus in 2020. These investigations 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 NOLETF investigated three DTO with a Gang Nexus in 2018.

HOW WILL PERFORMANCE DATA BE COLLECTED?

The NOLETF will track the number of DTOs with a Gang Nexus investigated and report it quarterly to the Grants Coordinator

THIRD PROJECT OBJECTIVE

OBJECTIVE

PERFORMANCE INDICATOR

BASELINE NUMBER

HOW WILL PERFORMANCE DATA BE COLLECTED?

Timeline/Activities

Task force Co-Commanders: Acting Lt. Joe Bovenzi, Special Agent Todd DeKatch, Grants Coordinator: Dawn Heartsong, Fiscal Manager: Amy Hewett

CONTINUOUSLY/AS NEEDED: Deconfliction is utilized for all potential suspects, suspect phone numbers and suspect locations. Deconfliction is also utilized for any event occurring from or during an investigation, such as, Execution of Search Warrants, Drug Buys and/or surveillance. Sgt. Bovenzi will ensure deconfliction is utilized.

AS NEEDED: Participating Task Force officers will present training and informational seminars when called upon. Participating Officers have given training to other law enforcement agencies and First Responders for Heroin Involved Investigations, Safe Handling of Heroin, Hotel Interdiction, Package Interdiction and Hidden Compartments.

MONTH 1: Heartsong: Accept JAG funds. Bovenzi/DeKatch: Supervise drug investigations and NOLETF Officers, ensure deconfliction compliance, collect and maintain stats. Bovenzi: Enter stats in DISCO. Bovenzi/Negron: Manage Impress Fund and Fiscal Records. DeKatch: Review Federal Title 21 Deputation.

MONTH 2: Bovenzi: Review Operation Plans, and investigative rpts. Bovenzi/DeKatch: Supervise investigations and NOLETF Officers, ensure deconfliction compliance, collect and maintain stats. Bovenzi: Enter stats in DISCO. Dekatch: Oversee tech contractor for Title III voicebox and monitoring equipment. Bovenzi/DeKatch: Review Operation Plans and investigative rpts, plan and coordinate large scale take downs involving multiple agencies.

MONTH 3: Bovenzi: Qtrly overtime rpt and statistical reporting. Bovenzi/Dekatch will hold a quarterly Heads of Agency meeting where the Heads of Agencies are given a complete "report card" of Task Force Activities, statistics, and budget matters. Bovenzi/Negron: Manage Impress Fund and Fiscal Records. Bovenzi/Dekatch: Supervise investigations and NOLETF Officers, ensure deconfliction compliance, collect and maintain stats. Bovenzi: Enter stats in DISCO. Dekatch: review of Federal Title 21 Deputation, maintain stats, prepare qtrly FBI report, attend HOA Collaboration Meeting.

MONTH 4: Bovenzi/Heartsong/Hewett: Qtrly grant rpts. Bovenzi/DeKatch; Supervise Task Force Officers, investigations and monitor overtime, supervise investigations, collect and maintain stats. Bovenzi: Enter stats in DISCO. Bovenzi/Negron: manage Impress Fund and Fiscal Records. DeKatch: Assist with planning and execution of the Violence and Gun Reduction Program.

MONTH 5: Bovenzi: Manage Impress Fund and Maintain Fiscal Records. Bovenzi/DeKatch: Supervise investigations and Officers, ensure deconfliction compliance, coordinate large scale, multi agency take downs, collect and maintain stats. Bovenzi: Enter stats in DISCO. DeKatch: Complete FBI Cleveland Gang Assessment.

MONTH 6: Bovenzi: Qtrly overtime rpts and statistical reporting. Bovenzi/Dekatch will hold a quarterly Heads of Agency meeting where the Heads of Agencies are given a complete "report card" of Task Force Activities, statistics, and budget matters. Bovenzi/Negron: Manage Impress Fund and Fiscal Records. Bovenzi/DeKatch: Supervise investigations and Officers, ensure deconfliction compliance, collect and maintain stats. Bovenzi: Enter stats in DISCO. DeKatch: Prepare qtrly FBI reporting, Review of Federal Title 21 Deputation, firearms and tactics instruction.

MONTH 7: Bovenzi/Heartsong/Hewett: Qtrly grant rpts. Bovenzi/DeKatch: Supervise drug investigations, supervise Officers, ensure deconfliction compliance, collect and maintain stats. Bovenzi: Enter stats in DISCO. Bovenzi: Monitor overtime. Bovenzi/Negron: Manage Impress Fund and Fiscal Records.

MONTH 8: Bovenzi: Monitor overtime. Bovenzi/Negron: Manage Impress Fund and Fiscal Records. Bovenzi/DeKatch: Supervise investigations and Officers, ensure deconfliction compliance, collect and maintain stats. Bovenzi: Enter stats in DISCO. DeKatch: Firearms and tactics instruction, complete FBI Cleveland Gang Assessment. Bovenzi/DeKatch: Maintain statistics.

MONTH 9: Bovenzi: Qtrly overtime reports and statistical reporting. Bovenzi/Dekatch will hold a quarterly Heads of Agency meeting where the Heads of Agencies are given a complete "report card" of Task Force Activities, statistics, and budget matters. Bovenzi/Negron: Manage Impress Fund and Fiscal Records. Bovenzi/DeKatch: Supervise investigations and Officers, ensure deconfliction compliance, collect and maintain stats. Bovenzi: Enter stats in DISCO. DeKatch: Review of Federal Title 21

Timeline/Activities

Deputations, attend HOA Collaboration Meeting.

MONTH 10: Bovenzi/Heartsong/Hewett: Qtrly grant rpts. Bovenzi/DeKatch: Supervise investigations and Officers, ensure deconfliction compliance, collect and maintain stats. Bovenzi: Enter stats in DISCO. Bovenzi/Negron: Manage Impress Fund and Fiscal Records. DeKatch: Assist with Planning and execution of the Violence and Gun Reduction Program. Bovenzi/DeKatch: Performance Appraisal for federal agency personnel assigned to the task force.

MONTH 11: Bovenzi/DeKatch: Supervise investigations and officers, ensure deconfliction compliance, collect and maintain stats. Bovenzi: Enter stats in DISCO. Bovenzi: attend Task Force Commander Seminar. Bovenzi/Negron: Manage Impress Fund and Fiscal Records. DeKatch: Review and approve officer safety and intelligence reports.

MONTH 12: Bovenzi: Qtrly overtime rpts and statistical reporting. Bovenzi/Negron: Manage Impress Fund and Fiscal Records. Bovenzi/DeKatch: Supervise investigations and Officers, ensure deconfliction compliance, collect and maintain stats. Bovenzi: Enter stats in DISCO. DeKatch: Supervise training, complete Task Force Statistical Accomplishments and Case Summaries. Bovenzi/DeKatch will hold a quarterly Heads of Agency meeting where the Heads of Agencies are given a complete "report card" of Task Force Activities, statistics, and budget matters.

Organization Capacity

Cleveland Police is the lead law enforcement agency in Northern Ohio's largest city. They have effectively managed numerous comprehensive, grant-funded programs, including a \$15.8 million COPS Distressed Neighborhood Pilot Project, and the \$6 million COPS Interoperability program. They were the fiscal agent for the multi-agency, \$5 million Byrne TVCI grant that funded the start-up of the Northern Ohio Violence Crime Consortium program. They currently manage over 20 grants worth more than \$25 million. As with all grants managed by Cleveland, a separate sub-fund will be established for this grant so that all drawdown and expenditures can be tracked separately from any other funding sources.

The Northern Ohio Law Enforcement Task Force is a collaborative effort of local, state, and federal law enforcement. NOLETF is collocated in the offices of the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force of the United States Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio. NOLETF targets major drug trafficking organizations operating in the Greater Cleveland Area and employs a multitude of methods to dismantle DTOs including Title III electronic surveillance, conventional surveillance, use of informants, money laundering investigations, and highway interdiction.

The Cleveland Division of Police along with the FBI, are the lead agency for NOLETF. They have established strong partnerships with all of the agencies that form the task force. The Ohio HIDTA provides investigative support for both task forces in the form of phone number analysis (this is the genesis of wire taps), research on targets, addresses, and de-confliction.

The NOLETF is comprised of TFOs from 9 local police agencies and 5 federal agencies. The FBI has 6 agents assigned full time to the NOLETF. The five Cleveland Police officers assigned to this project full-time fall under the umbrella of the Cleveland Police Narcotics Unit. In addition to the Cleveland detectives assigned to federal task forces full time, the Narcotics Unit is comprised of three squads: Heroin Involved Death Investigations, Gang Impact Squad and Package Interdiction, all of which have contributed in some way to support the NOLETF.

Since 2007 the NOLETF has:

- Opened 40 OCDETF cases
- Completed 40 TIII, wiretap investigations. (The average wiretap invest take between 6-12 months.)

2018 stats for the NOLETF include:

76 New Cases
25 Federal Indictments
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84 Grams of Crack Cocaine
363 Grams of Heroin
388 Grams of Methamphetamine
432 Pounds of Marijuana
(3) Three Wire Tap Investigations

Sergeant Joseph Bovenzi has been appointed as the Acting Lieutenant and Acting Commander of the NOLETF and HIT Task Forces. He has been a Cleveland Police officer for 25 years. He has been the Officer In Charge of the HIT Task Force since his promotion to Sergeant in 2013. Sgt. Bovenzi worked closely with Cmdr. Michael Connelly (who was the OIC of the NOLETF before being promoted to Commander in 2018) often filling in as Acting Commander. Sgt. Bovenzi has attended numerous Narcotic and Financial Investigation Courses, is a member of the Ohio Task Force Commanders Association, has completed the Drug Unit Commanders Training and is a member of the International Narcotics Interdiction Association. Sgt. Bovenzi was previously assigned as a Detective within a Vice unit for 10 years and has been assigned to the Narcotics Unit for 10 years and has a combined 20 years of experience in Narcotics Investigations.

Todd DeKatch is the current Supervisory Special Agent (SSA) of FBI Cleveland Division's Criminal Enterprise/Gang Squad, and

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Organization Capacity

Co-Commander of the NOLETF and HIDTA Hotel Interdiction Team. From 2009 to 2011 was SSA at FBI Headquarters, Criminal Investigative Division, Safe Streets and Gangs Unit. From 1999 to 2009, and again from 2011 to 2013 was a Special Agent assigned to FBI Cleveland Division's Akron Resident Agency. From 1995 to 1999 was a Michigan State Trooper. Received BA Degree from Kalamazoo College and a MS from Michigan State University.

Collaboration Board

The Northern Ohio Law Enforcement Task Force Collaboration Board (Head of Agencies Board) consists of representatives from the following agencies:

Cleveland Division of Police, U.S. Attorney's Office Northern District of Ohio, U.S. Border Patrol, Internal Revenue Service – Criminal Investigation, Ohio Adult Parole Authority, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation, Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority Police Department, Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority Police Department, Bedford Police, Lakewood Police, Moreland Hills Police

NOLETF Head of Agency meetings are held quarterly. Attending these meetings are the police chiefs for all local departments providing personnel to the NOLETF, along with senior supervisory agents for all of the federal and regional law enforcement agencies providing personnel to the NOLETF. In addition, The chief of the Narcotics Unit for the U.S. Attorney's Office and a representative from the Cuyahoga County Prosecutor's Office attend the meetings. Minutes for all action taken at the Heads of Agency meeting are recorded. By having a Heads of Agency board fully engaged and supervising the NOLETF, in an era of dwindling financial dollars, achieving the state goals and objectives of the Task Force is insured or the participating departments and agencies would pull their resources.

Click the Browse button to upload attachments and/or letters, then click **Save** to attach to the application.

http://www.ocjsggrants.com/_Upload/431986_831116-FY19JAG-ClevelandNOLETF-LtrsofCommitment.pdf

http://www.ocjsggrants.com/_Upload/431986_831116_2-FY19JAG-ClevelandNOLETF-MatchWaiverRequest.pdf

http://www.ocjsggrants.com/_Upload/431986_831116_3-FY19JAG-ClevelandNOLETF-LtrsofCommitment-Rev3-24-2020.pdf

Executive Summary

The Executive Summary serves as a concise and accurate description of the proposed project. Information in the Summary is forwarded to the Governor's Office and other local, state and federal agencies for public information requests. Summary information must be submitted in the space provided.

The purpose statement is a clear concise statement that explains the purpose of the project. It describes what the applicant is going to do; the population that is going to be served; how it will be accomplished; and why it is important.

PURPOSE STATEMENT

The purpose of the Northern Ohio Law Enforcement Task Force is to bring together state, federal, and local law enforcement agents and investigators in collocated space, adjacent to federal prosecutors, with close communication with local prosecutors to ensure that the most sophisticated investigative and prosecutorial resources are directed against organized drug trafficking groups. The collocation of the investigators fosters the development of intelligence in a timely fashion which helps to facilitate the utilization of the information and provides maximum flexibility in selecting the means most likely to result in the disruption or dismantling of organized criminal activity.

Like most major metropolitan areas, Greater Cleveland experiences 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 NOLETF allows for the full implementation of sophisticated investigative techniques and provides the resources necessary to respond to this challenge. Heroin has become the dominate drug for major traffickers. The Mexican Drug Cartels are also increasing the importation of methamphetamine and fentanyl to Northern Ohio. Because of its strategic location, the Greater Cleveland area continues to be a transshipment point for narcotics, which reach other communities in Ohio. Ohio has become a shipping location for high grade marijuana coming from source states, such as California and Colorado.

The task force targets organized gangs perpetrating these types of crimes and other 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.

PROBLEM STATEMENT

The greater Cleveland area has experienced unacceptable drug-related violent crime. An increase has been observed in the organized trafficking of cocaine, heroin, marijuana and non-traditional "club drugs". Experience has demonstrated that the challenges presented by sophisticated trafficking groups are beyond the capability of a law enforcement agency acting alone. However, the Northern Ohio Law Enforcement Task Force allows for the implementation of sophisticated investigative techniques, and provides the kind of resource necessary to respond to this challenge.

The major issues the Northern Ohio Law Enforcement Task Force (NOLETF) faces are:

- 1) Ever evolving drug trafficking organizations and an increase in heroin and fentanyl, with a spike in related overdose deaths.
- 2) An increase in associated drug violence.
- 3) Budget cuts, attrition, and struggles to hire and train qualified new officers in police departments throughout the Cleveland metropolitan area.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The NOLETF is a multi-agency drug task force which brings together state, federal and local agents and investigators in co-located space, adjacent to federal prosecutors, to ensure that the most sophisticated investigative and prosecutorial resources are directed against organized drug trafficking groups. The co-location of the investigators fosters the development of intelligence in a timely fashion which helps to facilitate the use of the information and provides maximum flexibility in selecting the means most likely to result in the disruption or dismantling of organized criminal activity.

Executive Summary

In order to impact the major issues facing the task force, the NOLETF will:

- 1) Continue to dismantle and disrupt drug trafficking organizations (DTO)s in 2020;
- 2) Work in concert with the gang, drug and homicide units of the Cleveland Police and other law enforcement agencies to coordinate efforts to curtail drug related violence;
- 3) Continue to foster working relationships with smaller police departments in the metropolitan area by enlisting their participation in the task force or assisting with drug enforcement efforts on a case-by-case basis when the department cannot participate full-time in the task force.

PARTICIPATING AGENCIES / COLLABORATION

The Northern Ohio Law Enforcement Task Force Collaboration Board (Head of Agencies Board) consists of representatives from the following agencies:

The Northern Ohio Law Enforcement Task Force Collaboration Board (Head of Agencies Board) consists of representatives from the following agencies:

Cleveland Division of Police, U.S. Attorney's Office Northern District of Ohio, U.S. Border Patrol, Internal Revenue Service – Criminal Investigation, Ohio Adult Parole Authority, Ohio Bureau of Criminal Investigation, Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority Police Department, Greater Cleveland Regional Transit Authority Police Department, Bedford Police, Lakewood Police, Moreland Hills Police.

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Personnel Costs

Salaries and Personnel:

Name/ Vacant	Title	No. Hrs.	Hrly Rate	Total
Joseph Bovenzi	Sergeant	71	\$56.63	\$4,020.73
Patrick Andrejcek	Detective	55	\$42.59	\$2,342.45
James Cudo	Detective	55	\$42.59	\$2,342.45
Elbin Negron	Detective	55	\$42.66	\$2,346.30
Leland Edwards	Detective	55	\$42.59	\$2,342.45
Kevin Kincaid	Lieutenant	75	\$56.63	\$4,247.25
Various	Detective	55	\$42.59	\$2,342.45
				\$0
				\$0
				\$0
				Salary Subtotal: \$19,984.08

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			\$0
		<i>Fill in the formula: \$ (Monthly Rate) x (# Months) x (FTE)</i>	\$0
		Fringe Subtotal:	\$0
		Personnel Total:	\$19,984.08

Provide justification for each position; list job duties.

This represents a partial reimbursement of overtime incurred for investigators from the Cleveland Division of Police. These officers are assigned to the Task Force on a full-time basis. Cleveland will pay their benefits. The nature of the investigations worked by the Task Force is overtime intensive. Although we have taken steps to reduce overtime it remains a necessary expense.

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Consultants/Contracts

Consultant and Contract rates cannot exceed \$81.25 per hour or \$650 per 8-hour day.

Name	Hourly Fee	Hours	Total
Lakewood Police	\$55.10	126	\$6,942.60
Moreland Hills Police	\$44.75	75	\$3,356.25
Cuyahoga County Sheriff	\$43.59	130	\$5,666.70
CMHA & RTA Police	\$40.34	100	\$4,034.00
	\$0	0	

Consultants/Contracts Total: \$19,999.55

Provide justification, method of procurement and basis of selection.

Partner law enforcement agencies will be reimbursed for part of the overtime incurred for investigators from six separate county and local law enforcement agencies. These officers will be working on the program on a full-time basis. Their home agencies will pay their base salaries and benefits but will be reimbursed for a portion of their accrued overtime.

The fifth row would not total so two were merged on one line. CMHA (Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority) is paid at a rate of 32.63 per hour. RTA (Regional Transit Authority) is paid at a rate of \$48.05 per hour.

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	TBD various for invest.	\$1,112.00	\$1,112.00
			\$0
C. Per Diem: (Meal & Lodging Only)	No. of days	Rate	Total
Lodging (2 people x 9 nights x \$200)	18	\$160.00	\$2,880.00
Meals (2 people x 9 days x \$56)	18	\$56.00	\$1,008.00
D. Other: (Specify)	No. Items	Rate	Total
			\$0
			\$0
Travel Total:			\$5,000.00

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

Travel expenses are required for travel outside the Cleveland area by investigators, analysts or supervisors assigned to the Task Force for investigative purposes. The purpose of such trips would be interview witnesses, arrests, court appearances, lead follow up, etc... We will not know the exact locations, dates, etc. until the investigations start and we know where the evidence leads us.

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	\$150.00	12	\$1,800.00
Utilities			\$0
Bookkeeping/Audit			\$0
Maintenance	\$3,200.00	1	\$3,200.00
Clerical			\$0
Auto Lease/ST Rental			\$0
Equipment Lease/ST Rental			\$0
Photocopying			\$0
Printing			\$0
Other (Specify)			\$0
Other (Specify)			\$0
Other (Specify)			\$0
Other Costs Total:			\$5,000.00

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

Verizon data plan for task force phones, maintenance and repairs for task force vehicles and equipment.

Confidential Funds (Applies to Drug Task Force Projects Only)

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

Implementing Agency	Total
Confidential Funds	
\$24,400.00	\$24,400.00
Confidential Fund Total:	\$24,400.00

Provide justification for Confidential Funds.

Confidential funds are necessary for payment to informants, purchase of evidence (i.e., buy money for controlled purchases of drugs), surveillance costs (hotel rooms for drug buys, rental of undercover vehicles, payments for pen registers, trap and traces), and other investigative costs.

Indirect Costs

Indirect Costs may not be used for match.

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

Amount of Direct Costs Less Equipment	Percent 0 to 10% %	Total
		\$0
	Indirect Cost Total:	\$0

Provide justification for Indirect Cost.

Click the Browse button to upload a copy of your federally approved plan, then click **SAVE** to attach to the application.

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Budget Request By Resource & Cost Category

	1. Matching Funds		2. OCJS Funds	3. Total
	Cash	Inkind		
1. Personnel			\$19,984.08	\$19,984.08
2. Consultant/Contracts			\$19,999.55	\$19,999.55
3. Travel			\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
4. Equipment				\$0
5. Supplies			\$616.37	\$616.37
6. Other Costs			\$5,000.00	\$5,000.00
7. Confidential Funds			\$24,400.00	\$24,400.00
8. Indirect Cost				\$0
9. Total Project Budget	\$0	\$0	\$75,000.00	\$75,000.00
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)
FY18 JAG	\$67,500.00	1/1/2019	
FY18 ODLEF	\$249,999.00		6/5/2019

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

Participating agencies contribute over \$1,500,000 per year in salaries for investigators.
The U.S. Attorney's office provides office space, utilities, etc at a value of more than \$150,000 per year.
The City of Cleveland has provided matching funds for these grants when required. We received \$226,022 from the Ohio Drug Law Enforcement Grant in 2009, \$250,000 from 2010 - 2015.
We have received approximately \$105,000 - \$150,000 annually through these Byrne JAG grants.

	Amount	Percentage %
OCJS Funds Requested:	\$75,000.00	100.00
Cash Match:	\$0	0.00
In-Kind Match:	\$0	0.00
Total Project Budget:	\$75,000.00	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.
Participating agencies contribute over \$1,500,000 per year in salaries for investigators.

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We have received approximately \$105,000 - \$150,000 annually through these Byrne JAG grants.

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

Identify the Source of Match: Match waiver requested